

April 15th 2025

To the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation and TransLink's Board of Directors

RE: 2025 Investment Plan

On behalf of the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express our support for the 2025 Investment Plan, particularly the proposed extension of the R2 RapidBus service from Phibbs Exchange to Metrotown.

The North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce represents a diverse and vibrant business community. We have long recognized the need for an efficient and reliable transportation network to and across the North Shore that is supported by affordable and efficient public transit. Congestion on the North Shore is the top issue choking our economy and preventing a workforce from across Metro Vancouver from accessing family-supporting jobs on the North Shore. We believe that fast, frequent, and reliable public transit options are a key solution to resolving this longstanding issue and unlocking economic opportunity for all.

Specifically, I want to highlight the R2 RapidBus extension to Metrotown. In our view, the R2 RapidBus extension is a critical project that will significantly improve connectivity between residents across Metro Van and the many well paying jobs they fill on the North Shore. This new, all day, fast and frequent connection is an important first step towards Bus Rapid Transit which we support. This extension will facilitate more efficient workforce commutes, as well as movement of people and goods to and across the north shore.

We also support TransLink's proposed investment in maintaining and expanding local transit services. An 8% service increase across the North Shore will help alleviate overcrowding and provide better access to our businesses. Workforce access via Phibbs Exchange, to Harbourside, to Grouse Mountain, and more will help remove some of the barriers created between good jobs and employees who would like to access them.

Keeping our roads in good condition to support the movement of people and goods is essential for North Vancouver businesses. We are pleased to see the continued investment in the Local Government Funding programs. Specifically, we want to highlight our support for the additional investment in the Major Road Network pavement rehabilitation program. The 70% annual funding increase to all municipalities will ensure that goods continue to flow from our port to our businesses and the rest of the region.

We commend TransLink for its commitment to addressing the transportation needs of our region through the 2025 Investment Plan. The North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce is keen to see the positive impacts of the R2 RapidBus extension and the other proposed investments.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with TransLink to support initiatives that help move our communities and drive the economic prosperity of the Metro Vancouver area. Thank you for your commitment to improving our regional transportation system.

We support the approval and implementation of the 2025 Investment Plan to keep the North Vancouver business and non-profit community strong, and the region as a whole moving.

Should you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at 604.987.4488 or patrick@nvchamber.ca

Sincerely,



Patrick Stafford-Smith MBA, B.Eng.
CEO, North Vancouver Chamber