

Candidate Responses 2026 Municipal Election

Questions

1. If elected, what is your vision for improved transportation in North Vancouver?
2. Costs are rising and small business is feeling the squeeze. What will you do to support small businesses and foster business and job growth in North Vancouver?

District of North Vancouver

Councillor

Matthew Bond

1. The future of North Vancouver's economy depends on our ability to move people, goods and services reliably across the North Shore. Congestion increases delivery costs, makes shifts harder to staff and separates employees from jobs. No single mega-project will solve this. North Shore municipalities, First Nations and businesses need to work with TransLink and the Province to advance rapid transit connecting Metrotown, the North Shore and Park Royal, while also improving the reliability of Highway 1 and the Ironworkers bridge. The District cannot promise a new bridge or control the highway, but it can present a united case for investment and coordinate local work.

Locally, we need to do what is within our control. The District can provide transit priority, improve last-mile connections, and better coordinate construction and road work. More housing choices near employment centres and transit will also shorten commutes and expand the pool of workers who can reach North Vancouver businesses.

I support quick and practical local improvements through pilot projects, where we can measure the effects on travel reliability, safety and business operations, and refine them. The goal is reliable access for workers, customers, goods and services.

2. While the DNV's business tax rates are competitive in the region, high commercial and light-industrial property values, provincial assessment rules and triple-net leases can create unexpected cost increases for businesses. The shortage of space for business activities, especially smaller light-industrial businesses, continues to push land values and lease rates higher. During my time on Council, I supported protecting and intensifying employment lands and zoning District-owned lands in Maplewood for a mix of light-industrial and artisan space and housing. I would continue advancing the Maplewood Plan to create more space for businesses, jobs and homes close to employment.

As we create opportunities for new businesses to start and grow, I also support preventing non-employment uses from displacing businesses in the Lynn Creek and Pemberton areas. The District must follow through on its Economic Development Strategy by making permitting quicker, clearer and more predictable. I would continue to push for its implementation, with follow-up and monitoring reported to Council. I would also continue to support creating more housing and transportation choices in the District. Business owners and employees need a realistic chance to live near their work or get to work reliably.