

3210-01  
(1)

July 23, 2009

Mayor Goldsmith-Jones and Council  
750 - 17th Street  
West Vancouver BC  
V7V 3T3

Dear Mayor Goldsmith-Jones and Council:

**Re: Increase in Accessible Bus Stops in West Vancouver**

We are writing this letter on behalf of TransLink's Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee (UAC). The UAC is comprised of 19 members from the disability community who advise TransLink on all plans and projects that TransLink funds.

In June 2008, TransLink reached the milestone of having achieved a 100% wheelchair and scooter accessible transit fleet (Bus, SkyTrain, West Coast Express Trains and Community Shuttle) throughout Metro Vancouver. Although a very significant milestone, it is somewhat diminished by the fact that less than 53% of the region's bus stops are designated accessible and able to accommodate the loading and unloading of passengers who use wheelchairs or scooters.


As of June 2009, the District of West Vancouver had 244 bus stops with 68 (28%) being designated accessible. We are writing this letter to request your Council's support in developing a plan that will convert as many West Vancouver bus stops into accessible stops as soon as possible and an assurance that any new bus stops in West Vancouver meet accessibility standards as they are planned and constructed.

Coast Mountain Bus Company's (CMBC) expenditures on bus stop improvements are based on a 50/50 cost sharing arrangement with the municipalities. The annual amount spent in each community is dependent on the financial commitments provided by the municipalities. CMBC provides municipalities with funding for bus stop improvements through the Transit Related Road Infrastructure Program (TRRIP).

Municipal staff are sent notification at the beginning of each August for the following program year to alert them to the opportunity to cost share in potential TRRIP improvements. On behalf of the Users' Advisory Committee, we urge West Vancouver Council to direct your staff to participate in this cost sharing program as a means of improving the opportunities for people with disabilities to more fully participate in your community with independence and personal dignity.

We would like to thank you in advance for considering this important issue on behalf of all persons with disabilities in Metro Vancouver. If you would like to discuss further, we would welcome a call from your office or that of your staff. We have also attached a list of UAC members and their contact details, for your information.

Yours sincerely,



Rob Sleath  
Chair, Users' Advisory Committee



Heather McCain  
Vice Chair, Users' Advisory Committee

Enclosure (1)

CC: Tom Prendergast, CEO, TransLink  
Dale Parker, Chair and the TransLink Board

## 2009 Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee Members

Adrienne Boothroyd	Burnaby	(	)
Peggy Casey	Vancouver	(	)
Bruce Chown	Vancouver	(	)
Al Cleaver	Surrey	(	)
Spencer Dixon	Vancouver	(	)
Jo Hawley	White Rock	(	)
Pam Horton	North Vancouver	(	)
Laurie Hill	Burnaby	(	)
Craig Langston	Burnaby	(	)
Laura Mackenrot	Richmond	(	)
Heather McCain	Vancouver	(	)
Linda McGowan	New Westminster	(	)
Richard Marion	Coquitlam	(	)
John Neumann	North Vancouver	(	)
Wendy St. Marie	Vancouver	(	)
Rob Sleath	Richmond	(	)
Merle Smith	Coquitlam	(	)
Henry Stuiwe	Surrey	(	)
Emese Szucs	Vancouver	(	)

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