



DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN

File No. 6420-05

July 3, 2009

Chair Christopher Causton and Commission
Victoria Regional Transit Commission
520 Gorge Road East
Victoria, BC, V8W 2P3

Dear Chair Causton and Board,

Re: Transit Service to Beecher Bay Scia'new First Nation

I am writing on behalf of Metchosin Council to request the extension of transit services to the Beecher Bay area in support of our neighbours, the Beecher Bay Scia'new First Nation. Without transit service to the Beecher Bay community, and indeed the southern areas of Metchosin, it is a challenge for some residents to travel to medical appointments, post-secondary schools, employment, and other essential destinations.

We understand that transit service was provided briefly to this area with a very restricted schedule, but unfortunately was discontinued. While we do understand the difficulties in providing service to rural areas, we support further consultation and planning with the Beecher Bay First Nation, the District of Metchosin, and East Sooke to find travel times and routes that work for residents.

Extending service to Beecher Bay and potentially to East Sooke along Rocky Point/East Sooke Roads would provide improved accessibility to Metchosin residents, residents at DND Rocky Point, and to recreational users of Matheson Lake Regional Park and East Sooke Regional Park. Increasing bus service to this area would be a positive response to the Provincial Government's position on climate change by enabling residents to reduce their carbon footprint caused by multiple vehicles travelling this route.

**RECEIVED
BC TRANSIT**

JUL 08 2009

Steve New
VICE PRESIDENT

Operations, Chief Operating Officer

.../2

4450 Happy Valley Road, Victoria, B.C. V9C 3Z3

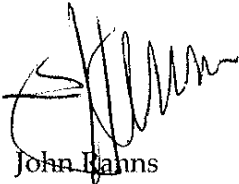
Administration Office (250) 474-3167 Fax 474-6298

Building Inspection Department (250) 474-3196 Fax 474-6298

Please let me know if we can be of any assistance with such a planning process. If you require further information or assistance from Metchosin, please contact Councillor Moralea Milne at 250-478-3838.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hanns". The signature is stylized and cursive.

John Hanns
Mayor

- c. Chief Russ Chipps and Council, Beecher Bay Scia'new First Nation
Mayor Janet Evans, District of Sooke, Transit Commissioner
Director Mike Hicks, Juan de Fuca Electoral Area

Moss, Linda

From: Jo Harris [josephineharris@shaw.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2009 12:25 PM
To: mayor@oakbaybc.org; mayor@saanich.ca; jevans@sooke.ca; jack.mar@csaanich.ca; mayor@victoria.ca; council@saanich.ca
Cc: Moss, Linda
Subject: VRTC - Bay Street Bus - Homeowner & Neighbourhood Concerns
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Yellow

Mayor Christopher Causton - Chair

District of Oak Bay
2167 Oak Bay Avenue
Victoria, BC V8R 1G2

Mayor Frank Leonard

District of Saanich
770 Vernon Avenue
Victoria, BC V8X 2W7

Mayor Janet Evans

District of Sooke
2205 Otter Point Road
Sooke, BC V0S 1N0
(250) 642-1634 Office
(250) 642-0541 Fax

Mayor Jack Mar

District of Central Saanich
1903 Mount Newton Cross Road
Saanichton, BC V8M 2A9

Mayor Dean Fortin

City of Victoria
#1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Councillor Susan Brice

District of Saanich
770 Vernon Avenue
Victoria, BC V8X 2W7

Dear Victoria Regional Transit Commission:

As the Bay Street bus route has now been approved in principle by the Commission, I would respectfully ask if there will be mechanisms in place to monitor whether the bus is either necessary or safe. Specifically:

9/4/2009

- Has the route been re-driven since the lane alterations were made from Quadra to Fernwood reducing the lanes from two to one and introducing bike lanes? The original test runs were made prior to this and reported that some lanes were already "skinny".
- Will Transit be monitoring and reporting out on the level of ridership of the Bay Street bus route?
- Will Transit be monitoring and reporting out on reductions of cars on Bay Street as a result of the bus?
- Will Transit be monitoring and reporting out on the accident rate on the Bay Street bus route, particularly between Blanshard and Shelbourne which is an existing high accident zone.
- Will Transit reconsider the bus if the ridership does not warrant it and/or it contributes to the accidents and injuries on this notoriously busy street?

I remain astonished at the level of disregard that has been displayed by BC Transit to homeowners. Letters to various staff members at BC Transit all remain unanswered. As a result, some of the intervenors you met from Bay Street have sold up and moved out. Putting all personal impacts to my property aside, could you please ensure that the above basic questions are now answered.

Thank you.

Jo Harris, 2502 Prior Street (Prior at Bay), Victoria, B.C., V8T 3X6 250-995-0004