



TOWN OF VIEW ROYAL

45 View Royal Avenue, Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 1A6

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February 23, 2023

Esquimalt Nation
Attn: Chief Thomas & Council
1189 Kosapsum Crescent
Victoria, BC
V9A 7K7

Songhees Nation
Attn: Chief Sam & Council
1500 Admirals Road
Victoria, BC
V9A 2R1

Township of Esquimalt
Attn: Mayor Desjardins & Council
1229 Esquimalt Road
Victoria, BC
V9A 3P1

District of Saanich
Attn: Mayor Murdock & Council
770 Vernon Avenue
Victoria, BC
V8X 2W7

Dear Chief Thomas & Council, Chief Sam & Council, Mayor Desjardins & Council and Mayor Murdock & Council:

Re: Implementation of Service Priorities for Transit Routes 24, 40 and 46

At the Council meeting held February 21, 2023, View Royal Council was in receipt of the attached notice of motion from Councillor Rogers requesting that BC Transit proceed in 2024 with the implementation of three proposals outlined in BC Transit's 2021 *Esquimalt-View Royal Local Area Transit Plan*. The specific proposals for advancement include the short-term service priorities of Route 24 realignment (Admirals Walk/Cedar Hill) and Route 40 introduction (UVic to Dockyard via Admirals-McKenzie) as well as the medium-term priority of Route 46 expansion (Dockyard/Westhills).

Routes 24 and 40 were described in the public engagement component of the *Esquimalt-View Royal Local Area Transit Plan* as "almost universal wins" for the communities. As well, the proposal to expand Route 46 received strong public support. These routes will address gaps in service and enhance the integrity of the transit network serving all of our communities.

After some discussion, Council passed a resolution that will see the Town write to BC Transit requesting that they implement the above-described service priorities beginning in 2024. As well, View Royal Council wanted to ask the Esquimalt Nation, Songhees Nation, Township of Esquimalt and District of Saanich to be joint signatories on this letter to BC Transit given the importance of the transit service and these potential improvements to all our communities.

Please advise if you would like to participate in this joint submission to BC Transit (please see attached) and who we may contact to provide the Town with an electronic signature and logo for use on the letter.

Sincerely,

Elena Bolster
Deputy Corporate Officer

cc: West Shore Representative, BC Transit Board

Attachments



TOWN OF VIEW ROYAL ITEM(S) TO BE ADDED TO AGENDA

Meeting date: _____ - _____ - _____
Year Month Day

Council Committee of the Whole

If you wish to have items included on the agenda, please fill out the form below and return to Elena Bolster by 12:00 noon on the Thursday preceding the meeting date.

Date: _____

Name of Council Member: _____

Details of item to be added: _____

(provide additional information as an attachment if required)

List any attachments:

When submitting your form, please provide attachments either by paper copy or digitally to Elena Bolster ebolster@viewroyal.ca.

BACKGROUND

Page 29 of Active Transportation Plan: Baseline Conditions Report states...

BC Transit Esquimalt-View Royal Local Area Transit Plan (2021)

This plan builds upon the 25-year vision for development of the Victoria Regional Transit System identified in the 2011 Transit Future Plan. It provides specific transit network modifications, service level changes and infrastructure improvements to support the development of the transit network within the Township of Esquimalt, the Songhees Nation, the Esquimalt Nation, and the Town of View Royal. [https://www.bctransit.com > documents > 1529711822375](https://www.bctransit.com/documents/1529711822375)

While the plan is focused on transit related improvements, it recognizes the important connection between transit and active transportation. The plan indicates that all active transportation infrastructure recommendations need to consider the potential impacts on transit service delivery.

SHORT TERM SERVICE PRIORITIES: #40, 24, 46

Given these routes significantly address ridership needs and support economic development for View Royal, Esquimalt, Songhees Nation, Esquimalt Nation, and Saanich, we call upon Victoria Transit to implement these starting in 2024.

The report descriptions / maps for the three routes.

4.1 Short Term Service Priorities

During the second phase of engagement, three service proposals were clearly identified as almost universal wins for the communities within the plan areas. These proposals effectively address gaps in service and enhance the integrity of the transit network serving the Esquimalt and View Royal area.

Proposal 1: New Route 40| UVic to Dockyard via Admirals-McKenzie

This proposed route services the entire length of the east-west Admirals and McKenzie corridor from CFB Esquimalt - Dockyard to the University of Victoria. This route is ultimately identified for development into a Frequent Transit Network route, but would initially be introduced with a basic level of service – perhaps only at peak commute times.

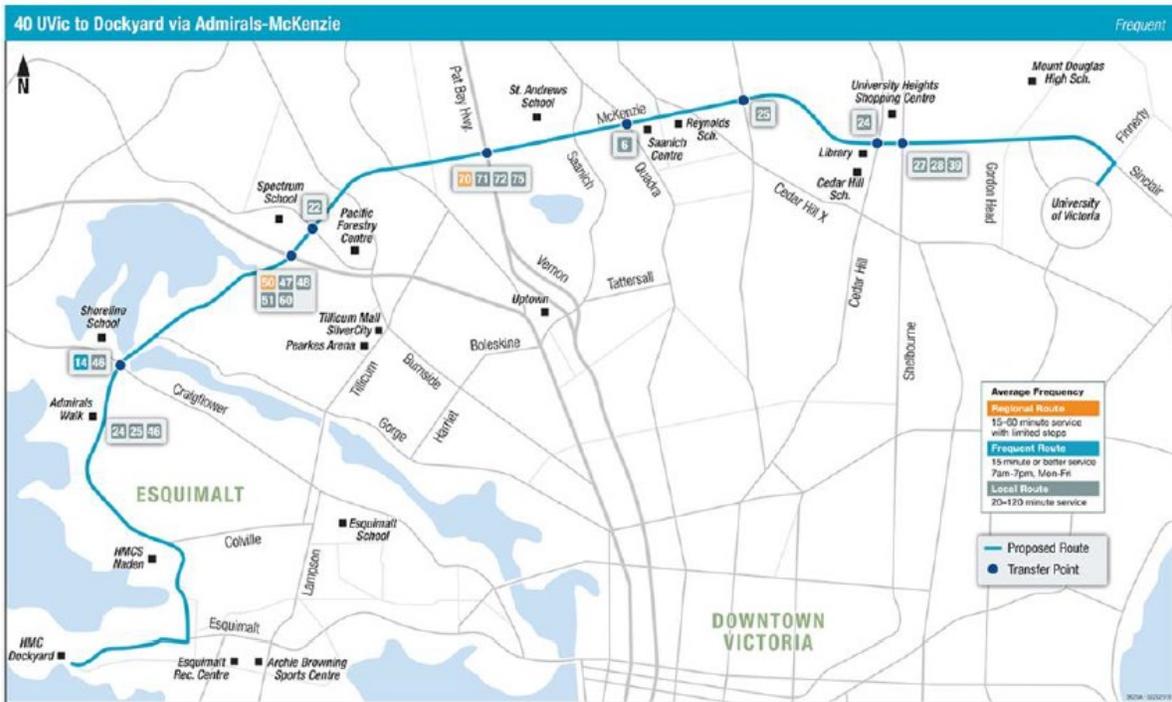


Figure 6: Proposed routing for new service along Admirals and McKenzie from Dockyard to UVic.

Target Service Frequency							
Service Day	Early AM	AM Peak	Midday	PM Peak	Evening	Late Night	Service Span
	Before 7 am	6:00 am to 8:30 am	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	3:00 pm to 5:30 pm	5:30 pm to 9:00pm	After 9 pm	
Weekday	-	30	50	30	50	-	6 am - 9 pm
Saturday	-	45	50	45	50	-	7 am - 10 pm
Sunday	-	90	50	90	90	-	7 am - 10 pm

Benefits

- The route would provide direct access to UVic from Esquimalt and provide additional service on McKenzie – a high volume transit corridor.
- The route would provide more direct and convenient access along Admirals Road to popular destinations including CFB Esquimalt and Admirals Walk Shopping Centre.
- The route would provide more direct connections for passengers traveling from the West Shore to either UVic or CFB Esquimalt.

Considerations

- Congestion at Craigflower Road, Highway 1, Pay Bay Highway and Shelbourne Street may impact reliability and on-time performance.
- Investment is required to construct bus stops along the Saanich portion of Admirals Road from Craigflower Road to Burnside Road.
- This rerouting can coincide with terminating the route 25 Admirals Walk at Dockyard to reduce duplication of service along Admirals Road.

Estimated Resources

Introduce Route 40 at base service level		
Service Day	Service Hours	Additional Buses
Phase 1: Weekday only	11,500	5
Phase 2: Introduce weekend service	3,200	2
Terminate 25 Admirals Walk at Dockyard	0	0

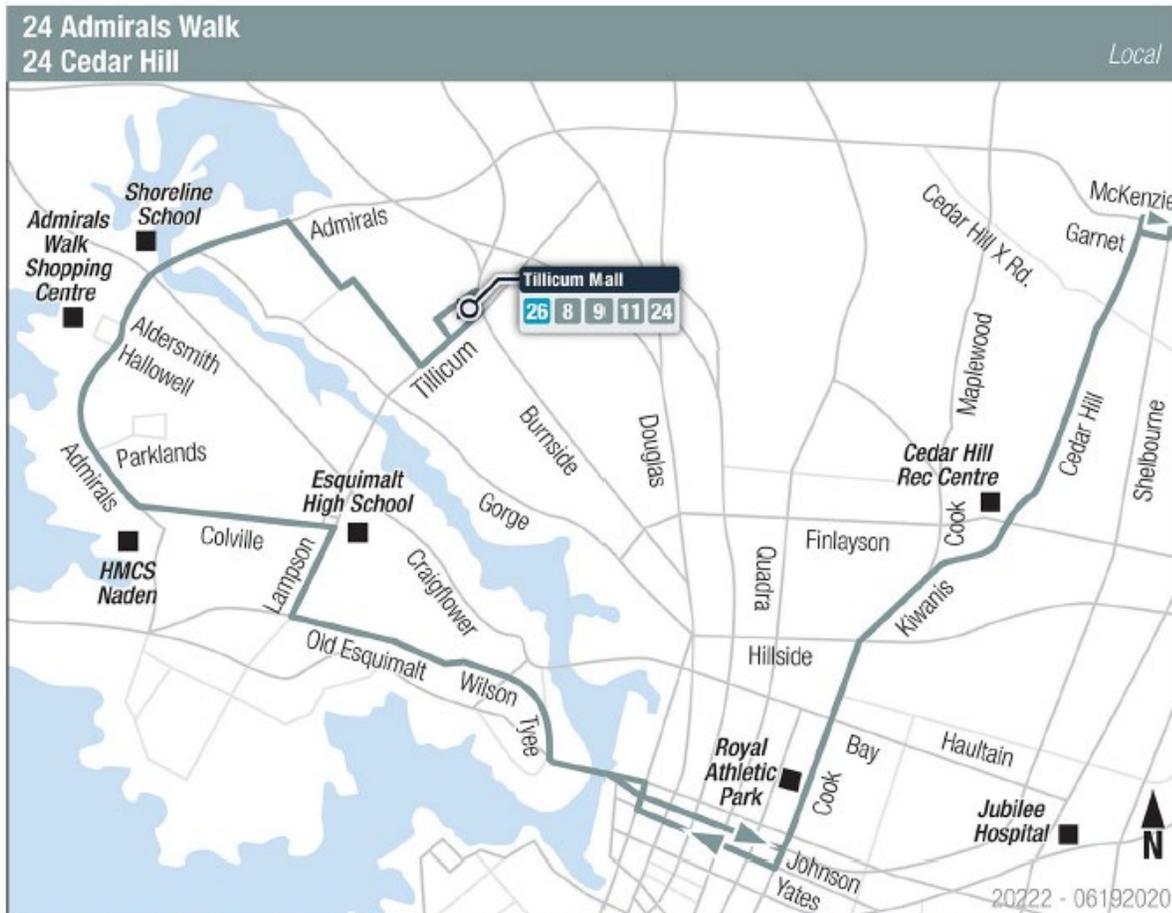


Figure 7: Proposed modification of route 24 to terminate at Tillicum Mall via Cowper and Obed.

Target Service Frequency							
Service Day	Early AM	AM Peak	Midday	PM Peak	Evening	Late Night	Service Span
	Before 7 am	6:00 am to 8:30 am	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	3:00 pm to 5:30 pm	5:30 pm to 9:00pm	After 9 pm	
Weekday	-	30	40	30	55	55	6 am - 12 am
Saturday	-	40	30	30	60	-	7 am - 10 pm
Sunday	-	60	40	40	60	-	7 am - 10 pm

Benefits

- Provides access across Admirals Bridge, not currently served, and additional access to Tillicum Mall.
- Provides access from the Gorge-Tillicum area to employment and shopping destinations at Admirals Walk, CFB Esquimalt - Dockyard, Naden and Esquimalt High School.
- New access for View Royal residents living near Admirals Walk to local services and employment in the Tillicum Mall area, in addition to transfer opportunities to access Spectrum High School, Victoria General Hospital, and the Camosun Interurban campus.
- Minor service level improvements.

Considerations

- Routing at Tillicum Mall may require additional realignment of other routes and wayfinding signage due to volume of routes and capacity.
- Implementation may need to be phased with changes to service on route 11.

Estimated Resources

Reroute 24 to terminate at Tillicum Mall		
Proposal	Service Hours	Additional Buses
Reroute 24 to Tillicum Mall	10,000	4

Proposal 5: Route 46 Dockyard/Westhills Expansion

Route 46 connects Langford’s Westhills Exchange to CFB Esquimalt - Dockyard. The plan proposes to introduce midday service and weekend service to the existing weekday peak-only service.

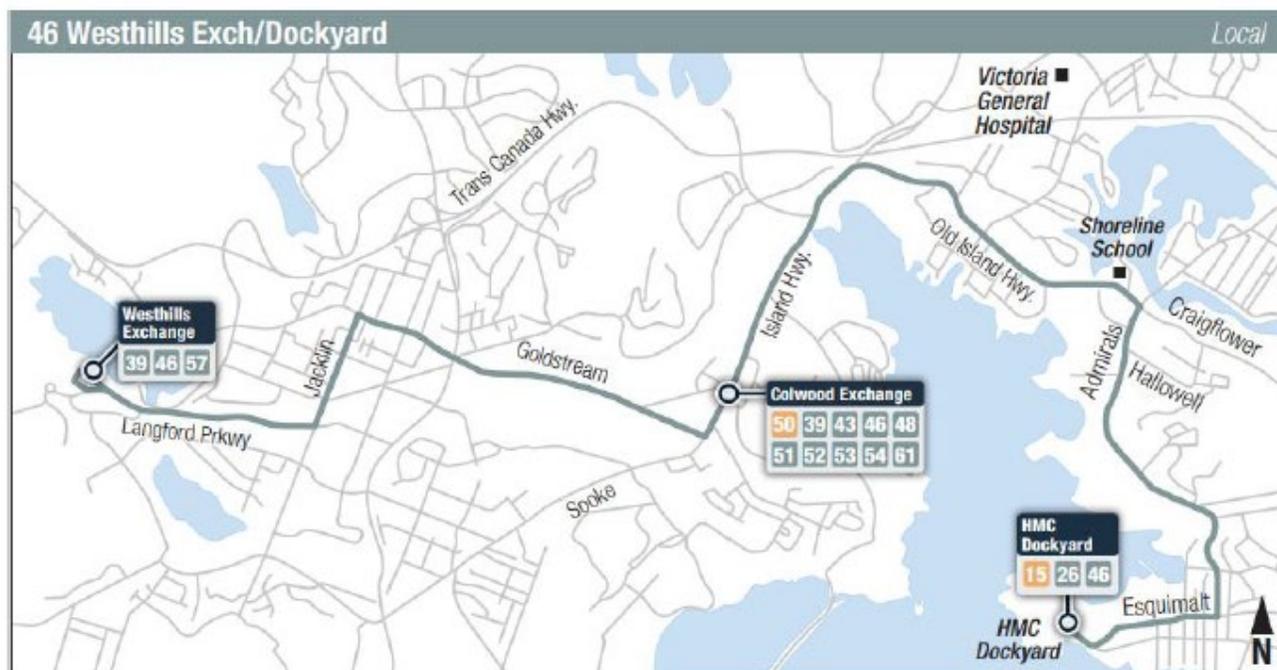


Figure 10: Map of existing service on route 46.

Target Service Frequency							
Service Day	Early AM	AM Peak	Midday	PM Peak	Evening	Late Night	Service Span
	Before 7 am	7 am - 9 am	9 am - 3 pm	3 pm - 6 pm	6 pm - 10 pm	After 10 pm	
Weekday	-	35	60	30	60	-	6 am - 7 pm
Saturday	-	45	45	45	45	-	7 am - 7 pm
Sunday	-	60	60	60	60	-	7 am - 7 pm

Benefits

- Provides additional service along Goldstream Avenue.
- Fills midday and weekend service gap along Old Island Highway.

Considerations

- With more service along the Old Island Highway, there may be a need for Transit Signal Priority to maintain on-time performance and reliability.

Target Service Frequency							
Service Day	Early AM	AM Peak	Midday	PM Peak	Evening	Late Night	Service Span
	Before 7 am	7 am - 9 am	9 am - 3 pm	3 pm - 6 pm	6 pm - 10 pm	After 10 pm	
Weekday	-	35	60	30	60	-	6 am - 7 pm
Saturday	-	45	45	45	45	-	7 am - 7 pm
Sunday	-	60	60	60	60	-	7 am - 7 pm

Benefits

- Provides additional service along Goldstream Avenue.
- Fills midday and weekend service gap along Old Island Highway.

Considerations

- With more service along the Old Island Highway, there may be a need for Transit Signal Priority to maintain on-time performance and reliability.

Estimated Resources

Extend route 46 Service		
Service Day	Service Hours	Additional Buses
Extend span of service later into evening	4,500	2
Introduce weekend service	2,100	1

The current 2021 transit network

The Esquimalt-View Royal Local Area discussed in this plan encapsulates the Township of Esquimalt, the Town of View Royal, as well as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations. A map of the plan area, showing the current transit network, is shown below.



Figure 1: Geographic area and existing transit network of Esquimalt-View Royal.

each logo to be inserted at the top of the page

February 23, 2023

BC Transit
520 Gorge Road East
PO Box 9861
VICTORIA BC V8W 9T5

Attention: Erinn Pinkerton, President and Chief Executive Officer

Dear Ms. Pinkerton

Re: Implementation of Service Priorities for Routes 24, 40 and 46

We write to you today requesting the implementation of service priorities for Routes 24, 40 and 46 beginning in 2024.

These routes are detailed in BC Transit's 2021 *Esquimalt-View Royal Local Area Transit Plan* as being short-term (Routes 24 and 40) and medium-term (Route 46) service priorities. Short-term service priorities were identified through public engagement as "almost universal wins" within the Plan areas and the medium-term service priority received strong support. While the *Esquimalt-View Royal Local Area Transit Plan* is focused on transit related improvements, it also recognizes the important connection between transit and active transportation. As noted in the Plan, these proposed routes address gaps in service and enhance the integrity of the transit network serving our communities.

Along with significantly addressing ridership needs, these proposed routes support economic development for the Esquimalt Nation, Songhees Nation, Township of Esquimalt, District of Saanich and Town of View Royal.

In closing, we again request that BC Transit implement the short-term service priorities for Routes 24 and 40 and medium-term service priority for Route 46 beginning in 2024.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Chief Rob Thomas
Esquimalt Nation

Chief Ron Sam
Songhees Nation

Mayor Sid Tobias
Town of View Royal

Mayor Barb Desjardins
Township of Esquimalt

Mayor Dean Murdock
District of Saanich