

#10 – Victoria Regional Transit System Fare Review

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025



Purpose

• To provide the Victoria Regional Transit Commission (the "Commission") with supporting information to initiate a fare review for **APPROVAL**.

Background

- On June 17th, 2025 the Commission was presented with a five-year fare strategy to review the expected process for future fare changes
- As a follow-up from the five-year fare strategy, BC Transit is recommending that a fare review be initiated to allow for a fare change in 2026

Fare Review Scope

- BC Transit recommends an abbreviated fare review process commence with the following targeted scope
 - Focus on aligning the 30-Day Concession pass with BC Transit pricing guidelines
 - If directed, review Single Ride, DayPASS and 30-Day Adult pass rates to accompany Concession 30-Day pass increases
- Due to sufficient Umo data still accumulating and credit/debit tap pending launch, multi-year incremental fare changes will not be included
- Public consultation is not expected to be required, given it occurred in 2023 as part of the larger review

Further Fare Review Considerations

- Single Ride and DayPASS Fares
 - BC Transit recommends Single Ride fare increases, if considered, continue to follow the existing standard of \$0.25 cent increases. This is due to the absence of sufficient Umo data and the pending introduction of credit and debit tap.
 - The continued pricing of the DayPASS fare at two times the Single Ride fare is also recommended
- Pass Products
 - To supplement existing BC Transit pricing guidelines, existing Umo data can be utilized to provide analysis on potential pass fare changes
- Cost Recovery Target
 - A fare review outcome may be a cost recovery target that is endorsed by the Commission as a goal to guide fare changes moving forward to ensure continued sustainable funding of transit services

Schedule

- September 2025
 - Approve initiating fare review process
- Early 2026
 - Finalized fare review presented for approval
- July 2026
 - o Fare changes implemented in alignment with planned service changes

Recommendation

• It is recommended that the Victoria Regional Transit Commission receive this report and **APPROVE** initiating the fare review process for the Victoria Regional Transit System