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**SUBJECT: INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE**

**PURPOSE**

This report on transit-related infrastructure projects in the Victoria Region is provided to the Victoria Regional Transit Commission (the “Commission”) for **INFORMATION**.

**DISCUSSION**

**ACTIVE PROJECTS:**

**handyDART Centre**

The new handyDART centre at 2401 Burnside Road in View Royal supports increasing demands for handyDART services in the region and enables the BC Transit Low Carbon Fleet Strategy. This federal ICIP funded project will meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold requirements and is planned to open in 2023.

Recent engagement with community stakeholders includes meetings with the Neighbourhood Working Group and the Gorge Waterway initiative. Project updates have been provided to First Nations with a meeting scheduled mid-February with the Esquimalt Nation. The project team is preparing public engagement materials for broad community engagement in March that will include a survey, initiation of a regular e-newsletter, a social media campaign, and a series of short videos.

A final conceptual site layout is achieved allowing determination of site grading and elevations. Final soil settlement analysis recommends the installation of wick drains and surcharge loading to accelerate consolidation of subsoil materials. The design team is progressing the Architectural construction drawings towards the 50% level.

Steady progress has been achieved toward finalizing the designs and planning for the realignment of the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, relocation of Capital Regional District (CRD) water main corrosion protection infrastructure and the relocation of the BC Hydro transmission tower.

The design work on the realignment of the watercourse that was recently reclassified as a stream, is complete and ready to submit with the required provincial and federal permit application. Consultation with the Nations is focused on fulsome engagement on these permits.

The multiple and significant design challenges have pressed the initiation of site preparation works to the fall of 2021, with full construction mobilization late fall 2021 or early spring 2022.

**CNG Fueling and Facility Modifications**

As part of the Low Carbon Fleet program and the introduction of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses in Victoria, CNG fueling infrastructure and facility upgrades are in regular service at the Langford Transit Centre (LTC). Minor outstanding scope will be completed in March.

## BC Transit Bus Shelter Program

The shelter program receives 40 per cent funding towards eligible costs through the Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). A summary of shelters accommodated within the 20/21 program is provided in the table below.

Region	Number of Shelters Requested	First Round Shelters Approved	Second Round Shelters Approved	Total 2020/21 Shelters	Shelters Installed to Date
Saanich	14	4	4	8	3
Sooke	5	0	0	0	0
Oak Bay	1	1	0	1	1
Colwood	2	2	0	2	2
Central Saanich	3	1	2	3	3
Sidney	1	0	1	1	0
Langford	3	1	2	3	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>

## PROJECTS IN PLANNING OR DEVELOPMENT

### Operations and Maintenance Facilities Master Plan

BC Transit is in the process of developing an update to the 25-Year Operations and Maintenance Facilities Master Plan. The final report will be complete in March 2021 and will provide inputs for future project business case(s) to support provincial and federal funding application(s). The plan will support the implementation of battery electric bus, provide recommendations to advance additional operations centres and a number of improvements to modernize the existing operations centres.

### Westshore Transit Priority Plan

In December the Commission approved the transit priority concepts in principle for Goldstream Ave and Sooke Rd for further design work and advancement for implementation. Funding in the amount of \$150,000 in 2021/22 and 2022/23 has been budgeted to further develop the project design and complete community engagement activities. BC Transit is scheduled to present to Colwood Council on March 1<sup>st</sup> to obtain an approval in principle of the recommended transit priority treatments. A plan will be developed to complete detailed design process that includes retaining an engineering consultant and working with local government staff to further develop a design that is agreeable to all stakeholders, and is ready for tendering and construction. As there are a number of competing transit investments planned in the next few years, projects will be programmed in future budgets at a later date to ensure they align with other priorities.

## Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure Transit Related Projects

There are a number of transit infrastructure initiatives that MOTI is advancing that supports the development of the Victoria Regional Transit System including:

### Projects

- **McKenzie Interchange** - Highway 1 bus lanes and transit stations are now complete and in service.
- **Highway 14 Connie Rd to Glinz Lake Rd Realignment and Park & Ride** – The highway 14 realignment includes a new park & ride near Connie Rd and new transit stops with bus pullouts to improve safety and passenger amenities. It is anticipated construction will start in this fiscal year.

### Planning Studies

- **Uptown Mobility Hub Study** – MOTI is advancing planning work to develop transit and active transportation priorities and improvements to serve the near-term goals that will align with the future development of the Uptown site and not preclude the long-term plan. The plan includes a proposal for bus only lanes on Ravine Rd, RapidBus stations on Highway 1 and expanded bus zone capacity on Carey Rd. This plan will support BC Transit advancing long-term plans for the Uptown Transit Hub and Transit Oriented Development opportunities.
- **Highway 1 Bus Priority Planning** – MOTI is advancing planning work along the Douglas Street/Hwy 1 Corridor to support existing BC Transit initiatives. This work includes exploring transit priority treatments that align with the BC Transit priorities identified through the Victoria Transit Future Plan and RapidBus Implementation Strategy.
- **Highway 17 Transit Facilities** - MOTI is advancing planning work along the Highway 17 corridor to explore transit priority treatments to support BC Transit Initiatives.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission receives this report for **INFORMATION**.

Respectfully,

Levi Timmermans  
Director, Infrastructure Management