

Victoria Regional Transit Commission

Chair and Members

February 22, 2022

#09

SUBJECT: Local Area Transit Plans – Staff Report

PURPOSE

To provide the Commission with a summary on the Peninsula and West Shore Local Area Transit Plans for **APPROVAL**.

BACKGROUND

The [Victoria Region Transit Future Plan](#) (2011) established a 25-year vision of an integrated regional transit system to meet the transportation needs of the region. The subsequent [2013/14 Service Review](#) builds upon the Transit Future Plan by identifying specific transit priority measures, infrastructure needs and service initiatives to effectively implement the Transit Future Plan. The Service Review identifies seven local areas where the transit network deserved closer analysis: the Westshore, Tillicum-Burnside, James Bay, Sooke, Jubilee, Esquimalt and Peninsula.

To date, nine Local Area Transit Plans have been completed: the [Westshore](#) (2015), [James Bay](#) (2017), [Sooke](#) (2020), [Jubilee](#) (2020), [Burnside-Tillicum](#) (2020), [Broadmead-Cordova Bay](#) (2020), [Esquimalt-View Royal](#) (2020), Peninsula (2022), and West Shore Update (2022). The Uptown Local Area Transit Plan has been identified to start in summer 2022.

Each Local Area Transit Plan builds upon the vision and goals of the Transit Future Plan and Service Review. They establish transit service (route design and service levels) and infrastructure priorities for their respective areas in the short-term (1-3 years) and medium-term (4-7 years). This report includes the Peninsula Local Area Transit Plan and the West Shore Local Area Transit Plan Update.

DISCUSSION

West Shore Local Area Transit Plan Update

This new West Shore Local Area Transit Plan provides an update from the original plan conducted in 2015. The service area for the West Shore Local Area Transit Plan Update encompasses the City of Langford, City of Colwood, District of Highlands, and the District of Metchosin.

Public consultation carried out for the West Shore Local Area Transit Plan Update included a month-long online survey with almost 600 respondents and approximately 1,400 total comments.

The plan contains short, medium, and longer-term service proposals and infrastructure priorities. Given the rapid pace of development in the West Shore over the last seven years, the key goals for the plan included better aligning the transit network to new development patterns and density,

which includes the implementation of a West Shore RapidBus Line and a new West Shore Frequent Transit Route.

Peninsula Local Area Transit Plan

The service area for the Peninsula Local Area Transit Plan encompasses the District of Central Saanich, District of North Saanich and the Town of Sidney. This area also includes four W̱SÁNEĆ Nations including Tsartlip, Tsawout, Pauquachin, and Tseycum.

Public consultation carried out for the Peninsula Local Area Transit Plan included a key stakeholder engagement workshop and a month-long online survey with over 350 responses and 875 total comments.

The plan contains short, medium, and longer-term service proposals and infrastructure priorities. Key considerations within the plan included implementing the Peninsula RapidBus Line, striking a balance between local and regional travel needs, and improving key connections (including the West Shore, Victoria International Airport, UVIC, and Camosun).

NEXT STEPS

- Integration of the service change proposals into the Transit Evaluation Process (TEPs) for 2022/23 and consequently, the 2023/24 Annual Service Plan and future Annual Service Plans.
 - Service change details may be further refined through additional detailed planning and scheduling work
 - As some service changes constitute a considerable restructuring of transit within the West Shore and Peninsula areas, additional outreach may be required prior to implementation
- Integration of key infrastructure priorities into Capital Planning processes

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Victoria Regional Transit Commission **APPROVE** the Peninsula and West Shore Local Area Transit Plans.

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