

Frequently Asked Questions

Cowichan Valley Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility

- 1. What is the location of the new Cowichan Valley Transit and Maintenance Facility?**
The new facility will be located at 5271 Boal Road (Corner of Polkey and Boal Road).
- 2. When will the project be completed?**
The project is on schedule for completion in the winter of 2019.
- 3. Why is the new operations and maintenance facility needed?**
The current location is at capacity now and as we look ahead to the future needs of the community and of our riders, we realized our existing location did not provide the space for expansion that is required. There is a need to support growth in the Cowichan Valley transit system that has seen a ridership increase of 140 per cent since 2000/2001 (from 195,000 to 470,000).
- 4. Why was this location chosen for this facility?**
As an existing industrial site, this location is ideal. At 4.5 acres in size, the new location is large enough to meet our expected needs for growth and is almost double the size of the existing location. Being centrally located also means we can continue to operate cost-effectively and with a limited footprint on our environment.
- 5. What will take place at the transit operations and maintenance facility?**
The new facility will include an administrative/maintenance building, three maintenance bays, parts storage and shipping/receiving areas. A separate bus wash building, an outdoor covered storage area and a transit yard that can accommodate a fleet of up to 50 buses will also be on site.
- 6. How will the facility improve my transit service?**
The new facility will help support sustainable public transportation in the region. It will also allow BC Transit to meet growing demands for increases to transit services and to improve operational efficiency and reliability. The new facility will also support the potential for the future introduction of compressed natural gas buses, reducing fuel costs, reducing engine noise and greenhouse gas emissions.
- 7. How much will this project cost and where is the budget coming from?**
The project represents a \$15 million commitment in the Cowichan Valley Transit System. It is part of the almost \$160 million in federal and provincial funding provided for BC Transit projects through the Public Transit and Infrastructure Fund (PTIF) that was first announced in June 2016.