

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO OPEN PUBLIC WASHROOMS AT METROTOWN
SKYTRAIN STATION**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT His Worship, Mayor Hurley, on behalf of Council, write a letter to TransLink requesting that the public washrooms at the Metrotown SkyTrain Station be made immediately available for general use.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Planning and Development Committee, at its Open meeting held on 2021 July 12, requested that His Worship, Mayor Hurley, on behalf of Council, write to TransLink requesting that the recently constructed public washrooms at the Metrotown SkyTrain Station be opened to the public.

2.0 POLICY

The need for accessible washrooms, supports the following goals, and sub-goals of the City's Corporate Strategic Plan:

- A Connected Community
 - Partnerships - work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, and other communities and governments
 - Geographic Connection – ensure that people can move easily through all areas of Burnaby, using any form of transportation

To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors
From: Executive Committee of Council
Re: Request to Open Public Washrooms at
Metrotown SkyTrain Station
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- A Healthy Community
 - Healthy life – encourages opportunities for healthy living and well-being
 - Healthy environment – enhances our environmental health, resilience and sustainability

3.0 BACKGROUND

The City has a longstanding history of advocating for public washrooms at Burnaby SkyTrain stations. During the recent Metrotown SkyTrain Station upgrade and expansion, the City once again advocated and required TransLink to provide for the installation of public washrooms.

The station’s improvements included enhanced lighting, glass walls, a bike area with secure storage and repair facility, the addition of new public washrooms and at grade retail plaza space. Although the washrooms were completed, TransLink advised that the operation and maintenance would fall under the purview of the station retail space lessees. As the retail spaces have not been leased, the washrooms remain closed.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The matter of timely access to public washrooms continues to be a concern for transit users, especially for people with disabilities and the aging population. The ‘Connecting Burnaby’ Transportation Plan Draft, under the Public Transit Mode, includes a policy section that calls on collaboration between the City and TransLink to increase transit ridership through the provision of transit-supportive amenities including the provision of washrooms for the convenience of transit passengers. Recognizing this, the Planning and Development Committee has requested that Mayor Hurley strongly encourage TransLink to make the washrooms at the Metrotown SkyTrain Station immediately available for public use, rather than rely on a future third party to do so.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor S. Dhaliwal
Chair

Mayor M. Hurley
Vice Chair

Copied to: Acting City Manager
Director Corporate Services
Director Planning and Building