

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Mayor; Dhaliwal, Satvinder; Calendino, Attilio Pietro; Wang, James; Keithley, Joe; Tetrault, Daniel; Gu, Alison; Santiago, Maita; Lee, Richard](#)
Subject: Willingdon BRT Route
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Dear Mayor and Council,

As a regular transit user, I am writing today about the Metrotown-North Shore BRT route. I would greatly appreciate if commuters could be provided with plausible reasons for the proposal to alter the Willingdon BRT alignment north of Brentwood.

The grade on Boundary rd approaching Hastings is steep, with grades around 13%, which might deem it inoperable during winter conditions, especially with heavily loaded articulated buses. This is steeper than the grades going up Burnaby Mountain and we know what challenges those create. Since buses will have to stop on this very steep slope before turning onto Hastings, it will be somewhere between very uncomfortable and extremely **unsafe** for all the passengers on the BRT that would be standing and have to try to hold on while the bus tries to lurch forward from stopped to make it the rest of the way up the very steep grade, and then make the sharp left turn onto Hastings. I am also thinking of fellow commuters with mobility issues, the elderly and young mothers with perambulators.

The Boundary alteration does not serve any significant destinations along Boundary, all while completely missing the key node at Willingdon and Hastings, including all the community amenities at Confederation park (library, community centre, senior's centre, etc) and all of the Heights, which are all major destinations, especially for people that would use the BRT.

Bus lanes are already in effect during the busiest hours periods along Hastings st and attempting to make the bus lanes permanent and all day will greatly increase the capacity and number of people able to move along Hastings st. This will also be beneficial for the stores in the Heights, providing increasing numbers of people visiting shops, restaurants and community centres in the Heights with the accessibility. BRT is supposed to be about improving speed, comfort, reliability, and accessibility, but compared to the original Willingdon routing, the Boundary rd proposal fails to address these measures while also creating unsafe conditions for people that would be riding the BRT.

As always thank you for providing the platform for voicing the opinions of your citizenry.

Warm regards
Tara Shushtarian
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