

TO: MAYOR & COUNCILLORS
FROM: GENERAL MANAGER ENGINEERING
SUBJECT: **HASTINGS STREET BUS SPEED AND RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENTS**
PURPOSE: To provide information on the Hastings Street Bus Speed and Reliability Improvement project and to seek endorsement for TransLink's recommendation to improve bus speed and reliability on Hastings Street between Willingdon Avenue and Duthie Avenue.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report titled "Hastings Street Bus Speed and Reliability Improvements", and its attachments dated November 18, 2024, be received for information; and

THAT the TransLink recommendation (Section 3) to the report titled "Hastings Street Bus Speed and Reliability Improvements" dated November 18, 2024, be endorsed.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The improvement of the reliability of bus transit operations and the mitigation of bus delays on City streets are consistent with the vision and policies of the Burnaby Transportation Plan and the Climate Action Framework. The goals and objectives of TransLink's Bus Reliability and Speed (BSR) program support the city-wide transportation target on shifting towards sustainable modes of travel.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Burnaby has participated in TransLink's Bus Speed and Reliability (BSR) improvement program since 2019, and the City has successfully implemented bus priority and mitigation measures at key intersections and street segments to improve bus operations.

After the implementation of the R5 RapidBus service on Hastings, TransLink, in December 2021, initiated a corridor transportation improvement study on Hastings Street from Boundary Road to Duthie Street. The study area encompasses The Heights, Capitol Hill and Lochdale communities. The purpose of the Hastings Street Improvement Project (HSIP) was to address bus operations and seek improvement opportunities in the public realm and accessibility along the Hastings corridor.

During May 2022, TransLink conducted pre-consultation with an extended list of stakeholders and the public, comprising of workshops, a walkabout and an online

survey. Corridor options to improve bus operations were developed and analyzed in collaboration with City staff throughout 2022 and 2023.

In October 2023, following TransLink Mayors’ Council announcement on the priority Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project for the Metrotown to Park Royal corridor, TransLink separated HSIP into two components including: (i) BRT on Hastings Street west of Willingdon, and (ii) BSR on Hastings Street east of Willingdon in alignment with regional priorities. During the end of 2023, TransLink re-engaged the City to begin the BSR project on Hastings Street between Willingdon Street and Duthie Street. In collaboration with City Staff, TransLink has completed the BSR project assessment.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

Hastings Street is a key transit corridor in North Burnaby with a total of five bus routes operating within the study corridor between Willingdon Avenue and Duthie Avenue. Based on the assessment outlined in TransLink’s Hastings St Bus Speed & Reliability Improvements Report (**Attachment 1**), the recommendation from TransLink as summarized in Section 3 of the above report is **to dedicate the curbside lanes on Hastings Street between Willingdon Avenue and Duthie Avenue to buses from 7AM to 7PM between Monday and Sunday**. The recommendation would improve transit travel time and reliability, while further encouraging transit as a convenient and efficient transportation option for travel.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TransLink will be undertaking communication and community engagement to inform the public and stakeholders in collaboration with the City of the bus priority measures following Council endorsement.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations related to this report.

Respectfully submitted,

May Phang, P.Eng., General Manager Engineering

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – TransLink Hastings St Bus Speed & Reliability Improvements Report
- Attachment 2 – TransLink Hastings St Bus Speed & Reliability Improvements Presentation

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Kathy Ho, P.Eng., PTOE, Senior Manager, Transportation, and reviewed by Amy Choh, P.Eng., PMP, Director Engineering Transportation.