

FIVE REASONS A 'YES' VOTE IN THE TRANSIT PLEBISCITE IS GOOD FOR WORKERS

1) Transportation investment is key to a strong economy



A study commissioned by the Mayor's Council finds that congestion costs Metro Vancouver \$1 billion dollars a year — a number that will increase to \$2 billion by 2045 if a serious investment isn't made in transit infrastructure. With gridlock making it hard for workers, goods, and customers to move around our region, businesses and workers can accomplish less in a given day. This adds up to serious losses and causes us to fall short of our economic potential.

2) Traffic and inadequate transit steal hours from the lives of workers

Everyone would rather have a shorter commute to and from work to allow for more time to devote to family, friends, hobbies, physical activity, or just plain old relaxation. It is estimated that the proposed investments in transit and transportation will save transit riders on the busiest routes 20 to 30 minutes a day and save drivers in the most congested corridors 15 to 20 minutes a day. That amounts to approximately 63 to 125 hours less commuting time a year.



3) Better transit is good for health and safety

More cars on the road and more congestion leads to more traffic collisions. The transportation improvements in the Mayor's Plan could save over \$55 million a year in

accidents, but more importantly, save an estimated 400 lives and prevent 8,000 serious injuries over the life of the plan. This is on top of the clear individual health benefits of less time spent in cars, less daily inhalation of car fumes, and the addition of short daily walks for those who choose to start commuting by transit. Lastly, better access to frequent transit, particularly an 80% expansion of NightBus service, will greatly improve safety for shift workers traveling at night, especially those in the currently under-served South-of-Fraser region.



4) Accessibility

A proposed 30% expansion in Handy Dart service will ensure that more workers get the assistance they need to access transit. Further, the plan will improve overall access to transit by ensuring that over 60% of homes are within short walking distance of rapid transit and over 90% are within short walking distance of a transit stop.

5) Supporting good jobs

An investment in transit and transportation results in an expansion of good paying, unionized jobs in the Metro Vancouver region. Significantly more drivers, maintenance people, security workers, clerical staff, and tradespeople will be employed as a result of the plan, helping to ensure that the growth in our region includes a significant number of good, family-supporting jobs.

