



April 14, 2025

Fraser Valley Regional District  
45950 Cheam Ave  
Chilliwack, B.C V2P 1N6

Alison Stewart  
Manager of Strategic Planning

Dear Alison,

Following the recent communication to local governments on March 4<sup>th</sup> regarding BC Transit's 2025-26 Budget and Service Plan, we would like to provide you with an update on the outcome of our expansion prioritization process to confirm expansion initiatives that will be moving forward for implementation. As outlined in that communication, BC Transit's confirmed operating budget of \$432.0M (\$183.8M in provincial funding) will enable BC Transit and many of our local government partners to expand service levels to meet increased demand.

Every year, BC Transit's expansion prioritization process is used to rank all expansion requests across the province according to strategic priorities including ridership productivity, critical fixes (such as chronic pass-ups and capacity issues), alignment with existing land uses and GHG mitigation, and functional capacity. In addition to the evaluation ranking, other factors must be considered including capacity of the operational facility, planned critical infrastructure, and vehicle availability. In 2024, several improvements were made to our evaluation process to better define certain criteria, to align with Provincial policy priorities, and to balance metrics like ridership productivity with initiatives that have consistently been put forward without successful approval.

Local governments across the Province have once again requested an unprecedented level of service expansion for 2025-26, and this has significantly exceeded the availability of matching funding and resources. Therefore, the results of our expansion evaluation have been applied to our list of expansion requests to determine where available Provincial expansion funding will be allocated. The approved expansion requests are typically those that have a high potential for ridership growth, and/or are addressing acute operational challenges that can only be solved with an investment of service hours/vehicles.

The following expansion initiative(s) have been approved for implementation:

<b>FRASER VALLEY EXPRESS</b>	Service span and frequency improvements	<b>7100</b> annual service hours	3 expansion vehicles
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<b>FRASER VALLEY EXPRESS</b>	Service span and frequency improvements to Saturday and Sunday service.	<b>2400</b> annual service hours	0 expansion vehicles
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The following expansion initiative(s) have not been approved for implementation and can be put forward for consideration in the next annual transit expansion cycle.

<b>NEW SERVICE - NORTH OF FRASER HWY#7</b>	FVRD Paratransit between Agassiz and Mission	<b>2500</b> annual service hours	2 expansion vehicles
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Over the next several months, BC Transit will work with your local government and the local service provider to prepare for the implementation of expanded transit service to your system. This will include regular engagement with staff to ensure that the expanded service is consistent with the expectations of our local government partner. Through this process, more precise details regarding the changes to service will be communicated to you, and ultimately to the public in your community.

As we go forward, we are continuing to monitor ridership growth and the associated demand for service expansions and working closely with the Province to establish future funding needs. In the meantime, we remain committed to making transit your best transportation solution and we greatly appreciate your support in delivering safe, reliable and efficient public transit services across the province.

Regards,



Rob Ringma  
Senior Manager, Government Relations  
BC Transit