



FAIRFIELD GONZALES
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
the place to connect

To: Levi Megenbir, Lisa Trotter, and Erin Sparks
BC Transit
520 Gorge Road East | Victoria, BC V8T 2W6

RE: BC Transit Local Area Engagement Plan Engagement with Fairfield-Gonzales

Hello Levi, Lisa and Erin,

We are pleased to follow up on the discussion between Fairfield Gonzales Community Association and BC Transit representatives in 2022 regarding transit use and needs in our area.

At that time, BC Transit agreed to provide an opportunity for Fairfield Gonzales residents and neighbours to engage in local area plans to improve transit service, equity and access. We would like to help facilitate that event, or events, to take place in the coming months. **Can you please share with us the process and next steps to do so?**

As you are aware, Fairfield-Gonzales has not been included in BC Transit's local area planning or public engagement for Victoria neighbourhoods. Our neighbourhood is one of the most diverse in the Capital City, with high and increasing density, business hubs, schools, hospitals and top landmarks such as Dallas Road, Beacon Hill Park, Hollywood Park, Ross Bay, Clover Point, Cook Street Village and Christ Church Cathedral. These should be publicly accessible and affordable for every resident to visit. Yet, Fairfield-Gonzales is grossly underserved by public transit and safety issues related to traffic remain our primary resident concern.

We look forward to a discussion with our community and BC Transit on Fairfield-Gonzales transit needs as well as providing input to ensure future plans best reflect those needs. As such, we would also like to invite our Victoria City council liaison Matt Dell and Victoria Transit Commission liaison Jeremy Caradonna to be engaged and involved.

As Victoria seeks to grow in a way that increases affordability, equity and accessible services – but also to reduce car reliance, urban sprawl and emissions – it's crucial that we advocate for this change now and with community-based solutions.

Thank you for your suggestion to reach out the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Rob Fleming. It was his recommendation to engage the Victoria Transit Commission in our discussion, shared with other Provincial resources to address the needs we've raised.



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We look forward to your response and our engagement.

Sincerely,

Anna Phelan, President

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Neighbourhood Improvement Committee

president@fairfieldcommunity.ca

CC: Victoria Regional Transit Commission
Marianne Alto, City of Victoria Mayor, VRTC member
Chris Coleman, City of Victoria council, VRTC member
Jeremy Caradonna, City of Victoria council, VRTC member
Matt Dell, City of Victoria council, Fairfield-Gonzales liaison



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