



FAIRFIELD GONZALES  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
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To: Levi Megenbir, Lisa Trotter, Erin Sparks – BC Transit

RE: BC Transit Local Area Plan for Fairfield and Gonzales

Hello Levi, Lisa & Erin,

Based on our previous discussions and your ask for us to provide input on the local area plan for Gonzales and Fairfield, the Neighborhood Improvement Committee (NIC) of the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association (FGCA) has recently undertaken a holistic review and analysis of transit services within the Fairfield and Gonzales neighborhoods. In preparing this report, the author consulted a variety of publications, datasets, and graphical information systems, including:

- Transit Future Plan, Victoria Region, BC Transit (2011)
- Go Victoria Sustainable Mobility Strategy, City of Victoria (2020)
- Fairfield Neighborhood Plan, City of Victoria (2019)
- Gonzales Neighborhood Community Plan (2002)
- Census of Population 2021, Statistics Canada (2021)
- VicMap, City of Victoria (2023)

The resulting report synthesizes insights from these sources, as well as considering long-running community feedback to the NIC and survey results completed this summer by our neighbourhood residents.

Put simply, the southern and eastern areas of Fairfield and the majority of Gonzales have low access to transit, services, and amenities. Residents using transit in these southernmost areas cannot, for the most part, travel to adjacent neighborhoods or transit hubs/exchanges within 15 minutes.

We realize that this is largely a secondary effect of decisions around land use, density, population distribution, and amenities. We urge you to consider recent decisions by our city and provincial governments to increase density in our neighbourhoods.

Based on our analysis and feedback from our residents, the FGCA would like to request the following of BC Transit:

1. **We propose a review of ridership and service levels on Route 7 which has our highest usage of the three routes in our neighbourhoods..** Substantial changes have taken place on or close to this route since the creation the *Transit Future Plan* in 2010. This route is by far the most used route and has seen more density added along its routes.
2. **We propose that BC Transit create an easier and more accessible connection from Fairfield and Gonzales to BC Ferries and Victoria Airport.** Our residents have said it is difficult to make



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the connection due to the BC Transit schedule and have difficulty carrying their luggage to bus stops that are too far away.

3. **We propose that Route 3 is increased in frequency especially in the southern part of our neighbourhoods.** There is limited times that don't include transiting to work and home as well as late hours. This route could be expanded to help with ridership and accessibility now and as density is increased in those areas.
4. **Route 1 has our lowest ridership.** We suggest looking at Route1 and Route 3 to see if there is a way to increase frequency and reach that would better support our neighbourhoods
5. **Improve Accessibility.** We have many areas that cannot access transit within 15 minutes.

We hope that these recommendations are a generative way of moving towards easier access to transit as well as increased ridership.

We look forward to receiving your response to these recommendations and are, as always, happy to engage further to improve services for our residents.

Sincerely,

Anna Phelan, President  
On behalf of the Board of Directors  
Fairfield Gonzales Community Association  
[president@fairfieldcommunity.ca](mailto:president@fairfieldcommunity.ca)

CC: Matt Dell, City of Victoria council, Fairfield-Gonzales Liaison  
Dave Thompson, City of Victoria Council, CRD Transportation Committee  
Jeremy Caradonna, City of Victoria Council & CRD Transportation Committee  
CRD Transportation Committee  
Grace Lore, MLA Victoria Beacon Hill  
Rob Fleming, BC Minister of Transportation  
Victoria Regional Transit Commission



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