Suggestions from "Be Part of the Plan" E-Consultation, May 23-June 1

This summarizes ideas that have not been suggested in the first two reporting periods.

Encouraging transit use

- Free parking at SkyTrain stations.
- Make SkyTrain safer. Post a security guard at each station.
- Expand SkyTrain service hours.

Improvements to SkyTrain

- Consistency in signage and unified branding for the whole system. Identify lines by colour. Better lighting (new platform LED signs). New tiling at Expo Line to match Millennium and Canada Lines.
- o A common centre deck for the Columbia Station.
- Take out the TVs (most people don't look at them) and improve the PA system.
- Clean toilets.
- Nicer buildings with more glass and less concrete (like Millennium Line stations).
- More services around stations; if you missed the bus and have to wait, at least you could have a bite or grab a magazine.
- "Double extension" of the Canada Line: from terminus in Richmond to Tsawwassen ferry and from Swartz Bay past the airport to downtown Victoria.
- Extend SkyTrain past VCC Station toward UBC along 2nd Avenue.

Improvements to transit

- "Rail for the Valley"; upgrade tracks the government already owns. LRT system from Delta to Chilliwack.
- o Run buses directly over the Port Mann Bridge.
- o Maintain current routes: 143 bus service is absolutely horrible.
- #104 is a very weak link right now.
- A gondola from Production Station to SFU.
- Hope all buses from Granville to Fraser will terminate at Marine Drive station. The #100 could terminate there instead of Airport Station, or even go to Crown and UBC.
- Have one big WCE-type train shunting back and forth from city to ferry.
- A system-side system of smartcards Vancouver users could access transit in other communities like Victoria.

- A distance-based fare system is more fair to everyone who uses the system, and smartcards make this a possibility.
- More buses and SkyTrain network connected to each other beyond the Surrey/Langley area.
- More maps for the Main SkyTrain station. There are no maps on the platform and only one outside the fare-paid zone.

Reducing congestion

- More left turn bays with advance arrows.
- Keep trucks off the roads at peak periods.
- Replace traffic lights with roundabouts.
- More rail freight.
- Investment profits from carbon tax in public transit and other green transportation choices.
- o More rail. Take trucks off the road.
- Fewer semi-trailers idling near ports.

Reducing GHG emissions

- Clean up the fuels. Lower the price of bio diesel so it will be economical to use. Or use straight ethanol with flex fuel engines, lower the price of electric cars and make them available.
- Investing in solar-paneled bus roofs, coupled with rechargeable electric engines would be fantastic for reducing emissions and putting money back into the pocked of TransLink.

Safety

 I hope TransLink has a small team of experts on security that makes recommendations to avoid possible terrorist attacks.