# We want to hear from you about TransLink's proposed Investment Plan.

#### About TransLink

TransLink plans, manages, funds, and operates essential transportation services for Metro Vancouver. Our investment plans identify and approve major projects, programs, and levels of service, as well as how we will pay for them.

#### Background

Metro Vancouver has experienced unprecedented growth since the approval of the 2022 Investment Plan. Our population has grown by more than 150,000 people – the equivalent of adding a new City of Coquitlam to the region. This, combined with strong ridership, customers are now experiencing overcrowded transit, making it difficult for them to get to where they need to go.

TransLink is also experiencing financial challenges due to reduced fare revenues, rising costs due to inflation, and fuel tax revenue is also declining. This means that over the next decade TransLink has a structural deficit averaging a \$600 million shortfall per year. If we don't fix this problem by 2025, we would need to begin transit service cuts of up to 60 per cent, which is not the future that anyone wants for transportation in Metro Vancouver. That's why TransLink continues to work with the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation and the Government of BC to find a long-term solution to these financial challenges.

#### **Overview of the 2024 Investment Plan**

The 2024 Investment Plan will address critical transit service needs over the next year and better prepare us to implement the <u>Access for Everyone plan</u>. The 2024 Investment Plan serves as a short-term measure, bridging the gap until the next Investment Plan, anticipated for 2025, which will offer longer-term solutions to the region's growth.

Key elements of the 2024 Investment Plan can be found on **page 2**. Full details of the plan can be found in the <u>Discussion Guide</u>.

#### Share your feedback!

We want to hear from you about the 2024 Investment Plan from **March 22 to April 5, 2024**. You can provide your feedback online, by email, or by phone. Your input will be shared with the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation and the TransLink Board of Directors.

- Fill out the feedback form: 2024 Investment Plan Feedback | TransLink Listens
- Send us an e-mail: <a href="mailto:investmentplan@translink.ca">investmentplan@translink.ca</a>
- Leave us a voicemail: 778-375-7377

## What's included in the 2024 Investment Plan?

#### TRANSIT SERVICE

#### More bus service

- Increase service on 60 routes to address overcrowding.
- Extend late evening hours on 11 routes.
- Increase off-peak and weekend frequencies on 14 routes.
- Implement previously committed route in East Fraser Heights.

#### **Earlier SeaBus service**

• Begin the first trip of the day 15-minutes earlier in both directions.

#### More rail service

- **Canada Line:** increased frequencies starting in 2025.
- **Expo/Millennium Line:** increasing to prepare for BSP and SLS (previously committed).
- West Coast Express: more capacity as needed on existing trips.

#### HandyDART service

• Improve late evening service.

## Preparing to implement the Access for Everyone plan

• New bus fleet and facilities infrastructure to prepare for expansion, including Bus Rapid Transit.

## STREETS PROGRAMS

## Walking, Biking, and Road Safety

• Fund walking, biking, and road safety infrastructure by extending local government streets funding program through 2025.

## **Bus Speed and Reliability**

• Fund Bus Speed and Reliability Program with local governments through 2025.

#### **PROPOSED FUNDING**

## **Transit fares**

- 2024: average increase of 2.3 per cent (\$0.05 increase for a one-zone cash fare or \$2.40 for a one-zone monthly pass)
- 2025: average increase of four per cent
- 2026: average increase of three per cent
- 2027-2033: average two per cent increase

2024 will mark the fifth year that fare increases have been frozen or discounted at 2.3 per cent – well below inflation and well below the previously planned fare schedule outlined in the 2018 Investment Plan.

## **Property taxes**

- Property taxes in 2024 will increase approximately \$3.08 per month, resulting in a total increase of \$37 for the median property (\$900K property value) in 2024.
- For perspective, this \$37 increase reflects about a one per cent increase of the total average property tax bill.

