

DATE: July 19, 2021**FILE:** 1700-02/2020/780**TO:** Chair and Directors
Regional District Board**FROM:** Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative OfficerSupported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer*R. Dyson***RE: Comox Valley Transit Service Rural Bus Stops and Budget Amendment**

Purpose

To provide the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) Board with an update on bus stop infrastructure in the electoral areas and to put forward a budget amendment to the 2021-2025 Financial Plan in order to complete bus stop improvements with provincial funds.

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:

THAT the 2021-2025 adopted financial plan and capital expenditure program for the Comox Valley Transit service, function 780, be amended by increasing minor capital expenditures in the transit operating budget in 2021 by \$200,000, to a total of \$251,000, for the purpose of undertaking bus stop improvements in the electoral areas;

AND FURTHER THAT the project be funded by a provincial government conditional grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the Transit Minor Betterments Program through the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Executive Summary

The CVRD has been collaborating with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) over the past several years to establish a network of bus stops in the electoral areas. Prior to this a 'flag down' system was used whereby residents could wave a bus down from anywhere that was safe to do so. This system created a lot of uncertainty and was not clear to prospective bus riders.

- Bus stop improvements in the electoral areas are realized in collaboration with MOTI through their Transit Minor Betterments Program (TMBP).
- The TMBP has been revised and the CVRD will now oversee project delivery with \$200,000 in funding provided by the province.
- An amendment to the 2021-2025 Adopted Financial Plan for the Comox Valley Transit service, function 780, is required to realize nine new bus stops in the electoral areas.

The works, planned for late 2021, involve paved bus pullouts and concrete pads for future bus shelters along Clarkson Avenue (two), Torrence Road (one) and Back Road (six) to improve transit access in the electoral areas. Examples of the bus stop improvements from prior projects are shown in Appendix A. The budget amendment would result in an increase to the budget for minor capital expenditures by \$200,000, to a total of \$251,000, to be funded by equivalent \$200,000 funding contribution from the TMBP. These funds will cover all costs associated with the bus stop improvements. The other \$51,000 currently in the minor capital budget is comprised of \$50,000 for other rural bus stops completed earlier this year (also funded through TMBP) as well as a \$1,000 allowance.

Prepared by:

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Attachments – Appendix A – Examples bus stops from prior projects

**Appendix A: Bus Stop Improvements Highway 19A at
Ships Point Road and at Endall Road**



