

DATE: May 1, 2017

FILE: 8500-20/CV

TO: Chair and Directors
Committee of the Whole

FROM: Debra Oakman, CPA, CMA
Chief Administrative Officer

RE: Free Transit up Ryan Road Hill

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a status update on analysis being conducted regarding the concept of providing free transit up Ryan Road hill to those with certain accessibility issues.

Policy analysis

The Comox Valley Accessibility Committee (CVAC) appeared as a delegation to the April 11, 2017 Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) Committee of the Whole. CVAC presented information regarding mobility and access issues relating to the Ryan Road hill and the new hospital.

Executive summary

Ryan Road hill is a key transportation corridor linking various parts of the Comox Valley with the new hospital and other significant community destinations (e.g. North Island College, Aquatic Centre). The hill does not have proper multi-modal infrastructure for cyclists, pedestrians or those who utilize mobility aids such as scooters.

As a result of the CVAC presentation, the CVRD directors discussed the concept of providing free transit up Ryan Road hill to those with certain accessibility issues that cannot easily or safely travel up the narrow asphalt path on the North side of the road (e.g. scooters).

This concept was previously identified by the CVRD board and as a result CVRD staff requested that this be considered as part of the Comox Valley Transit fare review currently being undertaken by BC Transit. As part of the fare review BC Transit have been asked to provide examples of similar free fare policies and any relevant analysis which the board should consider prior to decisions to approve this concept. The fare review is expected to be complete and presented to the CVRD board in summer 2017.

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:

This report is for information only

Respectfully:

D. Oakman

Debra Oakman, CPA, CMA
Chief Administrative Officer

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