



INFORMATION BULLETIN

January 10, 2012

TransLink Commission

TransLink Commission Seeks Public Input

Today, the South Coast B.C. Regional Transportation Commission, the independent regulator of TransLink, opens a period for public comment on an application by TransLink to raise transit fares on January 1, 2013.

On December 28, 2011, TransLink applied to the Commission for supplementary fare increases proposed in its Funding Stabilization Plan that was approved by the Mayors' Council in October 2009. Because some proposed increases average more than 2% per year, TransLink must obtain the Commission's approval. All fare increases combined would generate additional \$48 million in 2013, for a 12.5% increase in TransLink's average fare level.

All fares would rise. For cash fares, this would be the first increase in five years. For example, cash fares, last raised in January 2008, would rise by \$0.25 for a 1-zone ticket and \$0.50 for 2- and 3-zone tickets. For others, this would be the first increase in 2 years and 8 months: for instance FareSaver tickets, last raised April 2010, would cost \$2.50, \$4.00 and \$5.00 more (for 1-, 2-, and 3- zones respectively) for books of 10.

Commissioner Martin Crilly said: "Is it reasonable to expect TransLink to manage without some or all the fare increases it seeks, without making cutbacks in planned services? In addressing that crucial question, we are probing for evidence that TransLink could save money by operating more efficiently, and we especially welcome input in that respect."

Comments can be e-mailed to comments@translinkcommission.org, posted on the Facebook page of the TransLink Commission, or mailed to TransLink Commission, PO Box 1497, Comox BC, V9M 8A2.

Deadline for comments is February 15, 2012.

For background information and FAQs, including the reasons for the proposed increase provided by TransLink please visit: http://translinkcommission.org/html/what_s_new.html

For TransLink's 2012 "Moving Forward" Supplemental Plan and Outlook, which assumes the fare increases, visit http://translinkcommission.org/2012_Supplemental_Plan_Sept23_FINAL.pdf

And for the Commissioner's formal opinion on the Moving Forward Plan, visit <http://translinkcommission.org/CommissReport2012Supplement.pdf>

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