



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Public Works and Transportation Committee *To Public Works + Transportation - May 23/02*
 Date: May 8, 2002
 From: Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
 Director, Transportation
 File: 0154-04
 Re: **TRANSLINK 2002 PROGRAM PLAN - SEPTEMBER SERVICE CHANGE -
 INTRODUCTION OF BUS SERVICE ON VULCAN WAY / NO. 6 ROAD /
 BRIDGEPORT ROAD**

Staff Recommendation

That the use of Vulcan Way (Viking Way to No. 6 Road), No. 6 Road (Vulcan Way to Bridgeport Road) and Bridgeport Road (No. 6 Road to Viking Way) for new bus service as part of the TransLink 2002 Program Plan service changes commencing on September 2, 2002 be endorsed.

Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation

Att.1

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CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

Staff Report

Origin

TransLink has requested City approval to extend the #405 No. 5 Road/Bridgeport Road route and introduce new bus service on Vulcan Way (Viking Way to No. 6 Road), No. 6 Road (Vulcan Way to Bridgeport Road) and Bridgeport Road (No. 6 Road to Viking Way) during peak periods only. Such requests are TransLink's standard practice to ensure that municipalities are able to comment on possible implications of the use of a particular roadway and to make the resources available for the implementation of bus stop infrastructure and passenger amenities.

As part of the overall design and implementation process for the Richmond Area Transit Plan, Council approval is required to introduce new bus service on these roads. This staff report outlines the routing and frequency of the proposed bus service and the ridership expectations. This new bus service would be introduced effective September 2, 2002.

Analysis

1. Proposed Bus Operations on Vulcan Way, No. 6 Road and Bridgeport Road

Currently, the closest transit service for customers and employees wishing to access the area in the vicinity of Vulcan Way, No. 6 Road and Bridgeport Road is the #405 or the #407 (peak periods only), both of which travel along Viking Way only between Bridgeport Road and Vulcan Way. In response to customer feedback from transit users who work at various employers in this area and with input from City staff, TransLink proposes to extend the routing of the #405 to Vulcan Way, No. 6 Road and Bridgeport Road during peak periods (see Attachment 1).

TransLink and the City have received numerous requests for transit service to these areas, including the submission of a petition with 118 signatures that was sent to the City when the special meeting of the Public Works and Transportation Committee on Richmond Transit Service and City Centre Traffic Conditions was held on December 11, 2001.

The extension of the #405 route will require the use of portions of Vulcan Way (Viking Way to No. 6 Road), No. 6 Road (Vulcan Way to Bridgeport Road) and Bridgeport Road (No. 6 Road to Viking Way). As bus service currently does not operate on these sections of roadways, staff are seeking approval from Council to permit the inclusion of this roadway in the Richmond bus network.

2. Operating Characteristics

The new transit service extension will have the following operating characteristics.

- *Routing* – Vancouver-bound buses will travel from Viking Way at Cambie Road through to NB Viking Way, EB Vulcan Way, SB No. 6 Road and WB Bridgeport Road to NB Knight Street Bridge. Richmond-bound buses will travel via SB Knight Street Bridge to EB Bridgeport Road, NB Viking Way, EB Vulcan Way, SB No. 6 Road and WB Bridgeport Road back to SB Viking Way to WB Cambie Road.

- Frequency – The service will operate at 30-minute frequencies during peak periods only.
- Road Geometry – The geometry of these sections of roadways are adequate to accommodate safe bus operations. TransLink Engineering staff concluded from a field test that the proposed route extension is feasible from all service and operational considerations.
- Bus Stops – The new service will require the construction of five bus stops with landing areas on Vulcan Way/Viking Way, No. 6 Road/Vulcan Way, 2500-block No. 6 Road, Bridgeport Road/No. 6 Road and Bridgeport Road/Viking Way. The bus stops on Bridgeport Road will include sidewalks and all bus stops will be wheelchair accessible with the exception of the bus stop at Bridgeport Road/Viking Way due to a lack of required property.
- Ridership – Based on business licence information, employment in the area of Vulcan Way, No. 6 Road and Bridgeport Road is estimated at 4,000. The extension of the #405 is expected to attract a higher level of ridership drawn from this base.

Financial Impact

The total cost to construct the five bus stops is \$15,830 and is proposed to be funded from the 2001 Transit Plan Infrastructure Program. The projects will also be submitted to TransLink for 50/50 cost-sharing under TransLink's 2002 Transit Related Road Infrastructure Program.

Conclusion

In response to customer requests, TransLink is proposing to extend the route of the #405 No. 5 Road/Bridgeport Road bus and introduce new service on Vulcan Way (Viking Way to No. 6 Road), No. 6 Road (Vulcan Way to Bridgeport Road) and Bridgeport Road (No. 6 Road to Viking Way) during peak periods only. As these sections of roadways currently are not served by transit, Council is asked to approve the use of these roadways by TransLink as part of its 2002 Program Plan improvements, effective September 2, 2002.



Joan Caravan
Transportation Planner

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