

March 18, 2015 | Richmond Food Security Society



Mayor Gregor Robertson & Mayor Linda Hepner
Chair & Vice-Chair Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation
400 - 287 Nelson's Court
New Westminster, BC V3L 0E7

Dear Mayor Robertson and Mayor Hepner,

RE: Support for a YES vote in the Metro Vancouver Transportation Referendum

We are writing to endorse the Mayors' Transportation and Transit Plan, and a YES vote in the Metro Vancouver Transportation Referendum.

Our mandate is to ensure "that all people in the community, at all times, have access to nutritious, safe, personally acceptable and culturally appropriate foods, produced in ways that are environmentally sound and socially just." We believe a YES vote will support us in achieving our mandate primarily by ensuring more frequent and reliable transit is provided throughout Richmond and the region. Better transit will improve mobility and therefore access to nutritious, safe, personally acceptable, and culturally appropriate foods. Primarily, it will do so for those who rely on transit most—people with low incomes, disabilities, and chronic health conditions, as well as recent immigrants.

We appreciate that a YES vote will also: reduce traffic congestion; enable first-responders to respond more quickly to emergencies; make it easier to get around by walking and cycling; encourage physical activity and improve public health; reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change and improve air quality; decrease commute times and allow families to spend more time with each other; focus development to transit-serving areas and away from green spaces and the Agricultural Land Reserve, which we rely upon to grow the food we feed ourselves.

We also urge voters in Richmond and beyond to join us in voting YES for better transit and a better future.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Richmond Food Security Society
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