

BACKGROUND

MOBILITY PRICING STUDY

WHAT IS THE MOBILITY PRICING INDEPENDENT COMMISSION?

The *10-Year Vision for Metro Vancouver Transportation* is investing in public transit, roads, bridges and active transportation to reduce congestion across the region. The vision also commits to studying mobility pricing as an additional component of this plan. In support of this commitment, an Independent Commission made up of local residents and community leaders is being struck in Spring 2017.

The Mobility Pricing Independent Commission's purpose is to make recommendations to the TransLink Board, the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation and municipal and provincial decision-makers on how to improve the way we price transportation in Metro Vancouver in order to reduce congestion and overcrowding, improve fairness, and support continued investment in urgently-needed transportation infrastructure.

HOW WILL THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION GO ABOUT ITS WORK?

The Commission will begin its work in June 2017, and submit its final recommendations at a public meeting in Spring 2018.

The Commission has a clean slate. It will be tasked with considering all available options for mobility pricing including models employed in other jurisdictions, and making recommendations for made-in-Metro-Vancouver solutions informed by a careful review of the best evidence and the views of Metro Vancouver residents.

Mobility pricing refers to the range of fees and charges for using everyday transportation services. It can include things like transit fares, charges for using shared use services like taxis, bike-sharing, car-sharing or ride-hailing, and road usage charges like tolls, fuel sales tax, and vehicle permit and insurance fees. Different jurisdictions around the world – such as London, Stockholm, Singapore and Oregon have put in place a number of different models for mobility pricing to meet some or all of the objectives of reducing congestion, improving fairness, and supporting transportation investment.

Before moving forward with making any recommendations, the Mobility Pricing Independent Commission has a lot of work to do – critical analysis of all the available options, careful review of best practices and lessons learned in other jurisdictions, ongoing collaboration between different levels of government, and extensive public input.

Proposals made by political parties in this current provincial election campaign pertaining to changes in tolling policy represent another important consideration for the Independent Commission as it undertakes its work.

The Commission's recommendations will be provided to decision-makers in local, regional and provincial government who are ultimately responsible for making any decisions regarding pricing, managing and investing in the region's transportation system.

WHY STUDY MOBILITY PRICING?

Mobility pricing represents one strategy for helping to achieve the goals of the *10-Year Vision*, a comprehensive plan for urgently-needed transportation investments that will reduce congestion for the benefit of our region's economy, our health, and our quality of life. Studying mobility pricing will make sure that future decisions made by municipal, regional and provincial decision-makers are informed by the best available evidence, and the views of Metro Vancouver residents, stakeholders and businesses.

WHAT ARE THE COMMISSION'S KEY OBJECTIVES?

The Mobility Pricing Independent Commission's Terms of Reference instruct the Commission to make recommendations focused on supporting the following three key objectives:

1. **Relieve Congestion** – proposals should reduce the congestion on our roads and transit system that frustrates commuters, and hurts our economy, our health, and our quality of life.
2. **Promote Fairness** – proposals should increase the connection between what you use and what you pay, promote affordability for local residents and businesses, and ensure that residents have access to a robust network of transportation options.
3. **Support Investment** – proposals should help generate revenues that are needed to make smart, ongoing investment in public transit, roads, bridges and active transportation across Metro Vancouver, and ensure revenues are collected and distributed in a manner that is transparent, equitable and accountable.

HOW CAN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC LEARN MORE AND GET INVOLVED?

The Commission will have wide latitude to utilize and conduct a range of public and stakeholder education, dialogue and consultation activities throughout the duration of its term and utilize the findings from these activities as key inputs to help inform and guide its recommendations.

Members of the public will have the opportunity to take part in the Independent Commission's work at public meetings in communities across Metro Vancouver, and online. After it is launched, the Independent Commission will have its own website and communications channels. In the meantime, updates will be posted on the TransLink [website](#).