



# LET'S KEEP ON CURING CONGESTION IN METRO VANCOUVER

*2019 Federal Election Platform Summary*

Anyone who tries to get around this region knows: **Metro Vancouver is still suffering from a bad case of congestion.** People experience this congestion every day. It's the overcrowding on our transit system. It's bottlenecks on our roads that delay people and commerce.

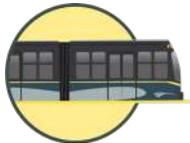
With demand for public transit growing at a record pace, and another one million people arriving in Metro Vancouver over the next 20 years, the pressures on our transportation network will only increase.

We need to stay focused on addressing congestion in order to protect our environment and quality of life, and to improve affordability for people across Metro Vancouver. If the federal government fails to provide sustained funding alongside provincial and regional investments for transportation improvements, our transit system will become severely overcrowded and traffic on our roads will become gridlocked.

That's why the Mayors' Council is asking all federal political parties and Metro Vancouver voters:

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## JOIN US IN MAKING CONGESTION AN ISSUE IN THE 2019 FEDERAL ELECTION!



We need your help - go to [CureCongestion.ca](http://CureCongestion.ca) to send a message to your local MPs and candidates. Tell them you support better transit - for our environment, our economy and our quality of life.

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### WE'VE STARTED TO PROVIDE RELIEF...

- Over the last few years, with support from all three levels of government, TransLink has started rolling out \$11 billion in new investments as part of the 10-Year Vision, including an 18 per cent increase in bus service, more SkyTrain cars, a new SeaBus, and funding for roads, bike lanes and sidewalks.
- The public has responded to these new services, with transit ridership growing over 17 per cent since the beginning of 2016 -- the fastest rate of any region in North America.

### MORE IS NEEDED...

- 89 per cent of residents are frustrated with traffic delays and 81 per cent say transportation delays cause them lost time every week.
- The number of bus trips that had overcrowding increased by 36% between 2016 and 2018.
- External surveys consistently rank Vancouver among the worst in North America for congestion.

# WHAT DO WE NEED TO KEEP METRO VANCOUVER MOVING?

The Mayors' Council is joining municipalities nation-wide through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) in calling for a permanent, predictable, direct federal funding mechanism – a **Congestion Relief Fund** – for modern public transit across the country.

The Congestion Relief Fund will allow us to accelerate completion of the 10-Year Vision including:

- Completing the rapid transit network in Surrey and Langley
- Extending the Millennium Line down Broadway from Arbutus to UBC
- Connecting the Millennium Line to SFU Burnaby campus via a potential gondola
- Increasing bus and HandyDART service in every corner of the region
- Upgrading SkyTrain with increased frequency and station upgrades, and adding more West Coast Express cars
- Building 5 new high-capacity and high-frequency express bus routes in Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge, Langley, White Rock, Surrey, North Vancouver, Burnaby and Vancouver
- Converting our bus fleet to electric vehicles to achieve our zero emissions targets, improve local air quality and reduce neighbourhood noise
- Increased funding for regional cycling and walking networks
- Improving road conditions for drivers through continued upgrades to the Major Roads Network

The 30-year Regional Transportation Strategy will identify projects and services beyond the 10-Year Vision, potentially including higher capacity transit in areas currently underserved by rapid transit like the North Shore, the fast-growing South of Fraser area and the north-east sector.

## WHY SHOULD WE CURE CONGESTION?

### Affordability

Making smart investments in transportation will give residents and businesses more options and save them money. If we can make it easier to get around the region, residents will have better access to affordable options for housing and transportation.

### Grow our economy

By completing the 10-Year Vision, we can move both people and goods across Metro Vancouver more efficiently and effectively, resulting in over \$9 billion in regional economic growth that supports good jobs.

### Protect our Health and Environment

Completing the 10-Year Vision could translate to nearly \$350 million in health benefits for Metro Vancouver, while increased transit service will reduce GHG emissions from vehicles on our roads.

### Saved Time and Better Commutes

Faster commutes, fewer pass ups, and expanded services and schedules means more time spent with family and friends. Completing the 10-Year Vision would save commuters as much as 30 minutes on their daily travels, and help strengthen our local economy by keeping commercial traffic moving across the region.

## GET INVOLVED!

If you agree that the federal government needs to continue supporting better transportation in Metro Vancouver, visit **CureCongestion.ca** to send an email to your local MP and federal election candidates.

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