

Cure Congestion: Media Backgrounder

July 25, 2019

Since April 2019, the Mayors' Council has been calling on all federal parties to commit to establishing a Congestion Relief Fund, through its [Cure Congestion campaign](#). This Congestion Relief Fund is aimed at providing a permanent, predictable and direct federal fund that can be invested alongside local and provincial government commitments to transportation and transit.

- The Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation's [federal election platform](#) calls on all major national parties to commit to work in partnership with local and provincial leaders to cure congestion in Metro Vancouver.
- A [voter engagement tool](#) is enabling Metro Vancouver voters to join the Cure Congestion campaign by sending an email to their MPs and local election candidates.
- 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 for modern public transit across the country. This would translate to a national fund of \$3.4 billion annually starting in 2028.
- Such a fund, delivered on the basis of ridership, would deliver an estimated \$375 million annually to TransLink, starting in 2028. The fund would extend federal transit investments at historical levels beyond the expiry of the current federal programs.
- Sustained federal funding would enable TransLink to build the major projects in the 10-Year Vision including the Surrey Langley SkyTrain and projects to be identified in Transport 2050.

Where do the Parties Stand? / [Cure Congestion Questionnaire](#) (page 8)

When Metro Vancouver residents cast their ballots for their local candidates in the Canadian general election, the Mayors' Council wants residents to know what each of the federal parties will do to address traffic congestion and overcrowding on public transit in Metro Vancouver. The following questionnaire has been sent to each of the major federal parties for their response prior the election:

1. *Do you agree that reducing congestion in Metro Vancouver — for the benefit of the region's people, economy, health and environment — should be a priority for the next federal government?*
2. *Do you support accelerating completion of the 10-Year Vision?*
3. *If elected, will you establish a new Congestion Relief Fund – a permanent, predictable federal fund that can be invested alongside local and provincial government commitments and guarantees Metro Vancouver the transportation funding needed for our most urgent congestion-fighting transit and road investments?*
4. *Do you agree there is an important role for the federal government to play as a partner, providing sustained funding to local governments, to support transit and transportation improvements that keep Canadians and the economy moving?*