

Langley City Hall, 20399 Douglas Crescent, Langley, BC Canada V3A 4B3 mayor@langleycity.ca

April 23, 2020 File: 0110.00

Hon. Premier John Horgan West Annex Parliament Buildings 501 Belleville Street Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

VIA Email: <a href="mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca">premier@gov.bc.ca</a>;

Dear Premier Horgan:

## Re: Request to Provide Emergency Relief Funding for TransLink

At its April 20, 2020 Special Council meeting, Council adopted a resolution, joining the call by the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation, to urge senior levels of government to provide emergency relief funding for TransLink.

As you know, earlier this week TransLink announced significant transit service reductions and layoffs as part of a cost reduction plan to close the gap on its \$75 million monthly losses due to an 80% drop in ridership as a result of Provincial Public Health Officer physical distancing requirements. These service cuts will reduce TransLink's passenger capacity to just 18% of normal.

TransLink's financial losses are not sustainable, but being forced to cut service should not be a viable option for our community. TransLink is calling on senior governments to provide relief funding of at least \$50 million monthly effective immediately so it can protect public transit access to essential services.

Over 150,000 Metro Vancouver residents continue to use TransLink every month, and over 90% of those riders are using it to access essential services such as grocery stores, pharmacies, and hospitals. In fact, 1/3 of them work in the health care or food-related sectors – these are the people that the rest of us rely on for everyday survival.

The City of Langley needs good transit service for its residents, many of whom are travelling far from our community to vital jobs that support our entire region. I ask you as our Premier to urge

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the provincial government to fund the provision of transit service in Metro Vancouver and throughout BC. Taking this action will send a clear message that the Province recognizes the need to support our essential workers, and all our citizens. during these challenging times.

Yours truly, CITY OF LANGLEY

Val van den Broek Mayor

cc Langley City Council

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