

Subject: The demoralization of the District Transportation Advisory Committee by the Council of the District of North Vancouver;

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A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST

The District Transportation Advisory Committee (TPAC) is in a state of crisis. It is now the second time in a row that a meeting of the Committee had to be cancelled for a lack of a quorum.

There are essentially two reasons for this. One, the Committee knows that it has been a thorn in the side of the present CCA endorsed Council and Two, the Committee itself is fed up with making recommendations when nobody listens.

The Committee has made numerous suggestions, including that regional representatives should be elected rather than appointed, that we push for greater autonomy for the North Shore within the regional organization, that we push for an additional Sea Bus, that we ask for a revision of the 2010 and 2021 outdated regional transportation plans, that we get together with the other North Shore municipalities to take a united stand on transportation issues to mention a few, not to mention the many other suggestions dealing with traffic issues, including more and improved bicycle lanes, for example.

Most of these matters have been ignored or nixed by Council for no apparent reason other than to avoid PROVIDING LEADERSHIP at any level. The final straw, however, was when some members of the CCA endorsed Council indicated that TPAC should be on the chopping block altogether. As one member of TPAC put it "it is clear that Council thinks we are not important, but if we are not important than what am I doing here". Most of the other members agreed and the lack of quorums is the result.

I consider the demise of TPAC nothing less than another failure by the present CCA endorsed Council, for who can argue that transportation is a key issue and that a citizens committee of volunteers attempting to assist Council by contributing their valuable time and effort in finding solutions, is of enormous value to the community. Not so in the District it appears, however.

Another Citizens Committee whose existence is being questioned is the Customer Service and Quality Assurance Committee. That Committee too has proven its value to the community. Since the inception of this committee the number of public complaints about public service has greatly diminished. This is because every unresolved complaint is or can be brought to the attention of this Committee. This Committee too has been a thorn in the side of some staff and members of Council who think that it should be done away with.



[Part 1.2](#)

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