

Subject: Re: TransLink News Release: Most GVRD Residents support paying for transportation improvements through taxes and fares

Date: Mon, 29 Dec 2003 15:27:35 -0800

From: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

To: Ernie Crist <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

CC: "Robbins, Jennifer" <jennifer_robbs@translink.bc.ca>, undisclosed-recipients <"undisclosed-recipients;"@kost.ca>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, Cagebc@yahoo.com, Mayor and Council - DNV <Council@dnv.org>, Senior Management Committee <managemcomm@dnv.org>, MayorandCouncil@CNV.org

The way I see it (and it is IMPORTANT that others also read the full plan before making up their minds), by 2013 we will have 1 of every 3 dollars going to pay the debt. Also, very little money (about 10%) is actually going into relieving the congestion for the 80-90% of the population (in fact there are good reasons to believe congestion will get worse!) who need to travel using private vehicles. If a survey included this information I daresay the % support may well be reversed. I would urge council to get the pre-amble and actual questions asked by the "scientific" survey before drawing their own conclusions.

Corrie Kost

Ernie Crist wrote:

> Hello Jennifer:

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> I hope you don't mind me calling you by your first name. I fully appreciate that it is your job to put the best face forward, but you should also understand that the response by the people of the North Shore to the questions you put to them and which you now use as proof for support was biased and weighted.

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> By way of example - if you had asked them "Do you support the \$ 4 Billion 10 Year Regional Translink Plan, even though there is no firm commitment for a new Sea Bus crossing, no improvement of Transportation either on or to and from the North Shore other than a few buses, a small local \$ 8 million bridge, a \$ 10 million third Sea Bus (sometime in the future) and not even a long term transportation plan for the North Shore, which is crucial for long term community planning", I am sure that the response would have been entirely different.

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> Please don't take this personally, but pass it on to your superiors nonetheless. Our own local representatives to the GVRD and Translink already know my position which is shared by a far greater percentage of North Shore residents than is indicated by the Ipsos-Reid Survey conducted on behalf of and paid for by Translink.

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> Thank you,

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> Ernie Crist, Councillor,

> District of North Vancouver.

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Robbins, Jennifer [mailto:jennifer_robbs@translink.bc.ca]

> Sent: December 29, 2003 10:06 AM

> To: undisclosed-recipients

> Subject: TransLink News Release: Most GVRD Residents support paying for transportation improvements through taxes and fares

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> News Release

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> For Release

Contact: Trish Webb

> December 29, 2003

Cell: 604-202-7125; Office: 604-453-4620

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> Most GVRD residents support paying for

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> transportation improvements through taxes and fares

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> A November public opinion poll of 1,000 Greater Vancouver Regional District residents found that a majority of residents of all municipalities support TransLink's three-year plan and 10-year outlook.

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> Nearly seven in 10 (68%) respondents supported the proposed projects and the methods of payment, which include a tax on parking stalls, increased property taxes, a toll on the Fraser River crossing and higher transit fares. Respondents were told of the impact on their individual pocketbooks so they could make an informed choice about whether or not they wanted to support the plan and funding measures for 2005 to 2007. Survey participants were also informed that TransLink will pursue long-term, stable federal funding to support the 10-year outlook, in addition to the funding sources they evaluated for 2005 to 2007

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> "I've talked to a lot of people about TransLink's plans over the past three months, and what I hear over and over is 'get moving,'" said TransLink Chair Doug McCallum. "People want us to get on with improving the movement of people, goods and services throughout the region."

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> Survey respondents gave the following top four reasons for supporting the Fraser River crossing toll, property and parking taxes and higher transit fares between 2005 and 2007:

> * 'The work has to be done and it has to be paid for.'

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> * 'It's a fair and reasonable way to pay for projects; it makes sense.'

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> * 'The costs will be shared by the community; everyone will contribute.'

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> * 'Improved transit and transportation benefits everyone in the community.'

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> Residents of all municipalities support the package of projects and funding measures:

> * Vancouver, Burnaby and New Westminster - 73%

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> * North Shore - 67%

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> * Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows - 67%

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> * South of the Fraser River - 65%

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> * Richmond - 63%

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> The poll was conducted by Ipsos-Reid for TransLink, and is based on interviews with 1,000 people. The poll results have a maximum range of error of +/-3.1 percent, 95 times out of 100.

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