

**Subject: Rav****Date:** Tue, 30 Nov 2004 11:48:09 -0800**From:** "Ernie Crist" <ernie\_crist@dnv.org>**To:** <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <cagebc@yahoo.com>**CC:** "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "James Ridge" <James\_Ridge@dnv.org>

A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST

There appears to be some confusion on the part of the N. S. Chamber of Commerce concerning the proposed RAV project and the 2010 and 2021 Regional Translink Plans. During last night's meeting on the RAV issue in the District of North Vancouver , a Chamber representative made the point that we should support the project since it will do great things for the region including the North Shore. The representative was even under the impression that we will get an additional Sea Bus crossing sometime down the pike and that this is in the plans. But this is not so.

The North Shore, other than getting a Sea Bus in 2009 in addition to the one Sea Bus already in service at the Lonsdale Quay , (not to be confused with an additional Sea Bus crossing from different location on the North Shore such as Maplewood and/or Ambleside) and an \$ 8 million contribution to the Dollarton Bridge, will get nothing.

We are not even included in any long term plan so we could at least engage in community planning which relies on knowing where future transportation corridors are going to be. This is another way of saying, how can we engage in Town Planning unless we know what kind of transportation system we will have on the North Shore and where?

At the same time North Shore residents are contributing hundreds of millions of dollars to the Regional Transportation Plan.

These are the reasons why I voted against the Rav proposal last night. As I see it, since nobody listens, the only alternative for the North Shore is to vote with its feet. Translink does not have to listen, of course, since our North Shore representatives have consistently voted in favour of anything Translink has put on the table. No wonder, therefore, that we have been taken for granted like good little boys and girls that can be relied on to sit quietly.

It stands to reason that when you have a 20 year regional transportation plan not everybody in the region will get what they want at the same time. What is reasonable is to expect that every part of the region knows what is coming down the pike in the future. This is essential. We are all paying for the cost and so we are entitled to know so we can make our own plans.

But the North Shore has been left out. Our representatives have taken the position that to be a good Translink rep means to submerge North Shore needs with the result that we are left out in the cold altogether. It is the squeaky wheel in reverse.

Unless the North residents insure that their representatives to Translink go there to fight for our needs, nothing will ever change. The North Shore will never get anything other than the privilege to pay.

