

Subject: GVRD vote on 10 year Translink plan.

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A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST;

The 10 year Regional Translink Plan was approved by the GVRD Board by a narrow margin. Following the meeting, Mayor Bell, who represents the District on the GVRD Board stated that after the Board voted in favor of the plan by a narrow margin, he made an amendment that the weighted property tax formula be changed to a flat rate.

This means that, notwithstanding the higher value of properties in the District of North Vancouver and the North Shore in general, the levy to pay for the plan will be the same throughout the region regardless of higher assessed properties in North and West Vancouver. What is not clear as yet is whether this will adversely affect lower assessed properties in the District.

District Council had asked Mayor Bell to vote against the Translink Plan because there is little in the way of benefits to the North Shore. Estimates were that we would pay \$300 million while the combined value of benefits for the whole of the North Shore are a mere \$40 million.

Even with the adjustment to a flat levy this will not change substantially. We will still pay a great deal more than what we are receiving. For the next ten years none of our major traffic concerns will be addressed - no third crossing rail tunnel linking the existing rail infrastructure to facilitate light rail and no additional Sea Bus Crossings. Motions on my part to that effect have always been nixed by District Council in the past. There was no support from Don Bell either. We have been left high and dry and will be exceedingly vulnerable not only during the Olympics but long before - not to speak of the consequences in the event of a disaster on a bridge - God forbid a chemical spill in Seymour.

Ernie Crist,

