



4.2 TRANSIT



Taking the bus helps the environment

ISSUE:

Increasing transportation choice is a key goal of the Livable Region Strategic Plan. The single most effective method of doing this is through a transit system that is comparable to the car in convenience, reliability, and ease of use. This is particularly true for Richmond, where historical development patterns have favoured car use, and the overall transit service offered has not been sufficiently competitive. To make a difference, the approach to transit planning and delivery needs to be strategic, including meeting the travel needs of the whole community by combining various forms of transit (from light rail to smaller shuttle buses), and providing the local community with a more active role in planning and design of transit services.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Enhance transit service to a level comparable with the private automobile as a primary choice for travelling.

POLICIES:

- a) Promote fast, frequent, convenient, accessible, and reliable transit service as the basis for maintaining current ridership and attracting new transit users;
- b) For regional transit service, promote RapidBus/Light Rail Transit between Richmond and Vancouver via Sea Island to link up the airport; promote direct and frequent bus service to other municipal town centres and major destinations, e.g. U.B.C., Metrotown, Whalley, South Surrey;
- c) For local transit service, use a grid system to enhance east-west connections and to provide direct links to and from neighbourhood service centres, recreational destinations, high schools, and major employment centres;
- d) Consider using small, convenient, accessible neighbourhood-friendly shuttle buses to serve local neighbourhoods;
- e) Promote a City Centre circulator bus with discounted fare to encourage the use of transit for short trips;
- f) Improve physical access (e.g. sidewalks, bus stop pads, etc.) to local transit for people with disabilities;



On-road light rapid transit



- g) Improve HandiDart and similar services to meet the special travel needs of people who are not served by the regular transit system;
- h) Provide greater certainty for everyone's travel needs by creating a city transit authority, or by increasing local control over transit planning within a regional system.

Major Transit Network

