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MOTION ON NOTICE

1. TransLink (VanRIMS No. 13-1400-20)

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by

WHEREAS:

1. TransLink is faced with an impending funding crisis caused primarily by the cost of building the \$2 billion Canada Line;
2. TransLink has been warned that it will have to axe the planned expansion of the bus fleet after 2007, including more buses to serve U-Pass program expansion to the colleges;
3. Vancouver is in desperate need of more buses to provide an adequate level of service to bus riders and to eliminate pass-bys and overcrowding on a significant number of city routes;
4. A reduction in bus service serving the Canada Line will reduce ridership on the Canada Line, putting further financial pressure on TransLink's budget because it must cover the shortfall between projected ridership and actual ridership;
5. The promise to Vancouver college students for a U-Pass program to provide a subsidized fare equal to what is provided for university students is long over-due;
6. Buses are the backbone of our transit system, carrying more than 80% of transit riders, many of whom cannot afford cars and are dependent on the transit system;
7. An expanded bus fleet is essential to reducing the region's reliance on cars and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
8. Mayor Sam Sullivan in his inaugural address promised that he would "request that our three TransLink representatives champion options that will allow TransLink to increase bus service and reduce fares back to more affordable levels;"
9. Mayor Sullivan also promised to "further encourage them to determine the feasibility of expanding the successful U-Pass program to students attending Vancouver-based colleges;" and
10. Vancouver's TransLink directors have been in office for nearly one year without taking actions to implement these promises.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Vancouver City Council urge the TransLink Directors to honour the Mayor's promises and champion:

- 1) an expanded bus fleet as a top priority for future TransLink spending;
- 2) implementation of the U-Pass system for college students promised in TransLink's 10-Year Outlook;
- 3) a reduction in transit fares; and

THAT Vancouver City Council urge the TransLink Directors to support adoption of sustainable funding mechanisms provided under the GVTA's authority, including tolls, rather than cutting back on services for bus riders.

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