1. Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority Amendment Act Bill 36—2007 (VanRIMS No. 13-1400-20)

At the Regular Council meeting on May 1, 2007, Councillor Louie submitted the following Motion. Councillor Ladner called Notice under Section 5.4(c) of the Procedure By-law.

MOVED by Councillor Louie SECONDED by Councillor Deal

WHEREAS the new legislation that will change TransLink severely curtails the City of Vancouver's input; and

WHEREAS Vancouver provides over half of the ridership of TransLink, yet will have nowhere near the authority on transit issues relative to its contribution; and

WHEREAS not a single submissions to the TransLink Governance Review Panel, suggested the new structure; and

WHEREAS the goals of regional planning will no longer determine the provision of transit services, which seriously threatens the future livability of the GVRD; and

WHEREAS the Council of Mayors are not given a weighted vote when selecting a Transit commissioner, who has the power to raise transit fares; and

WHEREAS with property tax increases limited to 3% per year, and gas taxes to increase only in proportion to property and fare increases, it appears any transit expansion will rely heavily on transit fare increases, which will affect Vancouver riders the most; and

WHEREAS members of the Transit Board of Directors cannot be removed by the Council of Mayors, but only by the Board itself; and

WHEREAS the granting of planning and decision-making powers into an unelected board is an insult to local business and residential taxpayers, along with transit riders;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council request the Mayor immediately schedule a meeting with the Minister of Transportation to strongly express and explain Council's opposition and rejection of the changes to Translink.

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