

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY

TO: MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Re: Custom Transit Services

It has been expressed by myself and some Members of Council, and I am sure supported by all, that our Municipality involve itself in the provision of non-profit mini-bus or other similar forms of transportation for elderly, handicapped or other persons whose mobility is restricted, to help those persons to and from their daily activities.

Alderman Lawson, who some time ago expressed interest in the subject, and I, working with staff, have been examining this category of transportation services provided in Burnaby by various community and volunteer groups and individuals. A summary on the subject was recently compiled by Alderman Lawson and forwarded as information to the Greater Vancouver Regional District.

Concurrently, during the past few weeks, a sub-committee of the G.V.R.D. Transportation Committee has surveyed and summarized the demand for and current supply of Custom Transit Services within the G.V.R.D. A summary of the 1980 July 23 report by the sub-committee to the G.V.R.D. 1980 July 31 Board Meeting is attached for Council's information.

Also attached is the "Invitation For Proposals" guidelines received at the 1980 July 31 G.V.R.D. Board Meeting. The remainder of the fairly extensive report is available for review by each member of Council and is a public document at the G.V.R.D. office.

Since the recommendations of the G.V.R.D. "Sub-Committee on Transportation for Handicapped" are virtually identical with the alternatives discussed and contemplated by myself and some members of Council who have approached me on the subject, it is recommended that:

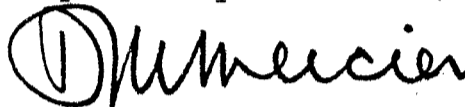
- (a) Our Council co-operate with the G.V.R.D. sub-committee working towards an early commencement of provision of improved transportation for the elderly and handicapped.
- (b) Alderman Lawson, as Chairman, and myself comprise a "Committee for Custom Transit Services" to work with and be in liaison with the G.V.R.D. "Sub-Committee on Transportation for Handicapped" at such times and in such ways as that Sub-Committee may advise.
- (c) The Committee appointed in (b) and appropriate members of staff assist in whichever ways possible to ensure that, with respect to the G.V.R.D. Invitation For Proposals from interested organizations described in the attached information, Burnaby's interests are identified and well presented to the G.V.R.D. Sub-Committee.

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In view of the time constraints for submission by Burnaby organizations of proposals as described herein Council endorsement of the above recommendations is requested.

A detailed progress report to Council will be prepared at the earliest opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Mercier". The initials "D M" are enclosed in a circle.

David M. Mercier,
M A Y O R

Attachs. (2)

DMM/dew

Attachment to Report (#1)
Re: Custom Transit Services
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Custom Transit Report: Attachment

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INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS

The Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) and the Urban Transit Authority of British Columbia (UTA) desire to have custom transit services for the handicapped provided in the Greater Vancouver Transit Service Area. To this end the GVRD & UTA propose that seven Service sub-Areas be established and that contracts be entered into between the GVRD/UTA and interested operators in each of these sub-Areas. Any operator may make a proposal for more than one Service sub-Area.

The objective is to have locally based operations to serve the resident-handicapped population for each of these areas but an operator could deliver service outside the sub-Area for residents of the sub-Area.

The INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS requests that interested organizations outline the custom transit service they could provide for the funding available during the six month period October 1, 1980 to March 31, 1981. The Urban Transit Authority is prepared to make available one or more vehicles equipped with lift and other necessary installations to provide a custom transit service vehicle. The lease rate for such vehicles is attached*. The proposer may wish to use his own vehicle(s) or make other arrangements. In any event fully equipped lift vehicles should be comparable to the specifications of UTA vehicles if they are to be used in this service.

The proposors should outline in writing what service would be provided in the sub-Area. The minimal schedule desired by GVRD/UTA is one lift equipped vehicle in service from 6:30 a.m. to 12 o'clock midnight, 7 days a week in 'each' sub service area. For this service the GVRD/UTA are prepared to enter into an agreement to pay up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) for that minimal service for the six month period, October 1, 1980 to March 31, 1981. If by means of volunteer drivers, gift of vehicles, etc., the proposer is prepared to offer more than minimal service so much the better and his proposal would be

*Current assessment of this rate is approximately \$6,000.00/year.

Attachment to Report (#1)
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considered more favorably than one which provides only the minimum.

Organizations proposing service should be prepared to enter into annual operating agreements (in this case for six months) with the GVRD & UTA. The terms and conditions of such contracts would be included in the 'proposal call' package.

GVRD/UTA would like to hear from prospective proposors by August 15, 1980 of their intention to submit a proposal and to have the proposal in by September 10, 1980. Proposals will be selected by September 15, 1980 for start up on October 1, 1980. If that schedule cannot be met the proposer should indicate the schedule they are prepared to meet.

GVRD/UTA staff would be available to assist organizations in the development of proposals on the understanding that such staff are not advising the Transit Negotiating Sub Committee or the GVRD Board on the selection of such proposals.

Attachment to Report (#2)
Re: Custom Transit Services
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Greater Vancouver Regional District

2294 WEST TENTH AVENUE VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA V6K 2H9 TELEPHONE 731-1155

Please refer to our file number:

TO: GVRD Transportation Committee
FROM: Sub Committee on Transportation for Handicapped
RE: SERVICE PLAN FOR CUSTOM TRANSIT SERVICES OCT. 1, 1980-MAR. 31, 1980
DATE: July 23, 1980

At their June 25, 1980 meeting the Board approved the entering into a six month agreement with the B.C. Lions Society for the continuation of current Custom Transit services for the handicapped.

Over the last three months the Sub Committee has had as its objectives the following:

- the maintenance of existing services & funding in the Region during the fiscal year 1980-81 and securing the promise of maintenance of these services through the fiscal year 1981-82 while a full plan for such services could be developed and implemented.
- the preparation of a plan for the allocation of the expansion fund of \$350,000 contained in the pro-
visional budget for these services adopted by the Regional Board and the Urban Transit Authority in March, 1980.

STATUS OF EXISTING SERVICES

We can now report that none of the current operators of these services now plan to terminate their operations in fiscal year 1980-81 as a result of the introduction of funding under the Urban Transit Authority Act. Further, the Ministry of Human Resources has guaranteed funding through 1980-81 for current levels of services by agencies it supports and anticipates continuing into 1981-82 until a full service plan can be developed and responsibility for funding can be assumed by U.T.A./G.V.R.D.

FUNCTIONING OF THE SUB COMMITTEE

The Sub Committee has expanded its role to become a sounding board, open to all interested and affected persons and agencies on the subject of transportation of the handicapped. A small task force of staff personnel has been formed to act as a working group on high priority issues.

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SERVICE DELIVERED AND EXPECTED

The adoption of the provisional budget and the publicity of the Urban Transit Authority on custom transit has raised the expectation of users of the service that improved service was right around the corner after April 1, 1980.

As a consequence greater demands have been placed on the Lions service but there has been no change in available service. However, with this report a service plan for the last six months of the fiscal year is tabled and the Board is requested to adopt a capital program for the acquisition of six additional vans to expand the service during this period.

THE SERVICE PLAN & BUDGET, OCT. 1, 1980-MAR.31, 1980

On the basis of the total provisional budget for 1980-81 of \$1,040,000. and the agreement to fund the B.C. Lions Society for the first six months of \$325,000, a balance of \$715,000 remains to be allocated for the balance of the fiscal year.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Your Sub Committee is recommending that

1. the balance of the funds be allocated by seven (7) sub service areas in the Region as set out on the attached Report (attachment #1); see Table 2, GVRD-wide expansion.
2. invitations for proposals (see DRAFT, attachment #2) be developed for each of these sub-Areas in the amount specified and be forwarded to interested agencies and be open to any organization capable of rendering such services.
3. the proposal call process be reviewed by your Transit Negotiating Sub Committee and recommendations be made to the Board on the acceptance of proposals for each sub-Area.
4. staff develop criteria for the selection of proposal calls and that the criteria be reviewed by the Sub Committee on Transportation for the Handicapped before being adopted and utilized in the selection process.
5. the Committee recommend to the Board that they adopt as a 5-year Capital Program, Immediate Capital Needs for Custom Transit Service an amount of \$120,000. for the acquisition of 6 vans (Dodge Maxi-vans or similar) and the equipping of these vans with raised roofs, wheel chair lifts, tie downs, and a two-way radio.

(The annual lease fee for each of these vehicles from the Urban Transit Authority would be approximately \$6,000. per year.)