

CITY OF BURNABY

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
(TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT DIVISION)

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS

Re: Review of the Provincial Transportation Plan Report:  
Going Places

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Honourable Glen Clark, Minister of Employment and Investment, D. Corrigan, Chair, BC Transit; and the Honourable Jackie Pement, Minister of Transportation and Highways.

REPORT

The Traffic and Transportation Committee (Transportation and Transit Division), at its meeting held on 1995 October 11, adopted the attached staff report outlining the key findings and conclusions in the provincial transportation plan report entitled "Going Places: Transportation for British Columbians."

MEMBERS:

Mrs. Y. Coveney-Boyd  
Mr. E. Neumann  
Ms. L. Tatangelo  
Mr. L. Werden

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Evans  
Chairman

Councillor J. Young  
Member

:-COPY -CITY MANAGER

- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING
- DIRECTOR FINANCE
- DIR. PLNG. & BLDG.
- DIR. REC. & CULT. SERV.

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
(Transportation and Transit Division)

1995 OCTOBER 11

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING

OUR FILE:

SUBJECT: **REVIEW OF THE PROVINCIAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN REPORT:  
*GOING PLACES***

PURPOSE: To review the Provincial Transportation Plan Report "*Going Places*" for the Traffic and Transportation Committee.

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#### RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Honourable Glen Clark, Minister of Employment and Investment; D. Corrigan, Chair, BC Transit; and the Honourable Jackie Pement, Minister of Transportation and Highways.

### REPORT

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

At its regular meeting of 1995 September 13, the Traffic and Transportation Committee received a verbal report from staff regarding the Provincial Transportation Plan report entitled "*Going Places*". It was indicated that a report on the Provincial Transportation Plan would be forthcoming to the October meeting of the Committee.

The Provincial Transportation Plan sets forth a comprehensive plan for improvements to the transportation system affecting all modes of transportation throughout the Province. The report outlines a number of challenges facing the transportation system and defines the elements of a new approach to providing transportation in British Columbia including an Action Plan for transportation improvements.

This report summarizes the key findings and conclusions of the Provincial Transportation Plan for the consideration of the Traffic and Transportation Committee.

#### 2.0 TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES

The report notes that while the transportation system in B.C. is amongst the best in North America the province faces a number of challenges in developing the system. These are summarized as follows:

**i) Aging Infrastructure**

The report cautions against the continued use of aging transportation facilities and systems that break down more frequently as they approach the end of their useful life. In B.C. provincial highways, bridge structures, transit buses and ferries will need to be upgraded regularly over the next ten years.

**ii) Population Growth and Traffic Congestion**

With the rapid growth of the Province's population from 2.9m in 1984 to 3.6m in 1994, the existing transportation system in the Lower Mainland, the Okanagan Valley and parts of Vancouver Island is unable to cope. The result is traffic congestion, lost productivity, reduced traffic safety and more air and water pollution.

**iii) Urban Sprawl and Air Quality**

The proliferation of low density suburbs accommodating rapid population growth creates urban areas difficult to serve by transit thus reinforcing dependence on the automobile.

**iv) International Competition**

The provincial economy is faced with strong competition from other regions for the international market in providing transportation services to industry. Airports, seaports, rail and trucking services must be continually upgraded to remain competitive.

**v) Government Financial Limitations**

The ability of government to continue a high rate of spending on transportation facilities is increasingly limited and faced with growing demands from other government sectors. Steps must be taken to minimize costs and develop new sources of financing.

**3.0 ACTION PLAN**

"Going Places" proposes a new approach to meeting the province's transportation needs involving programs to manage the demand for transportation, make new transportation investments, relieve traffic congestion, support economic development and develop new partnership arrangements to provide transportation. These programs include the following:

i) **Comprehensive Travel Demand Management Program** focussing on measures to change travel behaviour and make better use of existing transportation facilities. The "Going Places" report was launched by an announcement of the implementation of a comprehensive HOV network. In Burnaby the announcement included references to the Barnet/Hastings People Moving Project and the Highway 1 upgrading for HOV use.

ii) **New Transportation Investments**

The Province plans a number of transportation investments intended to rehabilitate existing facilities, expand capacity, promote economic development and relieve traffic congestion. Many of these involve improvements to provincial highways on Vancouver Island and in the Interior, replacement of aging bridge structures (i.e. the Lions Gate Bridge) and new transit buses. In the Lower Mainland major projects such as rapid transit, the West Coast Express, the NE Sector highway improvements including Broadway Avenue and the Alex Fraser Bridge interchange improvements fall into this category.

iii) **Support Economic Development and Trade**

The Province plans major improvements to support the movement of goods and promote economic development. Projects would include roads serving the Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal, Delta Port, Vancouver International Airport, Fraser Port and the Port of Vancouver. Other projects which provide access to terminal facilities, resource industries and recreational facilities are planned.

iv) **New Partnership Arrangements**

Finally, the report advocates new arrangements to work with other levels of government in the provision of transportation services. Examples cited include establishing joint planning teams to develop integrated land use/transportation strategies in priority corridors and developing formal agreements under the Growth Strategies Act. The development of rapid transit as a partnership with local government is particularly significant to the City of Burnaby. The report also notes the need for greater involvement of the private sector and increased consultation with the public.

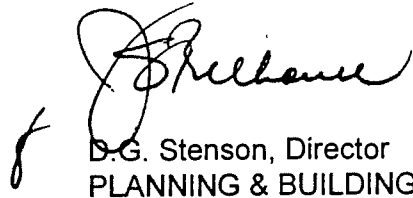
#### 4.0 FINANCING THE PROVINCIAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The "Going Places" report identifies the need for the spending of between \$650 million and \$750 million per year over the next decade to meet transportation needs not including operating expenditures of government departments and Crown corporations providing transportation. The Province proposes to generate these revenues without increasing general taxes through the following measures:

- i) improving the productivity of transit and ferry services;
- ii) road user fees;
- iii) cost recoveries from transportation benefitters;
- iv) development of Crown land benefitting from the transportation investment;
- v) marketing of transportation related services.

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

The Provincial Transportation Plan summarized in the "Going Places" report defines a comprehensive strategy for providing and funding transportation in B.C. Implemented over the next ten years, the Plan could yield significant benefits to the transportation system in Burnaby through improvements to provincial highways, rapid transit and the bus system. The City of Burnaby will also play a more important role in conjunction with the Province in shaping transportation and land use in Burnaby. Overall, the new approach to transportation signalled by the "Going Places" report is a welcome one.

  
D.G. Stenson, Director  
PLANNING & BUILDING

RG/jp

cc: City Manager  
Deputy City Manager Corporate Services  
Director Engineering  
Director Finance  
Director Recreation & Cultural Services

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