

CITY OF BURNABY

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
(TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT DIVISION)

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS*

**RE: BURNABY HEIGHTS TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN/BUS ROUTE NO. 139**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council approve the operation of Community Shuttle buses on the streets shown in Figure 3 and outlined in Section 2.4 of this report.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Manager of Implementation Planning, TransLink, Seton Villa and the Heights Merchants' Association.

REPORT

The Traffic and Transportation Committee (Transportation and Transit Division), at its meeting held on 2000 May 10, received and adopted the *attached* report recommending roadway approval to facilitate the extension of the Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle" (formerly the *TaxiBus*).

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor N. Volkow  
Chair

Councillor D. Evans  
Vice Chair

Councillor N. Harris  
Member

<p>: COPY - CITY MANAGER - DIRECTOR ENGINEERING - DIR. PLNG. &amp; BLDG.</p>
--

**TO:** CHAIR & MEMBERS  
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT DIVISION

2000 May 03

**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

Our File: 08.116.12

**SUBJECT:** BURNABY HEIGHTS TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN / BUS ROUTE No.139

**PURPOSE:** Recommend roadway approval to facilitate the extension of the Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle" (formerly the *TaxiBus*).

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** the Traffic and Transportation Committee (Transportation and Transit Division) approve the operation of Community Shuttle buses on the streets shown in Figure 3 and outlined in Section 2.4 of this report.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Manager of Implementation Planning, *TransLink*, Seton Villa and the Heights Merchants' Association.

**REPORT**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

At its regular meeting of 2000 February 21, Council received a report from the Traffic and Transportation Committee (Transportation and Transit Division) which recommended a staged sequence for testing and implementing traffic calming measures in Burnaby Heights. One of the recommendations adopted by Council was the use of a smaller transit vehicle, the Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle" (formerly called the *TaxiBus*), for route No.139. This change in vehicle is scheduled for September of 2000. The use of a "Community Shuttle" buses reduces the size of the vehicle, could still carry about 10 passengers, reduces *TransLink's* operating cost, maintains a fixed route/fixed schedule service which is easy to understand and supports neighbourhood traffic calming measures.

The results of the continued dialogue with the community regarding the Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle" route is the subject of this report.

## 2.0 CHANGES TO BUS ROUTE No.139

### 2.1 Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle"

The vehicle proposed for use as the Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle" is shown in **Figure 1**. The Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle" bus will:

- be fully accessible (side door wheelchair lift);
- provide 8 passenger seats and 2 wheelchair positions;
- use a destination sign similar to the existing No.139;
- use a different route number to reflect the "Community Shuttle" brand of service; and
- employ the new blue and yellow *TransLink* paint scheme.



*New "Community Shuttle" Vehicle* **Figure 1**

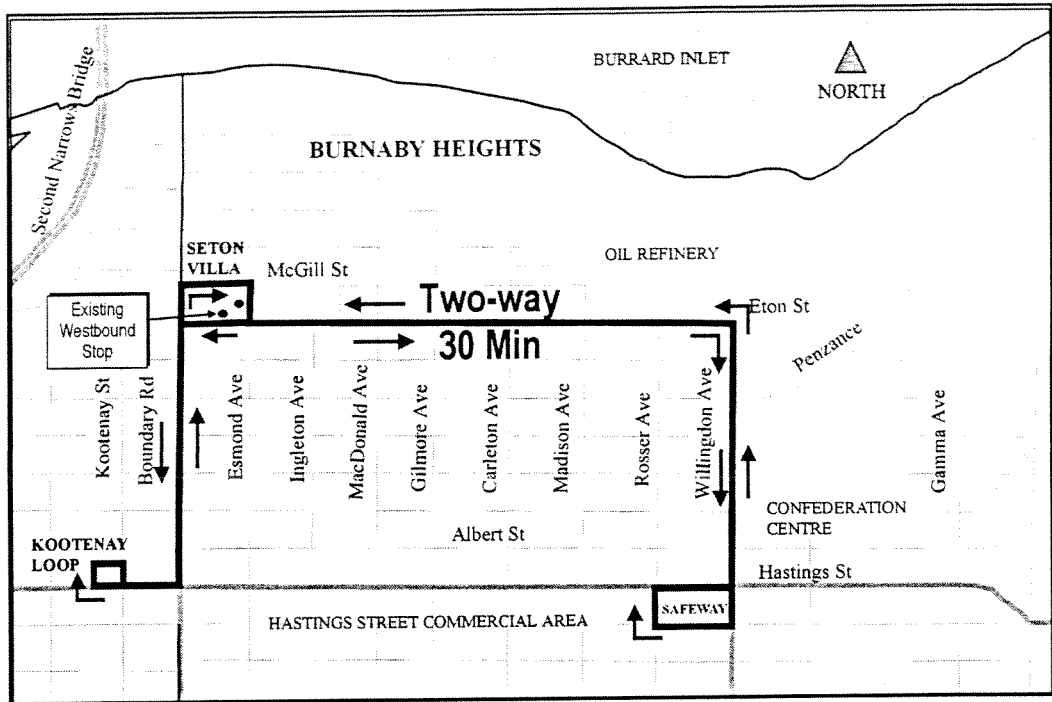
### 2.2 The Existing Bus Route

The existing route No.139 operates as a two-way service every 30 minutes between Kootenay Loop and Safeway via Hastings, Boundary, McGill, Esmonds, Eton, Willingdon, Pender, Rosser, Hastings before returning on Willingdon, Eton, Boundary, Hastings to Kootenay Loop as shown in **Figure 2**.

### 2.3 Proposed Extension of Service

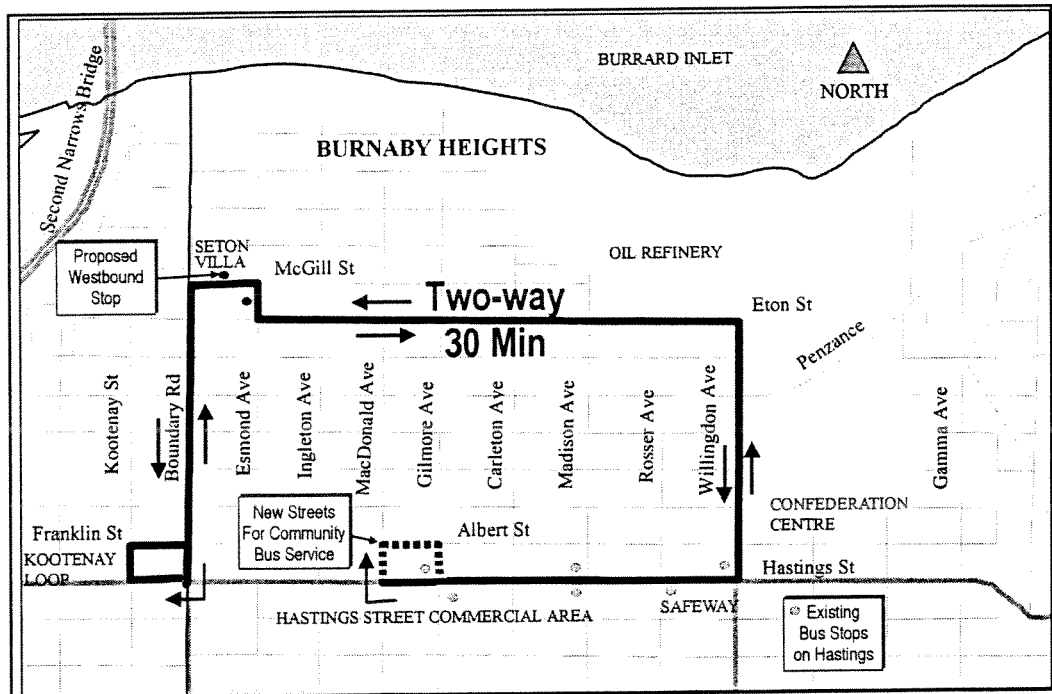
Operating flexibility is gained by reducing the size of the vehicle. The new vehicle can now better serve the residents of Seton Villa with two-way service on the 3700 block of McGill replacing the existing one-way eastbound service. Moreover, during the November 1999 public consultation program there was a consistent and repeated request from the community to extend this local bus service along Hastings to offer better connections to destinations in the "Heights" commercial area.

During the spring of 2000 three alternative Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle" route options were developed in association with *TransLink*. These three options were all designed to improve service coverage along Hastings between Willingdon and Kootenay Loop.



*Existing Bus Route No. 139*

**Figure 2**



*Recommended Route  
 for the Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle"*

**Figure 3**

The three potential Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle" route options were the subject of a presentation to about 40 residents of Seton Villa on 2000 March 08 and the Heights Merchants' Association Board Meeting on 2000 March 15. A public open house jointly hosted by the City and *TransLink* on 2000 April 05 was also held and attended by 24 people.

At all three of these events the route option shown in **Figure 3** was almost unanimously supported by both occasional and frequent transit users as a significant improvement to the existing No.139 route. The only exception to this wide spread support was from some resident non-transit users who favoured the two options which would have reduced service frequency to increase service coverage. The attraction of these options to the non-transit users was "fewer buses".

The recommended route will operate as a two-way service every 30 minutes between Kootenay Loop and Gilmore/Hastings via Kootenay, Franklin, Boundary, McGill, Esmonds, Eton, Willingdon, Hastings, McDonald, Albert, Gilmore before returning on Hastings, Willingdon, Eton, Esmond, McGill, Boundary, Hastings to Kootenay Loop.

#### 2.4 Roadway Approval

In order to extend the service along Hastings to Gilmore, sections of this proposed route would introduce transit service (with smaller "Community Shuttle" buses) on streets which currently do not have transit service. *TransLink* has requested approval to operate on the following streets.

- 300 block of south MacDonald
- 4000 block of Albert
- 300 block of south Gilmore

The proposed "Community Shuttle" service along Hasting would serve the existing six bus stops (also shown on **Figure 3**) in addition to the stops route No.139 already serves within the Burnaby Heights neighbourhood .

It should also be noted that the one-way service (using full-size bus) would be replaced with two-way service (with the smaller "Community Shuttle" buses) on the following streets.

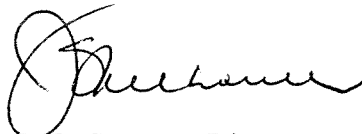
- 300 block of Esmond
- 3700 block of McGill

This is being recommended in order to better serve Seton Villa in the westbound direction by relocating the stop now on the 3700 block of Eton to the 3700 block of McGill (also shown on **Figure 3**).

*TransLink* also plans to operate on a flexible drop-off basis after 6:30 p.m. until the end of service at 10:30 p.m. each weekday and weekend evening. This new operating practice would result in a customers being able to request the driver to drop them off at the front door of their destination anywhere within the neighbourhood during evening hours. This initiative is being proposed to increase customer convenience and personal safety during the evening. Therefore, in the period from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. *TransLink* will require approval to operate on all streets with the area bounded by Boundary, the Burrard Inlet, Willingdon and Hastings.

### 3.0 CONCLUSION

This recommended extension of the existing bus route No. 139 is in direct response to requests from the Burnaby Heights neighbourhood received during the November 1999 public consultation events for the Burnaby Height Draft Traffic Calming Plans. The specific change proposed was the subject of Burnaby Heights Community Shuttle bus route option public consultation events. The recommended route for the Burnaby Heights "Community Shuttle" offers significantly improved service to Seton Villa and improved coverage for destinations along Hastings Street within the "Heights" commercial area. The recommended route option was strongly supported during the route option public consultation events undertaken in the spring of 2000 and has since been officially endorsed by the Heights Merchants' Association.



D.G. Stenson, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

cc. City Manager  
Director Engineering

C:\DOCS\David\Bus Route 139.frm