

March 6, 2020

To: The Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance  
The Honourable Mona Fortier, Minister of Middle Class Prosperity and Associate Minister of Finance.

CC: Standing Committee on Finance ([budget2020@canada.ca](mailto:budget2020@canada.ca))  
Finance Canada Officials ([FINA@parl.gc.ca](mailto:FINA@parl.gc.ca))

Re: Pre-Budget Consultation 2020

Dear Ministers Morneau and Fortier, Finance Canada Officials, and Members of the Standing Committee on Finance:

I am reaching out to you today on behalf of HUB Cycling to endorse the 2020 [Budget Submission](#) put forward by Metro Vancouver's Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation.

The submission outlines three areas requiring federal investment, which will help TransLink add more service in response to record-breaking ridership growth and reduce GHG emissions:

- **A Permanent Transit Fund** – introduced in legislation in 2021 with funding starting in 2027 when current programs expire – providing approximately \$375 million annually to TransLink to support future regional transit expansion.
- Immediate **transition funding** to bridge the gap in advance of a Permanent Transit Fund. \$685 million is required by mid-2021 as the federal share of Phase Three Plan of the 10-Year Vision, which includes extending SkyTrain from Fleetwood to Langley, a proposed gondola connecting rapid transit to the SFU campus on Burnaby Mountain, adding service on existing rapid transit lines, and adding more bus and rapid-bus service region-wide.
- Funding of \$225 million to accelerate conversion of TransLink's bus fleet to **emissions-free battery electric technology** starting in 2021.

With an estimated 20% ridership increase between 2016 and 2019, Metro Vancouver's transit system is growing more quickly than anticipated. Without the funding needed, transportation demand will continue to outpace supply as one million additional people move to Vancouver in the next decade.

HUB Cycling fully supports more funding toward transit. A robust, frequent and well-connected transit network makes other forms of sustainable transportation easier. People can use transit to travel over long distances, and cycle or walk for the first or last part of their trip or travel shorter distances knowing that transportation options are available.

The Mayor's Council's vision includes funding for walking and cycling in addition to transit spending. We support this, and also recognize that there is a lack of equitable funding for cycling in comparison with other transportation modes, such as motor vehicle travel. Ensuring there is adequate funding for transit as well as for cycling infrastructure, education and promotion will help create safer, healthier and more equitable communities in Metro Vancouver.

It is important to our community and HUB Cycling that TransLink receives the federal funding needed to supplement the funding already promised by the Provincial B.C. government to complete TransLink's [10-Year Vision](#) and fund the future regional transit expansion outlined in [Transport 2050](#).

Sincerely,

Navdeep Chhina  
Acting Executive Director  
HUB Cycling

HUB Cycling is a charitable not-for-profit organization that has spent over 20 years removing barriers to cycling in Metro Vancouver, while cultivating the health, environmental, and economic benefits that active transportation can bring. HUB has educated thousands of people, motivated thousands more, and championed improvements that #UnGapTheMap to create a connected cycling network.

HUB Cycling's mission is to get more people cycling more often. We make cycling better through education, action and events. More cycling means healthier, happier, more connected communities. We're leading the way in making cycling an attractive choice for everyone.