



CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE
NEWS RELEASE

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Council Endorses Maple Ridge's New Strategic Transportation Plan

Maple Ridge, B.C. – On Tuesday, September 26, Council unanimously endorsed a new 30-year vision for Maple Ridge's transportation network. The Plan establishes the City's priorities for transportation development across all modes of travel.

“Council recently announced the Maple Ridge Moves Plan that highlights our work to advance some key components of the Strategic Transportation Plan around future transit and road development. This includes Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) lines, and road capacity improvements to better move people and goods. As well, a new bridge at 240 Street that would provide for a more resilient emergency route option and improved access to the growing Silver Valley neighborhood and Golden Ears Park,” said Mayor Dan Ruimy.

“A key priority for Council is to make clear that we are willing and ready to be one of the first communities in the Lower Mainland to introduce BRT – a new technology proposed in TransLink's *Access for Everyone* 10-year expansion plan, that includes two new traffic separated bus routes linking Maple Ridge to Langley and Coquitlam to connect with expanded regional commuter rail networks. This is consistent with our Strategic Transportation Plan and essential for our City with its rapidly growing population at the heart of the Lower Mainland. The plan looks at ways we can improve pedestrian access and cycling infrastructure, address neighbourhood growth, and ensure that our residents can get from where they live to where they want to go,” he added.

The vision of the Strategic Transportation Plan is for the City's transportation system to be safe, efficient, connected, and sustainable, allowing residents, visitors, and businesses to meet their daily transportation needs reliably and comfortably using their mode of choice.

“It’s critical to have a long-term plan that aligns with our growth projections and Official Community Plan, and that we revisit and revise them as our community grows,” said Forrest Smith, Director of Engineering with the City. “This work aligns with other master plans that the City has underway to move us towards Council’s vision for our City.”

A key component of this update is the introduction of key corridors across the City. These corridors require improvements across multiple modes of transportation and more detailed consideration of opportunities and challenges. In identifying these corridors, the City is able to provide a unified approach for infrastructure improvements.

In addition to the Bus Rapid Transit Facility, key infrastructure projects identified in this update include:

- Improved pedestrian and cycling connections across the community
- The widening of Abernethy Way and its extension to 256 Street to provide improved east/west capacity and improved connectivity to the 256 Industrial Land Reserve
- A new crossing of the South Alouette River on the 240 Street Alignment to provide alternative access to Silver Valley residences and Golden Ears Provincial Park

“This is the result of an extensive engagement process that included our regional partners, advocacy groups, transportation planning experts as well as our residents,” said Mayor Ruimy. “We all want to ensure that there is a plan to address our unprecedented growth, the changing face of mobility and our sustainability as we move forward. This advance planning allows us to leverage local investments in our transportation network with our regional, provincial, and federal partners to share costs on projects where we have strong alignment on outcomes.

The plan that Council has endorsed can be viewed online at www.mapleridge.ca/2557.

You can learn more about the Maple Ridge Moves plan at www.mapleridge.ca/moves.