



Making a difference...together

Executive Office

625 Fisgard Street, PO BOX 1000

Victoria, BC, V8W 2S6

T: 250.360.3125

F: 250.360.3130

www.crd.ca

April 1, 2026

File: 0400-20

The Honourable Mike Farnworth
Minister of Transportation and Transit
Via email: TT.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Farnworth:

RE: RESUMPTION OF THE BC ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS IN 2026

On behalf of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, and following a recommendation from the Salt Spring Island (SSI) Local Community Commission's (LCC) February 19, 2026, meeting, I am writing to respectfully request that the Province resume the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program in 2026.

SSI, like many rural and island communities, relies heavily on active transportation investments to improve safety, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and expand mobility options for residents and visitors. The BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program has historically been a critical funding mechanism enabling communities to advance projects that support provincial goals for climate action, road safety, and sustainable transportation.

The importance of this program is especially evident on SSI, where the SSI Active Transportation Network Plan identifies a series of priority walking and cycling improvements needed to enhance safety, connectivity, and mobility across the island. Many of these projects such as shoulder widening, pathway development, and safer village-area connections are only feasible with access to predictable, multi-year provincial funding. The pause of the grants program has created uncertainty for local governments planning these essential improvements.

Resuming the program in 2026 would allow SSI and other communities across British Columbia to continue advancing projects that align with the Province's transportation, climate, and road-safety objectives. The CRD Board strongly supports the Province's commitment to active transportation and respectfully urges your ministry to reinstate the program so that communities can continue making progress toward shared goals.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and would welcome the opportunity to discuss the importance of this program to SSI and the broader region.

Sincerely,

Cliff McNeil-Smith
CRD Board Chair

cc: CRD Board
SSI Local Community Commission, CRD
Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD