

Reference: 330852

Your File: 0400-20

April 4, 2025

Cliff McNeil-Smith, Chair Capital Regional District 625 Fisgard Street Victoria BC V8W 1R7

Dear Chair McNeil-Smith:

Re: Province-Wide Trip Reduction Program

Thank you for your letter of January 13, 2025, sent on behalf of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, encouraging the provincial government to create a province-wide trip reduction program to improve transportation efficiency in B.C.

I appreciate the CRD's goal to change the way people travel through their communities, which aligns with my ministry's mandate to develop initiatives that are responsive to the needs of commuters, grow the economy and help keep British Columbians moving. We are investing to improve intercity transportation services and integrated transit opportunities to ensure that people can get home and to work faster.

The ministry recognizes that trip reduction and other sustainable commuting initiatives are an effective way to reduce emissions and improve affordability and safety in the transportation sector. These types of initiatives incentivize alternative transportation options like walking, cycling, public transit and carpooling for people travelling between home and work and have a role in reducing road congestion.

As you likely know, the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions recently partnered with several organizations, including my ministry, the Capital Regional District, BC Transit, TransLink, Metro Vancouver and BC Hydro, to establish a working group to support sustainable commuting initiatives. I have shared your letter with my colleague the Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions, so he is aware of your interest in this matter.

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I encourage you to reach out to David Retzer, Manager, Clean Transportation, if you have any questions. He can be reached at David.Retzer@gov.bc.ca and would be pleased to assist you.

You can meanwhile learn more about our work to support <u>cleaner forms of transportation on our website</u>.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Mike Farnworth

Minister

Copy to: Premier David Eby

Honourable Adrian Dix

Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions

MLA, Vancouver-Renfrew

David Retzer, Manager, Clean Transportation

Clean Transportation and Programs