

Subject: [Fwd: Re: LRTA - The Light Rail Transit Association site - news items -sent by Malcolm Johnston and the Light Rail Committee]

Date: Thu, 18 Dec 2003 15:49:50 -0800

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: RE: LRTA - The Light Rail Transit Association site - news items -sent by Malcolm Johnston and the Light Rail Committee

Date: Thu, 18 Dec 2003 14:07:32 -0800

From: "Barbara Sharp (Mayor)" <BSharp@cnv.org>

To: Donald Malcolm Johnston <dmjohnston@imag.net>, bplatts@shaw.ca

CC: cagebc@yahoo.com, pwlegood@sfu.ca, fonvca@fonvca.org, Craig Amundsen <camundsen@cnv.org>, Charlie Smith <charlie@straight.com>, "Mr. McFadyen (Cambie St.)" <almcfadyen@shaw.ca>, Bill MacDonald <mvp@islandnet.com>, Graeme Lamson <gdlamson@yahoo.com>, "Donald Toff." <dontoff@shaw.ca>, "Clark William-Derry (NWW)" <clark@northwestwatch.org>, David McGowan <davddrver@hotmail.com>, Doug Porter <dporter@alternatives.com>, Katie Eliot <kmeliot@interchange.ubc.ca>, Shiral Tobin <mair@600am.com>

These emails from your 'groups' I have responded to are not a matter of who has what truth or who supports what. People in decision making positions are used to having people not agree with some of the decisions they make.

This set of emails from me began as a very simple matter of a suggestion that there is a lack of courtesy from your 'groups' (whoever they are). This has been the case for the past year of emails that you send out and which I have read. To date I have never been approached personally (not impersonally) by any one of you.

Your 'groups' simply report pieces of information and write personal attacks without so much as the courtesy of a simple phone call to the people or the person they choose to attack for the day. That is one bad use of email since it is faceless and impersonal. Email is a method which you appear to prefer.

My suggestion to the 'groups' of checking facts, or at the very least asking before making incorrect or false statements simply complies with common courtesy and manners. I am not even debating what you choose to believe. That is up to you.

It is obvious you choose to continue with your vitriolic attacks and rudeness and have missed my point entirely.

Good day and Merry Xmas.

-----Original Message-----

From: Donald Malcolm Johnston [<mailto:dmjohnston@imag.net>]

Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2003 7:04 AM

To: Barbara Sharp (Mayor); bplatts@shaw.ca

Cc: cagebc@yahoo.com; pwlegood@sfu.ca; fonvca@fonvca.org; Craig Amundsen; Charlie Smith; Mr. McFadyen (Cambie St.); Bill MacDonald; Graeme Lamson; Donald Toff.; Clark William-Derry (NWW); David McGowan; Doug Porter; Katie Eliot; Shiral Tobin

Subject: LRTA - The Light Rail Transit Association site - news items -sent by Malcolm Johnston and the Light Rail Committee

Madam

Your ignorance of modern public transport philosophy is appalling! Public opinion polls with slanted questions, to favour the outcome, are useless. History is repeating itself, with the TransLink board leading the taxpayer to a financial fiasco, as happened elsewhere! You may very well be facing another type of board in the future; a 'Board of Inquiry on the upcoming fiasco!

Has any poll asked public the real question about rail transit? LRT, on Arbutus (or anywhere) @ \$15 million/km. to \$25 million/km. or SkyTrain rapid transit on and under

Cambie St. @ \$75 million/km. to \$150 million/km.? This is the real question TransLink should ask the public, yet you and your cohorts on the board are afraid to ask, for fear of the answer.

The Light Rail Committee, unlike TransLink, deals in facts and this why we are so detested by politicians and bureaucrats who want to spin the truth to suit their own agendas. The LRC has offered to publicly debate transit issues with politicians for the past ten years, yet to date there have been no takers. The truth hurts.....hurts re-election chances!

If you want to publicly debate the issue, you only have to ask; but if you are not up to the task, please do not chastise me or others who are criticising you and/or your support for TransLink's 'tax and spend' Ten Year Plan!

Malcolm Johnston
Light Rail Committee

----- Original Message -----

From: "Barbara Sharp (Mayor)" <BSharp@cnv.org>

To: <bplatts@shaw.ca>

Cc: <cagebc@yahoo.com>; <dmjohnston@imag.net>; <pwlegood@sfu.ca>; <fonvca@fonvca.org>; "Craig Amundsen" <camundsen@cnv.org>

Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2003 9:59 PM

Subject: Re: LRTA - The Light Rail Transit Association site - news items -sent by Malcolm Johnston and the Light Rail Committee

Same to you. You also have a responsibility to check your facts if you want to represent 'groups' in the community before you spread unnecessary and unfounded statements over a public wire system rather than rely on one Council members comments out of 5 entire Councils.

Again, check your facts before you spread ill informed information. Asking might have gotten you more than inflammatory statements.

I have sent numerous information pieces, held 5 Council meetings and done opinion polls. I suggest you do the same.

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Barbara Sharp (Mayor) <BSharp@cnv.org>

CC: Elizabeth James <cagebc@yahoo.com>; dmjohnston@imag.net <dmjohnston@imag.net>;

pwlegood@sfu.ca <pwlegood@sfu.ca>; fonvca@fonvca.org <fonvca@fonvca.org>; Craig Amundsen <camundsen@cnv.org>

Sent: Wed Dec 17 20:14:24 2003

Subject: Re: LRTA - The Light Rail Transit Association site - news items -sent by Malcolm Johnston and the Light Rail Committee

Dear Mayor Sharp - I am simply appalled at your reply to Ms. James of CAGE B.C. It would seem to me that Ms. James has raised some legitimate points, but rather than answer them you launch a juvenile attack. If you felt these points were unfair, then why not respond with the facts and provide the mail you refer to????? That is your job madame. If this is how you handle criticism from a citizens' group then I can only be embarrassed that you are the North Shore's representative. God help us.

Happy Holidays & Merry Christmas.

Brian Platts
3187 Beverley Crescent
North Vancouver, B.C.
V7R 2W4

Barbara Sharp (Mayor) wrote:

who are you to tell me what I have or haven't done without even the courtesy of asking!!

I suggest you do your research Elizabeth before you shoot your gun.

Check out what meetings or mail I have delivered.

Happy holidays.

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth James [<mailto:cagebc@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, December 15, 2003 11:24 AM

To: Barbara Sharp (Mayor)

Cc: dmjohnston@imag.net; pwlegood@sfu.ca; fonvca@fonvca.org

Subject: Fwd: LRTA - The Light Rail Transit Association site - news items -sent by Malcolm Johnston and the Light Rail Committee

15 December 2003

Mayor Barbara Sharp
CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER

Dear Mayor Sharp:

We have serious concerns regarding the process by which the interests of five North Shore Councils are represented - or, more accurately, not represented - at the TransLink table.

It is the expectation of taxpayers that, when a single representative is appointed to represent the whole of the North Shore, s/he should take care to solicit the official opinion of all five Councils. We believe that the five opinions should evolve at each council table and should be followed by a 2/3 majority vote to approve. Why 2/3? It is because taxpayers are being committed to expenditures of many billions of their dollars. And it is because, to quote the words one one North Shore councillor, the CEO of TransLink is "...often cavalier in her attitude to financial matters."

As things stand, many of us have a strong suspicion - which we have reason to believe is shared by members of other councils - that you, and other TransLink representatives before you, have voted according to your own preference or expedience of the day. In your understandable and supportable eagerness to see more public transit in the region, it seems you will agree to anything TransLink puts forward just to get the ball rolling - regardless of whether the proposal will give good value for hard-earned money, regardless of whether the proposal can do the job or is the best job that can be done, and completely heedless of the fact that the 10-Year Plan is not, by any stretch of the imagination, a sound Business Plan.

Because we have heard all the promises before, we can say that the "plan" offers very little of substance for the North Shore. Moreover, it promises to bankrupt the entire regional transportation system for decades to come. In fact, one could be forgiven for suggesting that perhaps the very best consequence that might arise out of it, would be that TransLink, as it now exists, would collapse.

Much is made of the fact that "we want our gasoline tax back!" There is no doubt that British Columbia needs 'federal' money for transportation infrastructure, but the worst thing that could happen is for the Paul Martin government to return hundreds of millions of dollars to this province, only to have it frittered away on land-based Pacificats - squandered in the hands of TransLink - with nothing left over for more appropriate solutions.

The current TransLink model allows for little, if any, democratic process. The system must be changed in a meaningful way and we urge all members of council who agree to initiate that change - immediately.

The material below is just one small example of just how far TransLink has strayed from current transportation theory and practice.

Yours truly,

Liz James, Chair

Coalition for Accountability in Government Enterprises
Box 16090, 3017 Mountain Highway,
NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C. V7J 2P2
[604] 988-2066

Donald Malcolm Johnston <<mailto:dmjohnston@imag.net>> <dmjohnston@imag.net>
wrote:

Subject: LRTA - The Light Rail Transit Association site - news items -sent by Malcolm
Johnston and the Light Rail Committee
Date: Sat, 13 Dec 2003 22:38:21 -0800

Interesting news from overseas!
Malcolm Johnston
Light Rail Committee
604-889-4484

<<http://www.lrta.org/images/lrta-m4.gif>> TO GET THE NEWS IN DEPTH - READ "TRAMWAYS &
URBAN TRANSIT" EVERY MONTH

URBAN TRANSIT NEWS

New tram lines across Europe: The weekend of 13/14 December saw the annual rail timetable change throughout Europe (excluding the UK), and many urban transit operators also introduce timetable changes from this date. In addition to route reorganisations, such as that carried out in Den Haag (The Hague), several new tram lines were inaugurated at this time.

In Paris tram line T1 was extended from Bobigny-Pablo Picasso by 3 km to Noisy-le-Sec, where there is interchange with RER line E. Line T1 (a classic on-street light rail or streetcar operation which replaced a local bus route. MJ.) has been carrying 80 000 passengers/day requiring a four-minute peak (no traffic chaos at intersections here in a city with over ten times the population and auto traffic of Vancouver! MJ.) headway. Also in Paris, automatic metro line 14 (Météor) was extended by one station to reach Gare St-Lazare. In Germany the city of Frankfurt-am-Main inaugurated its tram route 17 over the new line to Rebstock, providing a link from this business quarter to the Messe (Fair Grounds) and Hbf (main railway station). Not far away, in Darmstadt, the local operator HEAG opened its new tram line to Kranichstein, with route 5 working to the city centre.

In addition to these openings, dummy timetabled operation has started on the new tramway systems in Bordeaux (France) and Barcelona (Spain) in readiness for public service over the coming weeks. (The Meteor carries over 40,000 persons per hour per direction. Put another way, in just 1 1/2 to 2 hours the Meteor carries the same ridership as the entire SkyTrain operation carries in one day! MJ)

13 December 2003

<http://uk.rd.yahoo.com/evt=21064/*http://btyahoo.yahoo.co.uk%20> BT Yahoo! Broadband - Save £80 when you order online today. Hurry! Offer ends 21st December 2003. The way the internet was meant to be.

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