TO: Transit Select Committee
FROM: Darren Marshall
Manager, Transit Operations
SUBJECT: Downtown Nanaimo Exchange

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Board not extend the agreement at 575 Fitzwilliam Street (Prideaux Exchange) beyond June 30, 2020.
2. That the Regional District of Nanaimo continue to work with the City of Nanaimo to develop a long term agreement for the Downtown Nanaimo Exchange.

SUMMARY

At the November 18th, 2019, City of Nanaimo Regular Council Meeting, Council approved the recommendation for an on-street Transit Exchange on Front Street adjacent to 1 Port Drive; and work with the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) to prepare a design for an on-street Transit Exchange.

As part of this plan, the RDN will work with the City of Nanaimo to review and amend any land use agreements relating to 575 Fitzwilliam Street ‘Prideaux Exchange’ and 1 Port Drive ‘Downtown Exchange’.

BACKGROUND

The RDN Transit System moved the Downtown Nanaimo Exchange from 575 Fitzwilliam Street ‘Prideaux Exchange’ to 1 Port Drive, adjacent the Port Place Centre as a temporary measure for construction on the Bastion Street Bridge (May 2019). The RDN entered into an agreement with the City of Nanaimo that extended the RDN’s stay at 1 Port Drive until June 30, 2020.

This location provides the necessary space and favorable geographical location to operate and efficient transit exchange. This site has also proven to create a savings of approximately 200 hours per month. Those cost savings have been held by BC Transit in the RDN’s reserves. In a recent City of Nanaimo study¹, the consultant recommended 1 Port Drive location as a viable exchange location.

At the Regular Board meeting, October 22, 2019, the Board passed the following motions.

*That the Regional District of Nanaimo consent to permit the temporary use of 575 Fitzwilliam 'Prideaux Exchange' for a parking lot for use by RCMP members and staff, until the Regional District of Nanaimo resumes use of the Prideaux Exchange.*

*That the Regional District of Nanaimo approve the amended Licence of Occupation and Use Agreement for 1 Port Drive with the City of Nanaimo extending the agreement to June 30, 2020.*

As per the City of Nanaimo's recent motion, it is evident that the RDN will not be returning to the 575 Fitzwilliam Street (Prideaux Exchange), therefore, the RDN will no longer need to extend the contract past June 30, 2020. Additionally, the City of Nanaimo and the RDN will collaborate to establish a long term agreement for the Downtown Nanaimo Exchange.

Any resulting changes to the agreements of 1 Port Drive and 575 Fitzwilliam Nanaimo locations will be presented at a future Transit Select Committee Meeting.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the Board support the Regional District of Nanaimo to not extend the agreement at 575 Fitzwilliam Street (Prideaux Exchange) beyond June 30, 2020.

2. That the Board support the Regional District of Nanaimo continue to work with the City of Nanaimo to develop a long term agreement for the Downtown Nanaimo Exchange.

3. That alternate direction be provided.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

At the writing of this report there were no financial implications. The RDN will continue to rent the 1 Port Drive location for $2500.00 per month for the duration of the agreement until June 30, 2020. 1 Port Drive rental fees have been included in the proposed 2020 budget and were included in the approved 2019 budget.

**STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

Transportation and Transit - Provide opportunities for residents to move effectively through and around the Region.

Darren Marshall
dmarshall@rdn.bc.ca
December 27, 2019

Reviewed by:
- D. Pearce, General Manager, Transportation and Emergency Services
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer