



## WEST KOOTENAY TRANSIT COMMITTEE

### AGENDA

June 23, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.  
Regional District of Kootenay Boundary  
RDKB Boardroom, 843 Rossland Ave, Trail  
Teams Meeting

#### 1) Call to Order

Chair Rik Logtenberg will call the meeting to order.

#### 2) Territorial Acknowledgement

We recognize and respect that we live and meet within the unceded territories of the Columbia Basin Indigenous Nations peoples.

#### 3) Approval of the Agenda

***Recommendation:***

Moved by Director \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded:

That the agenda for the June 23, 2026 meeting of the West Kootenay Transit Committee be approved as presented.

#### 4) Approval of the Minutes

***Recommendation:***

Moved by Director \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded:

That the minutes of the West Kootenay Transit Committee October 2, 2025 meeting be approved as presented.

## 5) Reports

*Daynika White, Government Relations Manager*

- a) BC Transit website
- b) Open loop payment option
- c) Selkirk College UPASS
- d) June 29 Service Change
- e) Fleet Electrification
- f) Transit and On-Street Infrastructure

*Sarah Soleimanifar, Senior Project Manager*

- g) Genelle Operations and Maintenance facility

## New Business

- a) West Kootenay Transit System Fare Review– *Midhat Malik, Business Development Advisor*

***Recommendation:***

Moved by Director \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded:

THAT the West Kootenay Transit Committee direct BC Transit to launch an online public engagement survey and report back to the Committee with recommendations for fare changes.

- b) West Kootenay Transit System Service Review– *Jennifer Getz, Transit Planner*

***Recommendation:***

Moved by Director \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded:

THAT the West Kootenay Transit Committee agree to the objectives, deliverables, and scope of work of this Transit Service Review.

## 8) Adjournment



# WEST KOOTENAY TRANSIT COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

October 2, 2025 | 10:00 a.m.

Regional District of Central Kootenay

RDCK Boardroom, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson

Zoom Meeting

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chair Rik Logtenberg  
Tom Newell  
Walter Popoff  
Terry Martin  
Maria McFaddin  
Keith Page

City of Nelson – **In-person**  
RDCK – Area F  
RDCK – Area H – **In-person**  
RDCKB – City of Trail  
RDCK - City of Castlegar  
City of Nelson

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF**

Tom Dool  
Carly Feeney

Research Analyst - RDCK  
Meeting Coordinator - RDCK

### **BC TRANSIT**

Daynika White  
Anthony Mirando  
Ana Gabirondo-Manchado  
Alice Page-Vanier  
Tessa Stewart

Manager, Government Relations  
Regional Operations Manager  
Operations Manager, PWT  
Operations Supervisor, PWT  
Manager, Business Development

### **TRANSIT OPERATING COMPANIES**

Baron Gould  
Jesse Adams  
Cathie Droucker

Transit Supervisor – City of Nelson  
Transit Lead Hand – City of Nelson  
Fleet and Transit Admin Assistant – City of Nelson

### **GUESTS**

Brier Albano

Associate Vice-President – Selkirk College

**1) Call to Order**

Chair Rik Logtenberg called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**2) Territorial Acknowledgement**

We recognize and respect that we live and meet within the unceded territories of the Columbia Basin Indigenous Nations peoples.

**3) Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Director Popoff and seconded,  
And Resolved:

That the agenda for the October 2, 2025 meeting of the West Kootenay Transit Committee be approved as presented.

**Carried**

**4) Approval of the Minutes**

Moved by Director Popoff and seconded,  
And Resolved:

That the minutes of the West Kootenay Transit Committee May 13, 2025 meeting be approved as presented.

**Carried**

**5) Reports**

BC Transit

**ORDER OF AGENDA CHANGED** The Order of Business was changed with Item 5.f and 5.g considered at this time.

**f) Operational Performance**

Anthony Mirando, Regional Operations Manager provided a brief update on the new Pass-up Pilot Project launched in mid-August in Victoria, BC. The initiative replaces the “Sorry, bus full” sign with “Standing room only” shifting the decision from the driver to the discretion of passengers. Anthony also gave an overview of overall operational performance, including service delivery, on-time performance, and ridership.

**g) Trail Safety Mitigations Update**

Anthony Mirando, Regional Operations Manager, provided an overview of safety performance including fleet inspection reports and site inspections. He highlighted that statistics across all categories are performing well and continue to trend upward.

**ORDER OF AGENDA** Item 5.a was considered at this time.  
**RESUMED**

**a) Customer Dispatch Solution**

Adam Bishop, Manager of Accessible Transit, provided an overview the Committee on the Customer Transit Solution which is a new platform for managing and improving all aspects of HandyDART services. The platform will define service boundaries, enhance financial efficiency through increased dispatch productivity, and provide scalable long-term savings. It will also deliver a province-wide service quality upgrade with improved dashboards and standardized KPIs to support evidence-based decision making. The initiative offers reputational and strategic value by improving public trust, demonstrating government responsiveness, and strengthening BC Transit's position with funding partners and communities.

Adam answered the Committee's questions.

**b) Interior Health Funding Update**

Daynika White, Government Relations Manager, provided an update on Interior Health Authority (IHA) to fully cover operational costs for 1947 annual service hours by 2028/2029. Daynika highlighted that the increased funding will help reduce taxation for participants of these Health Connection services.

**c) Umo Update**

Daynika White, Government Relations Manager, provided a brief update on Umo, the electronic fare system, which is now active in the West Kootenays. She also highlighted that the BC Bus Pass was integrated on September 1, 2025. BC Transit will be introducing "Open Loop" in early 2026 which will allow riders the ability to tap credit and debit cards on the bus.

Daynika answered the Committee's questions.

**d) Battery Electric Bus Update**

Daynika White, Government Relations Manager, provided an update on Nelson receiving two electric buses and two charging stations with a target of spring 2026 for being in service.

**DIRECTOR ABSENT:** Director Newell left the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

Director Page have freedom of the floor.

**e) Transit and On-Street Infrastructure Updates**

Daynika White, Government Relations Manager, provided an update on transit exchanges and fleet replacements. The new downtown Nelson exchange is complete and has been in service since June 30. In Trail, a new exchange site has been secured in Genelle, with construction planned for Spring 2026. Daynika noted they are seeking a six-month extension at the Waneta Road location to support a smooth transition and avoid service disruptions in Trail and area.

Daynika also provided an overview of upcoming fleet replacements. Following a recent assessment, BC Transit determined there is no long-term market for medium-duty buses. Beginning in 2027, 15 buses currently servicing Trail and Castlegar will be replaced with a mix of light and heavy-duty vehicles.

Daynika answered the Committee's questions.

Moved by Director McFaddin and seconded,  
And Resolved:

THAT the Chair of the West Kootenay Transit Committee send a letter of support to School District 20 for BC Transit's request to extend their lease at the Waneta Road facility for six months to allow time for renovations at the new Genelle location.

**Carried**

**h) Selkirk College Enrollment Trends**

Brier Albano, Associate Vice-President, Selkirk College, provided an overview of enrollment trends. Selkirk College reported a 3% increase in domestic enrollment but a 55% decrease in international enrollment, with most international applications still being declined due to federal policy changes. Brier also noted that the Nakusp and Kaslo campuses were recently closed due to lack of provincial funding.

Brier answered the Committee's questions.

**6) New Business**

**a) UPASS at Selkirk College**

Tessa Stewart, Manager of Business Development, BC Transit, provided an overview of the implementation of U-PASS at Selkirk College that is still under consideration. Tessa highlighted some of the programs benefits and revenue that it can generate annually.

Tessa answered the Committee's questions.

Moved by Director Popoff and seconded,  
And resolved that it be recommended to the Board:

THAT conditional approval of UPASS at Selkirk College, equaling the Adult 30-Day pass rate, be approved subject to further engagement with the College and a successful student referendum, and the approval of Board of the RDCK and RDKB and Nelson City Council.

**Carried**

**7) Correspondence**

The Committee discussed the letters received by members of the public regarding the lack of seating at the new Nelson Transit Exchange. Nelson Transit is looking into options for fold down benches. The Committee discussed the importance of engaging with stakeholders and the community on future transit modifications to ensure accessibility needs are being met.

**8) Adjournment**

Moved by Director Popoff and seconded,  
And resolved:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

**Carried**

Digitally Approved

Rik Logtenberg, Chair



# BC Transit Report

June 23, 2026



# Agenda

- BC Transit website
- Open Loop payment option
- Selkirk College UPASS
- June 29 Service Change
- Fleet Electrification
- Transit and On-Street Infrastructure
  - New Downtown Trail Exchange





Search [magnifying glass icon]

# Welcome to the new bctransit.com!

BC Transit is launching a new website to make it easier and faster for riders to find the information they need.



# Open Loop Payment Option



## Contactless Payments

Tap your contactless card or mobile wallet to pay your fare. Learn how transfers, DayPASS caps, and charges work.

***Ready, Set, Tap and Go!***

# Open Loop Payment Option



May 19 – June 17, 2026

<b>609</b> Contactless Boardings	<b>2.76%</b> % of Total Boardings
<b>\$1,287.00</b> Contactless Revenue	<b>5.30%</b> % of Total Revenue
<b>22,080</b> Total Umo Boardings	<b>\$24,265.00</b> Total Umo Revenue

# Selkirk College UPASS

## What is a U-PASS?

The U-PASS program gives students unlimited access to transit services in their local transit system for a heavily discounted rate. All eligible students are required to pay the U-PASS fee.

## Who Receives a U-PASS?

Most U-PASS programs provide semester passes to all students that pay student union fees and have at least one course on campus during the given semester. Unique considerations specific to a post-secondary institution can be included in the planning of a U-PASS agreement to allow for opt-out or opt-in clauses

# Selkirk College UPASS

## Fall 2025

Provisional approval on the U-PASS rate was granted by the West Kootenay Transit Committee.

## Winter 2025/2026

BC Transit engagement with the Selkirk College Student Union Board of Directors.

## Spring 2026

Student Union led engagement with Selkirk College students.

## June 2026

Student Union will not be proceeding to referendum. UPASS will not be implemented in 2027.



# June 29 Service Change

- System-wide schedule adjustments are being implemented in conjunction with the transition of the Operations and Maintenance facility in Genelle.
- Service levels on Route 14 Blewett and Route 20 Slocan Valley have been reduced by 1 daily trip to better align with demand.
- OnRequest service in Nakusp will only be available on Mondays and Wednesdays. Additional trips have been scheduled for Route 51 Hot Springs and Route 52 Slocan.
- Blueberry Creek service on Route 98 Columbia Connector will be replaced by Route 34 Kinnaird/Southridge. Route 98 will continue to serve Castlegar, including stops at the Community Complex and Selkirk College.

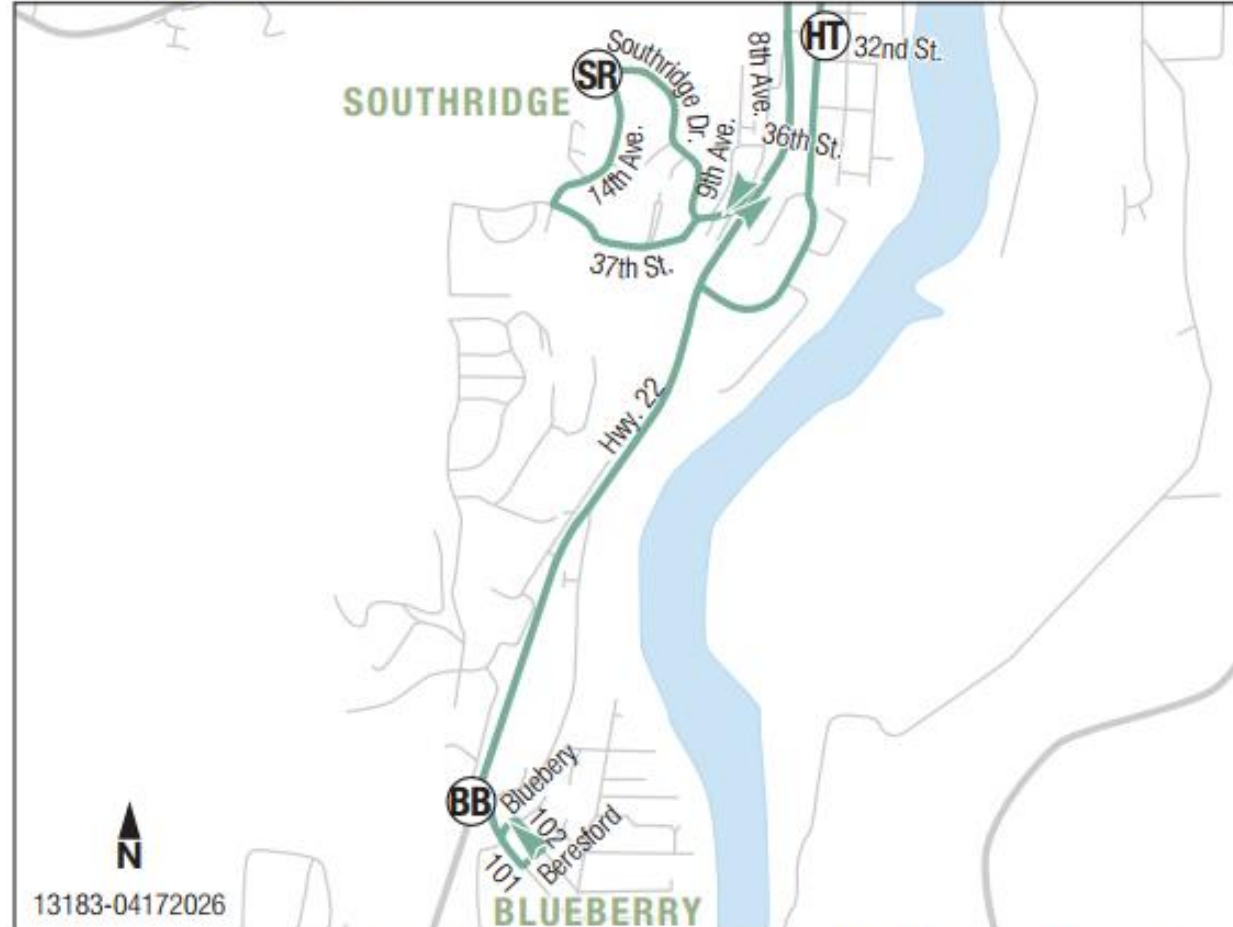


# Notice to Riders

Effective June 29, 2026



Blueberry Creek service on **98 Columbia Connector** will be replaced by **34 Kinnaird/Southridge** service to/from Blueberry Creek.



For more information about trip planning, schedules and to sign up for customer alerts, please visit [bctransit.com/west-kootenay](https://bctransit.com/west-kootenay).

# Fleet Electrification

- BC Transit has a phased transition strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and convert the fleet to predominantly electric buses over time (beyond 2040).
- 2 electric Nova buses will be deployed in Nelson later this year.
- 13 hybrid electric buses will replace buses currently operating around Trail and Castlegar in 2028/29.



**Nova Bus**  
LFSe+

# New Downtown Trail Transit Exchange



- Design is complete and RFP is posted on BC Bid
  - mitigates loss of on-street parking
  - excludes public washroom
- 3 bus shelters with seating
- Bicycle racks
- Sidewalk widening and street resurfacing
- Operator washroom

Construction over the summer  
and in service Winter 26/27

# 2026 Transit SuperStar

Every year, BC Transit recognizes excellence and celebrates the Transit SuperStars making a positive difference in transit systems across the province.

- Safety First
- Adapt and Thrive
- Community Minded
- Team Spirit



Thank You!

Daynika White  
Government Relations Manager  
djwhite@bctransit.com  
(672) 974-1176





# Fare Review West Kootenay Transit System

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June 23, 2026



## Fare Review Objective

- Utilize BC Transit's recommended Fare Strategy to account for inflation and operational costs in proposed fare recommendations

Optimize revenue

Attract and retain ridership

Maintain affordability

## 2026 Fare Review Objective

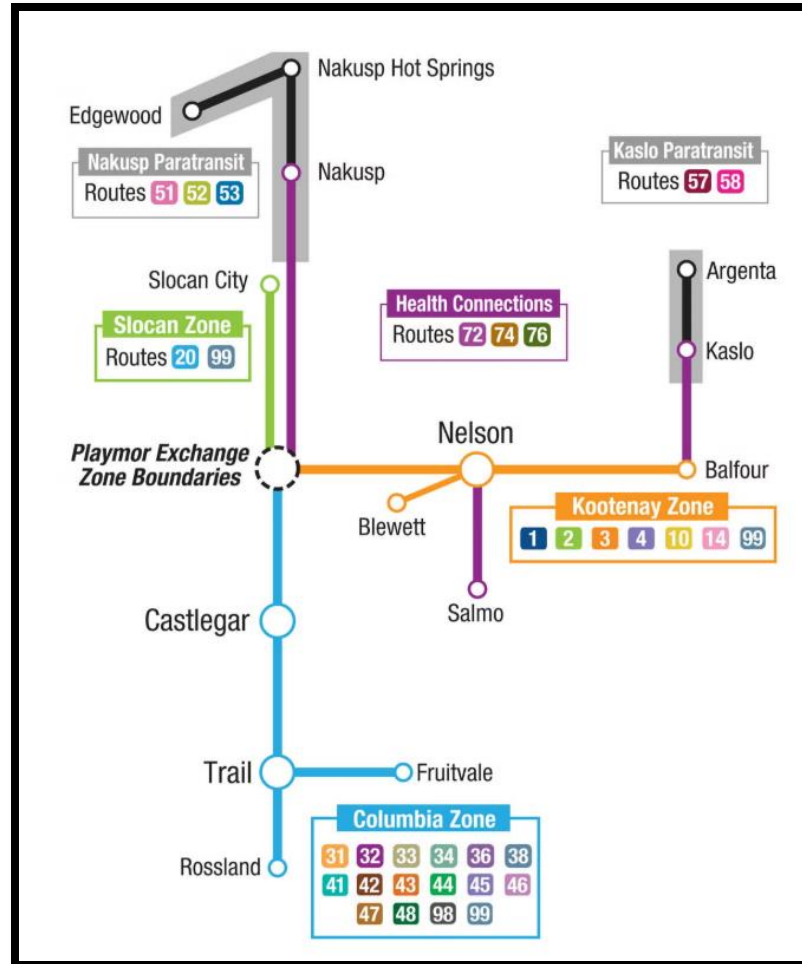
- Increase ease for passengers and boost ridership!
- Maximize use of Umo
- Equity considerations
- Introduce new pre-paid fare programs into the system

# West Kootenay System Overview

Funding is cost shared between

- City of Nelson,
- Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, and
- Regional District of Central Kootenay

Decisions on fares, routes and service levels are made by local governments based on recommendations by the **West Kootenay Transit Committee**



## Fares

subject to change

Cash and paper tickets and passes will continue to be accepted on board. Umo is currently not applicable to handyDART.

Children 12 and under	Free
Single Ride* All routes	\$ 2.25
DayPASS**	4.50
10 Rides	20.25
Adult 30-Day Pass	60.00
Concession 30-Day Pass***	45.00
Semester Pass (4 months)****	125.00

\*Includes one transfer within 90 minutes. If paying with cash, request a paper transfer from the driver at the start of your very first trip.

\*\*A DayPASS can be pre-purchased for unlimited travel in a single day within the West Kootenay Transit System. A Umo DayPASS activates on first use, not when purchased.

\*\*\*Concession fare valid for youth aged 13-18, persons 65 and over, and full-time post-secondary students with valid ID.

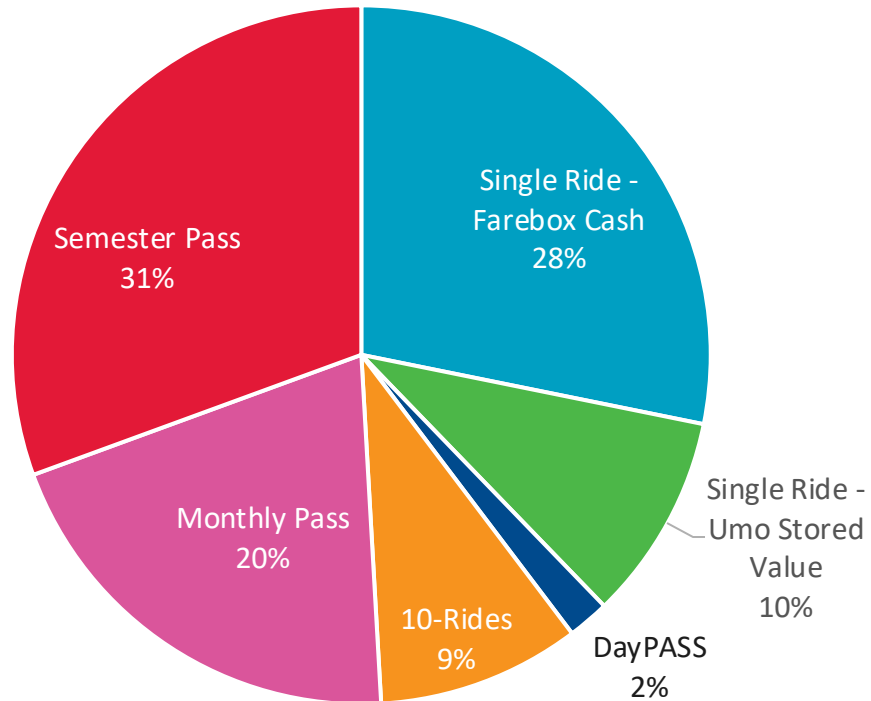
\*\*\*\*A Semester Pass is valid for full-time post-secondary students and students up to grade 12 with valid ID. Available at select vendors only. Visit [bctransit.com](http://bctransit.com) for up-to-date vendor locations.

## Current Fare Structure

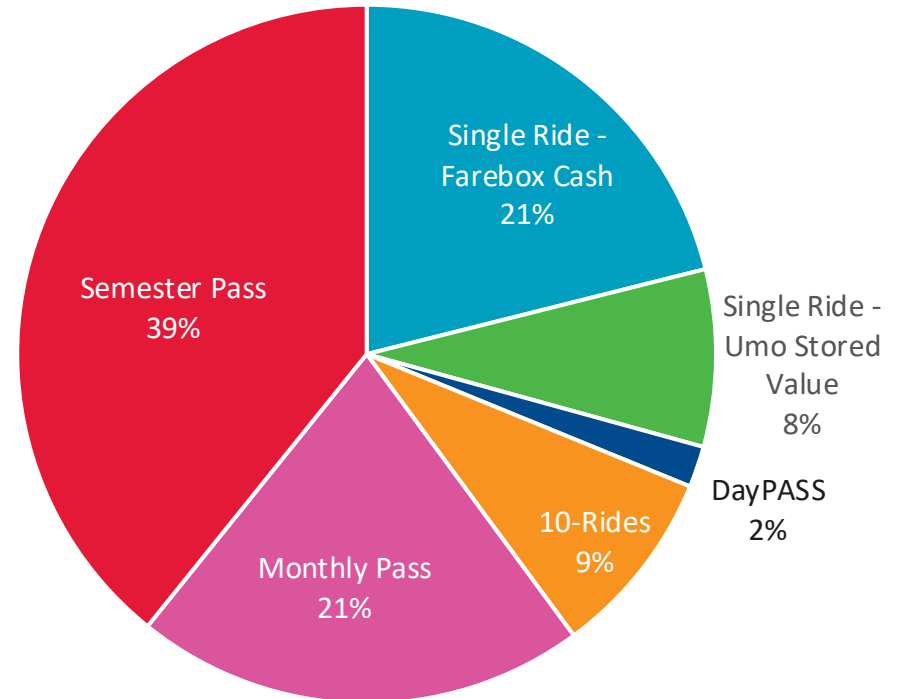
Fare Type	Fare Strategy Guidelines	West Kootenay Fare	Variance
Single Ride (Cash)	Base Fare	\$2.25	
DayPASS	2 times Base	\$4.50	Aligned
10-Rides	9 times base	\$20.25	Aligned
Adult 30-Day Pass	20 – 30 times Base Fare	\$60	26.6 times base fare Aligned
Concession* 30-Day Pass (Student, Senior, Post-Secondary Student)	Adult 30-Day Pass less 15%	\$45	25% discount, 10% variance
Student Semester Pass (4 Month)	20% less Concession	\$125	31% discount, 9% variance
HandyDART Single Ride Fare	Same as Conventional Single Ride Fare	\$2.00 (Nelson) \$2.50 (Castlegar) \$2.50 (Boundary)	\$0.25 Variance

# Revenue by Product Type

Fare Revenue 25/26



Ridership 25/26



**Total Fare Revenue (2025/26) = \$580.6K**

# Transfer Policy vs Fare Capping Policy (Automatic DayPASS)

## Current policy: 90-Minute Transfer

West Kootenay Transit allows riders to travel on the next connecting bus within 90 minutes of trip departure without an additional fare.

- Cash users receive a paper transfer from driver
- Paper transfer is difficult to validate for drivers
- Umo users have a transfer automatically applied



## Policy in consideration: Automatic DayPASS

Replacing transfers with automatic DayPASS which allows for unlimited rides all day, for two Single Ride fares

- Provides increased value and ease of use for riders
- Umo utilizes fare capping to automatically apply DayPASS fare for Umo cash balance users
- Riders using cash can purchase a paper DayPASS from their bus driver at the time of boarding
- To allow for fare capping and simplify fare structure 10-Rides and pre-purchased DayPASS product would be phased out

# Public Engagement

- If Public Engagement is requested, public feedback on a selection of topics can be understood
- Timelines and Scope
  - Can be conducted sometime between early to mid-August to mid-January.
  - Need to determine if it will be an online-only or also in-person engagement activities

Travel behaviour  
and usage  
patterns

Current fare  
experience

Sensitivity to  
price and value  
perception

Distance-based  
fare structure

Transfer policy vs  
automatic fare  
capping policy

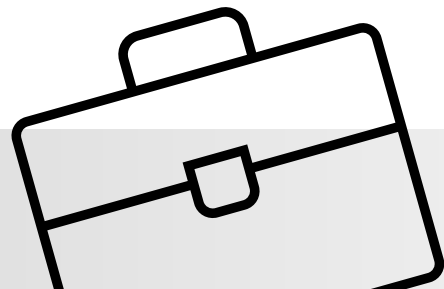
Funding priorities  
(user pay vs tax  
payer pay)

# New Pre-Paid Fare Programs - ProPASS

- **ProPASS**
  - **Annual program** available to employees through employer facilitated payroll deductions
  - To qualify employers must have at least five employees willing to enroll for a one-year period.
- **Recommended pricing:** Adult Pass Rate less 15 per cent

Enrolled employees receive unlimited travel in their local transit system at a discounted rate, to further incentivize transit usage

Employers reduce parking demands and costs, demonstrate action on climate, and improve recruitment and retention



# Fare Review Timeline

Summer 2026

- BC Transit introduces Fare Review process to Committee
- Community engagement survey (Optional)

February 2027

- Recommendations presented to Committee

Spring 2027

- Finalized Fare Review Recommendations presented for approval

Summer 2027

- Marketing Campaign to notify riders
- 12 weeks required between approval and fare change in-effect

September 2027

- Fare Change goes into effect



# WEST KOOTENAY TRANSIT SYSTEM Service Review

PROJECT TERMS OF REFERENCE



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# Service Review Purpose

- To provide a snapshot in time of transit services available, ridership, and overall performance of the existing transit system
- To make recommendations to improve the transit system's effectiveness and efficiency
- To inform any future local or regional transportation plans, which may be undertaken at the regional level or municipal level

# Service Review Scope

- Provide transit system context
  - Overview of west Kootenay communities
  - Transit system overview (routing, schedule, types of transit services)
- Provide a snapshot in time of the ridership and performance of the system
  - Route level data
  - Bus stop activity
- Recommend transit service and infrastructure improvements, focusing on the next three to five years:
  - Service optimization or expansion options
  - Infrastructure and/or bus stop amenities
- A single round of public engagement may include pop-up booths, an open house, short surveys, focus groups, and/or interviews

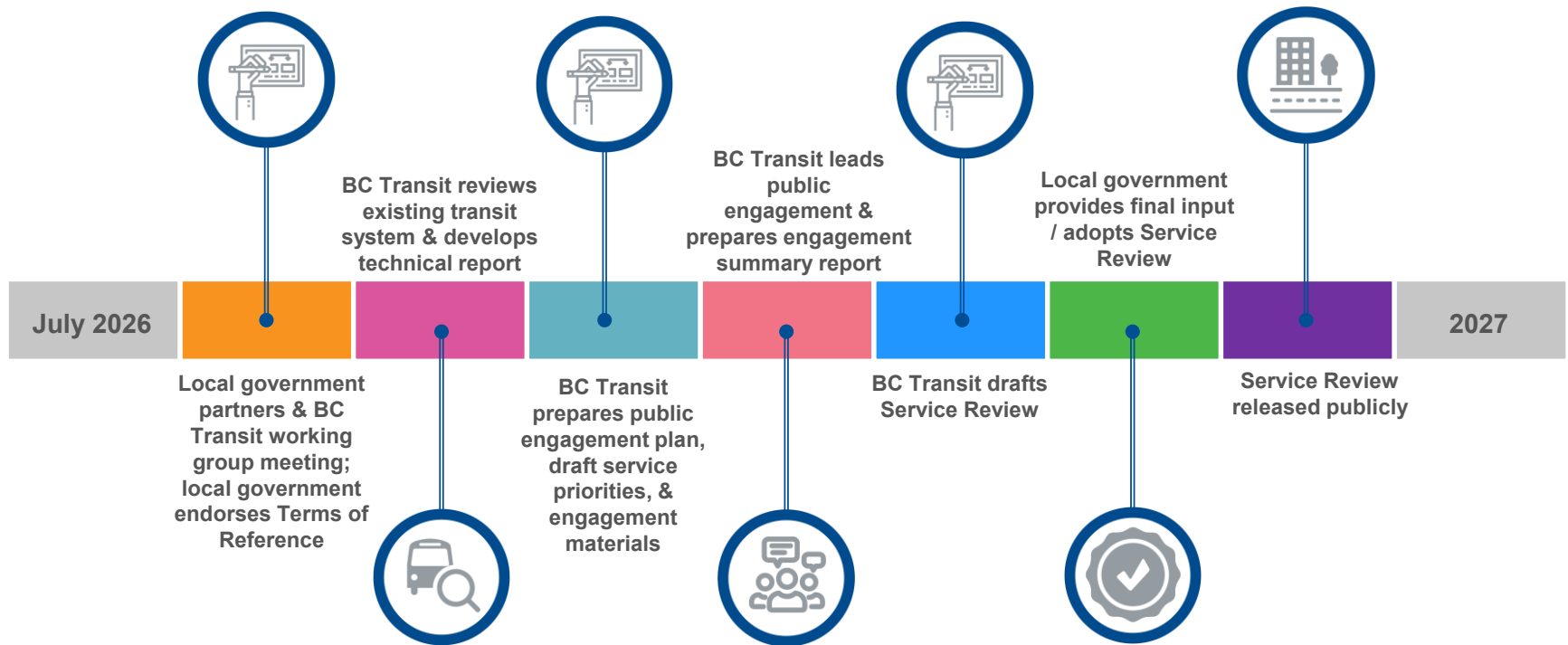
# Service Review Objectives

- Align with relevant local transportation and land use plans, policies, and initiatives
- Provide a snapshot in time of how the transit system is performing to assist with decision making
- Support future service performance by identifying service, infrastructure, and amenity improvements
- Prepare guidelines and monitoring methods to assist with decision making

# Service Review Key Considerations

- Explore routing, frequency, and span improvement options
  - E.g. Explore opportunities to better align service with demand
- Review the system for OnDemand potential
- Assess options for adding or altering locations of certain bus stops
- Consider improvements to transit infrastructure and amenities

# Service Review Draft Timeline\*



\* Timelines subject to change

# Stage 1 Inception: Local Government Partners Engagement and Working Group

## Main Tasks:

- Introduce project team and identify key contacts
  - Discuss the project and any immediate concerns with the timeline, engagement strategy, or deliverables
- 

## Deliverables:

- List of project team contacts
- List of key stakeholders
- Endorsement of Terms of Reference

# Stage 2 Planning Work: Review existing transit system / Public engagement plan / Draft service priorities

## Main Tasks:

- Review demographic changes, community plans, new development, and current system performance
  - Draft content to prepare the public engagement plan, design any online engagement, secure any open houses or pop-up booth locations
  - Develop draft service improvements for the community
- 

## Deliverables:

- Background technical report (Excel spreadsheet format)
  - Relevant community policies and plans
  - Ridership analysis
- Public engagement plan, engagement materials
- Draft service improvement options (optimizations and/or expansions)

## Stage 3: Public Engagement (Optional)

### Main Tasks:

- Complete one round of engagement activities, which may include:
    - No more than one public survey
    - Operator survey
    - Focus group
    - Interviews
    - Open house
    - Pop-up booths
- 

### Deliverables:

- Engagement Results Summary Report

## Stage 4: Local Government Final Input and Adoption

### Main Tasks:

- BC Transit will develop a draft of the Service Review for review by the local government partners prior to finalization and adoption by the local governments
  - Opportunity for local government to approve one or more service options for upcoming expansion process
- 

### Deliverables:

- West Kootenay Transit Service Review

# Recommendation and Signoff

The West Kootenay Transit Committee agree to the objectives, deliverables, and scope of work of this Transit Service Review.

## The West Kootenay Transit Committee

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## BC Transit

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Thank You!

- Questions?

