

November 2, 2020

Mayor and Council
City of Vancouver
53 West 12th Ave
Vancouver, BC



DVBIA Concerns about Transport Pricing in Climate Emergency Action Plan

The Downtown Vancouver BIA is committed to reducing carbon emissions and supporting the City of Vancouver's climate emergency objectives. We have a strong history of collaborating with the City on increasing transit use, cycling infrastructure, pedestrian friendly streets, electric vehicle charging stations, and energy efficient buildings.

We are concerned about the transport pricing proposal in the Climate Emergency Action Plan. This comes during a time when downtown businesses are shuttering or struggling to remain open, and the recovery period for downtown is unpredictable.

The Climate Emergency Action Plan does not include an economic impact analysis for businesses. We worry about the unintended consequences of the fees.

Traffic congestion is a regional problem. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed commutes, and the housing market is showing shifting preferences for where people are living and how they are working. A regional and holistic approach to transport pricing should be considered in tandem with enhancements to the regional public transit system to achieve the desired outcome of reduced vehicle emissions.

Aside from transport pricing, we are grateful for the City's continued leadership in climate action. The Climate Emergency Action Plan outlines several other impactful initiatives that the DVBIA will be proud to support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Gauthier".

Charles Gauthier, MCP
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