



## MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: August 12, 2011

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The District of Mission is pleased to announce that a formal agreement has been reached with Translink that will see the continuation of West Coast Express rail service to downtown Vancouver. The agreement will run through to 2015, with an option to extend to 2019.

The West Coast Express train service has been providing daily passenger rail service between Mission downtown/waterfront and Vancouver downtown/waterfront since 1996. The previous agreement expired in December, 2010 and both sides have been actively pursuing a new agreement since 2009. The new agreement addresses Translink's requirement to see a more equitable recovery of costs and provides service certainty for the District of Mission.

The new agreement will see the phase-in of increased financial contributions from Mission over a five-year period starting in 2011. Mission's share of contributions will increase from 5% of the total operation costs for the Mission portion of the West Coast Express to 20%. There are no anticipated schedule changes to the West Coast Express rail service with this new agreement.

Mayor Atebe is quoted, "The West Coast Express is a key part of the transit infrastructure that supports our community and will be the backbone for the redevelopment of the Mission waterfront area. We are very pleased to have reached an agreement that will see this service continue for the foreseeable future."

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