

City of Courtenay BC Transit Update | Comox Valley Exchange Project

Seth Wright, Senior Manager of Government Relations | BC Transit Michael Zbarsky, Manager of Transit and Facilities | Comox Valley Regional District April 2, 2025

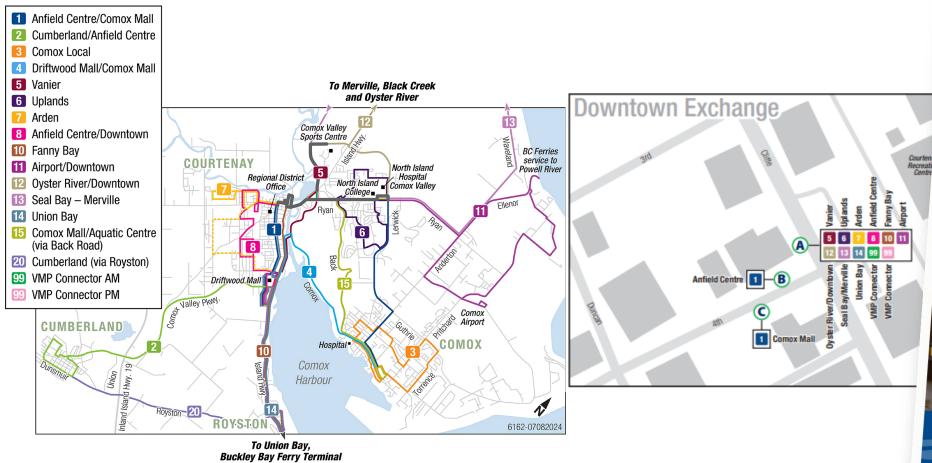


Outline

- Context: Purpose of Exchange
- Development of Exchange Project
- Bus Stop Activity Map
- Revised Exchange Layout
- Exchange Amenities
- Project Timeline & Public Engagement
- Next Steps

Context: Comox Valley Regional Transit

and Fanny Bay





Context: What is a Transit Exchange?





Transit exchanges are typically located within the core activity centres of a community – such as in downtown or adjacent to shopping malls –to provide convenient access to key destinations.

When well designed, transit exchanges are effective pedestrianoriented, multi-modal transportation hubs.

Transit exchanges should provide:

- Weather protection
- Seating
- Transit route and timetables
- Lighting
- Bike parking

Comox Valley Transit Future Planning

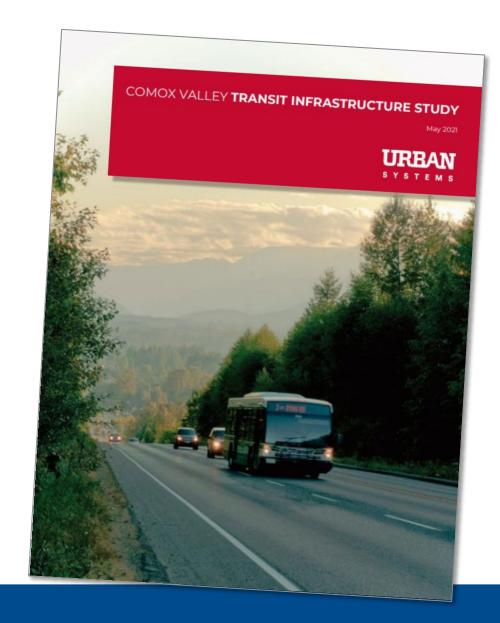
- 2014 Transit Future Plan sets out an ambitious 25year plan to triple ridership.
- 2022 Transit Future Action Plan sets out Infrastructure Priorities:
 Improved & Expanded Transit Exchanges:
 - South Courtenay
 - ii. Downtown Courtenay
 - iii. Oyster River
 - iv. Downtown Comox
 - v. North Island College
 - Ryan Rd./Old Island Hwy Transit Priority



Development of Exchange - History

FIGURE 8. DOWNTOWN COURTENAY EXCHANGE CONCEPT





Development of Exchange - History

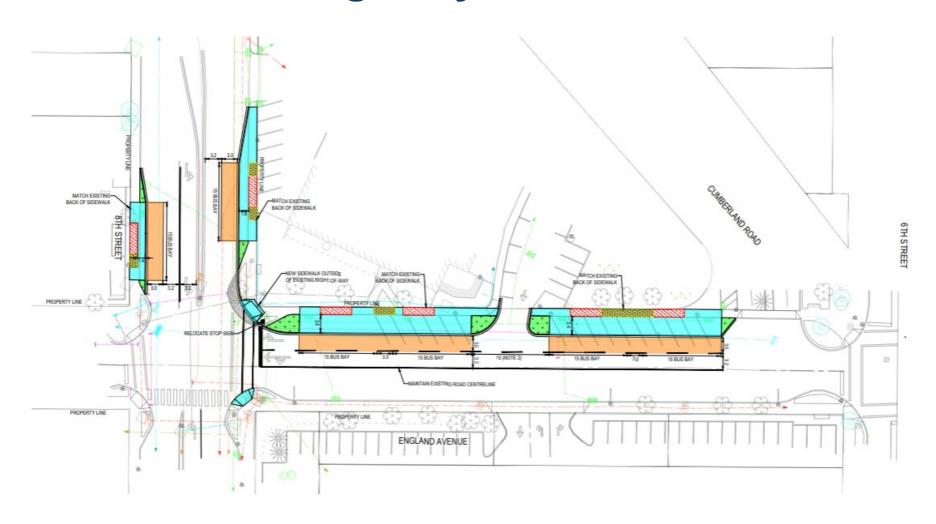


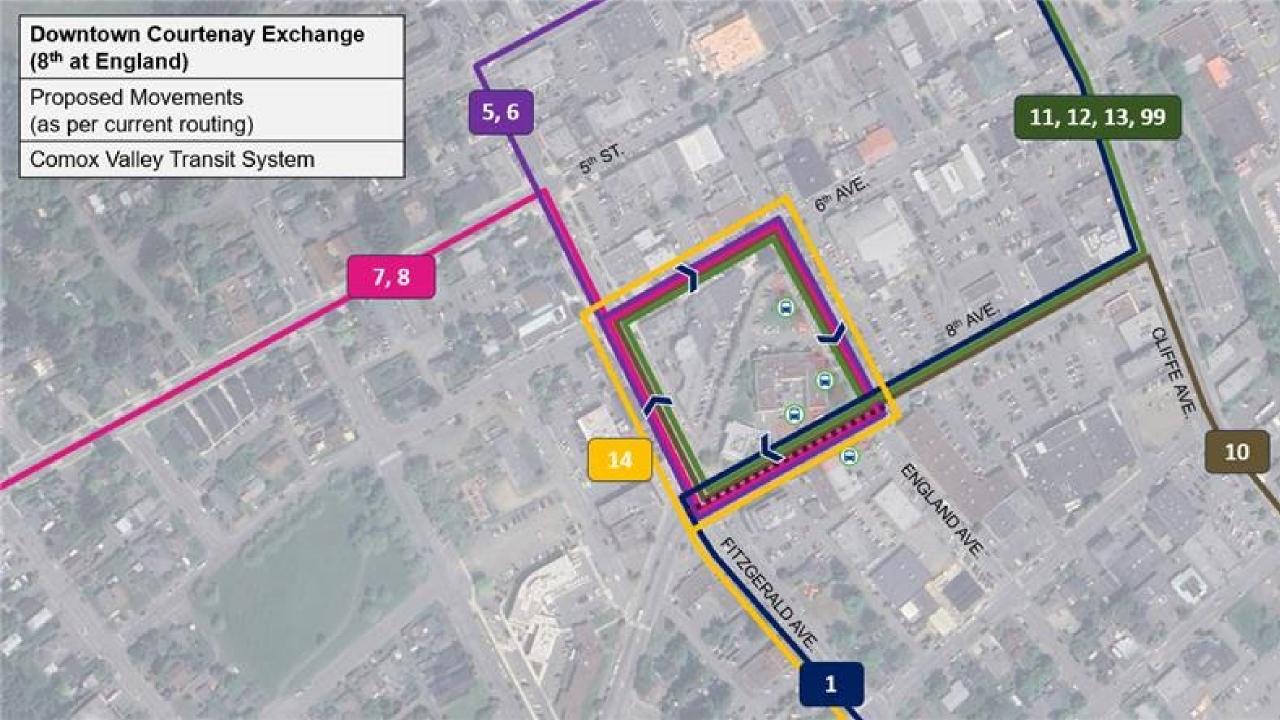
Development of Exchange – Council Direction

January 17, 2022 City of Courtenay Council:

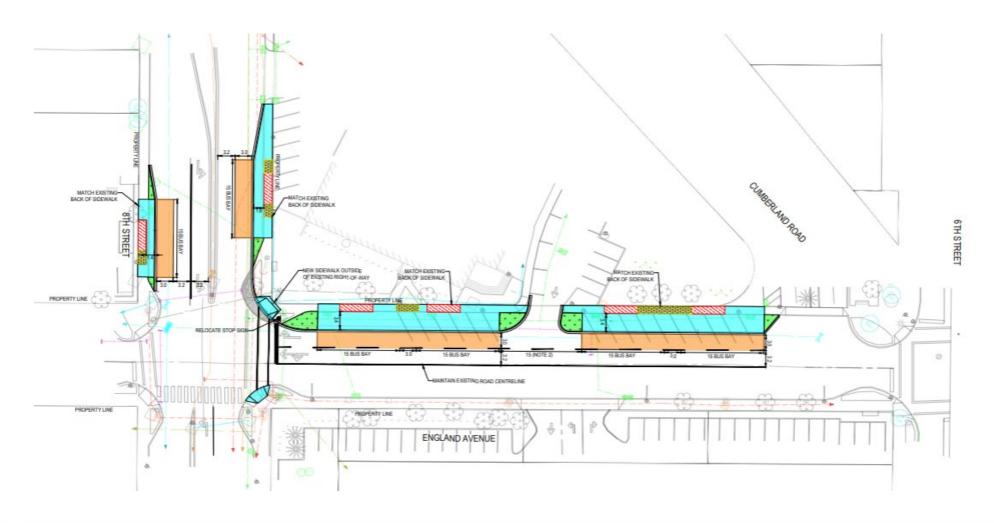
- "THAT...Council approve OPTION 1 and provide a Letter of Support in Principle...for only the transit exchanges and transit priority measures at the intersection of Ryan Road and Old Island Highway, and at Old Island HWY and Comox Road; and,
- THAT Council request that the CVRD modify the Comox Valley Transit Infrastructure Study to move the transit priority measure at Old Island HWY and Comox Road to the short term, and, adding traffic signal coordination along Old Island HWY from Ryan Road, across the 5th Street bridge to Cliffe Avenue and 8th Street, AND
- THAT Council direct staff to proceed with the conceptual design in Appendix A, upon completion of the 5th Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project."

Revised Exchange Layout – Downtown Courtenay

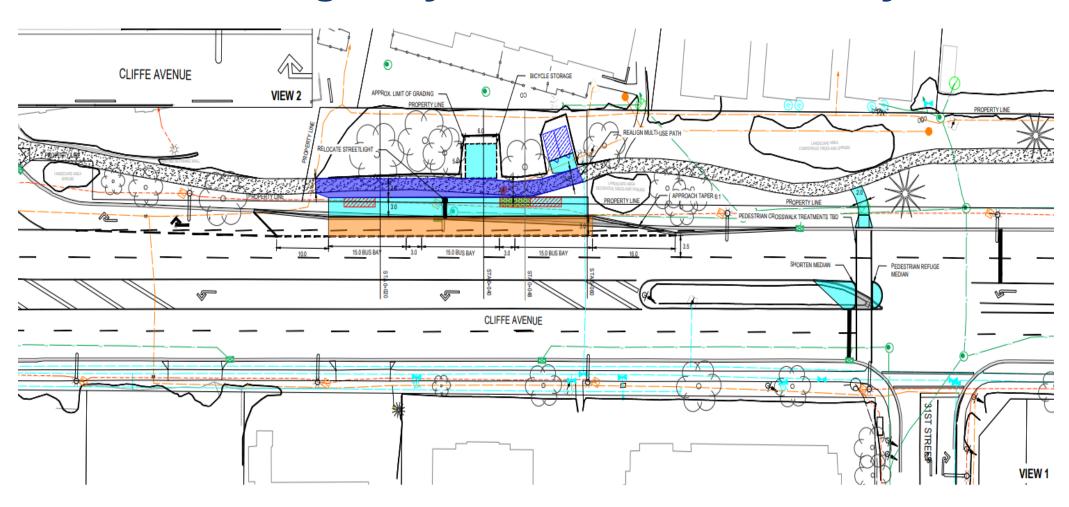




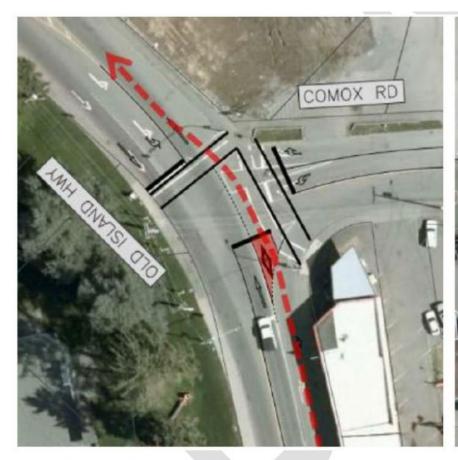
Revised Exchange Layout – Downtown Courtenay



Revised Exchange Layout – South Courtenay



Transit Priority Measures





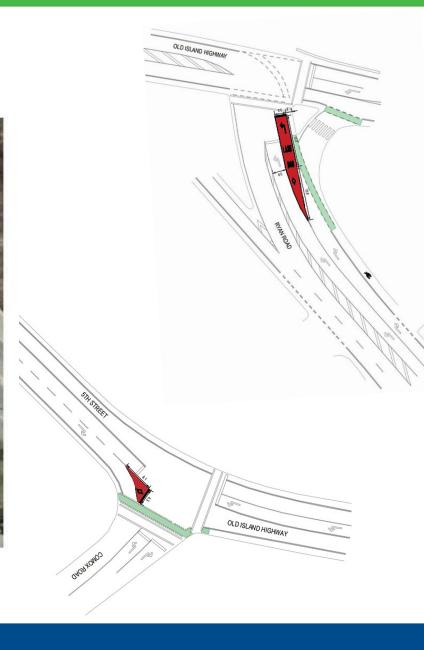


Figure 1 Transit Priority Reference Designs

Transit Exchange Improvements

- New T4 Cantilevered Shelters
- New bike racks
- Enhanced lighting
- Wider sidewalks
- New landscaping
- Improved pedestrian environment
- Garbage receptacles
- Dedicated driver washroom (South Courtenay)



Transit Exchange Project Timeline & Engagement

2019-23 Planning Pre-Work

Feb 23: Submit ICIP Application

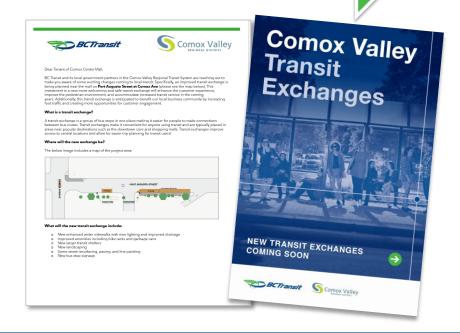
Mar 24: ICIP Approval 24-25: Detailed design

Develop Maintenance Agreement

Construction Mobilization Spring 2025: Start Construction

Fall 2026: Substantial Completion

- Distribution of Exchange Project Postcard
- Mailout of Project Letter (within 50 m)
- Webinar with Downtown BIA
- BC Transit Project Website



Next Steps

- Facilitate ongoing stakeholder and public engagement
- Finalize detailed design process
- Develop maintenance agreement
- Schedule construction
- Continue engagement during construction
- Celebrate completion







Mike Zbarsky
Manager, Transit and Facilities
tel. 250-334-6037 | mzbarsky@comoxvalleyrd.ca

Seth Wright
Senior Manager, Government Relations
cell 250-880-8039 | swright@bctransit.com