



Community News

Adrian Dix, MLA Working For You

December 2007

Transit Safety Update

I wanted to keep you up to date on our campaign to make Skytrain stations safe. Thanks to the support of folks like you, we've already collected hundreds of signatures for our petition to the Liberal government to take steps now to improve security.

And we're beginning to have some effect on the Campbell government. But instead of taking immediate, concrete steps to improve safety now, the Liberals are wasting resources on a dubious plan to give a private company a contract to build and operate turnstiles at Skytrain stations. Turnstiles are definitely part of the solution, but they should be implemented through a direct grant from the provincial government. Increasing security should be the minister's priority, not dreaming up ways to flow public dollars to private profit.

Earlier this month at the 29th Avenue Skytrain Station, my colleague Mike Farnworth, who is the Official Opposition's Public Safety Critic joined me in introducing a Ten-Point Plan to improve safety and security along the entire Skytrain system.

1. Increase the number of Skytrain police by 50%, with the goal of having one security person at every Skytrain station while the line is operating.
2. Provide additional after-hours security at all stations.
3. Place primary focus on security rather than fare evasion.
4. Build new turnstiles now with direct grant from provincial government rather than re-directing Translink resources to private sector scheme.
5. Implement a pilot walk-home program for at least five high-risk stations.
6. Expand the Joyce-Collingwood pink-whistle program.
7. Conduct full review of lighting at Skytrain stations.
8. Increase sponsorship of community gardens and other amenities at Skytrain stations.
9. Support the bus drivers campaign to implement stiffer criminal penalties for attacks on transit personnel.
10. Restore support for Victims' services and anti-violence against women programs and women's centres.

Through knocking on doors, hosting public meetings and launching a significant petition campaign, this 10 point plan was a result of listening to you.

The Campbell government needs to get serious about security at Skytrain stations. I believe it's an absolute necessity to improve security at SkyTrain stations if we expect the public to use Skytrain. But the political will and commitment from the Campbell government is just not there. If we continue to work together as a community, we can show Mr. Campbell a better way.

If you would like to support our petition, drop by our community office at 5022 Joyce or email: adrian.dix.mla@leg.bc.ca.

Holiday Open House

I would like to invite everyone to come to my community office on Saturday, December 1, 2007 for my Holiday Open House. Come visit with me and enjoy some hot chai and samosas. The event will take place between 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at my office on 5022 Joyce Street (1/2 block north of the skytrain station). Drop by for food and a quick chat. I hope to see you all there.

Stop by my Community Office:

Address:

5022 Joyce Street
Vancouver, BC V5R 4G6

Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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