

December 3, 2019

RE: CITY OF REGINA – 2020 BUDGET – WESTERRA TRANSIT SERVICE

Your Worship & City Councillors:

Westerra Development Corp. requests that transit service be extended to the residents and workers within the Westerra Community.

The Design Regina Official Community Plan (OCP) requires new neighbourhoods to be developed at a higher density with diverse housing options that attract a mix of people from all income levels. However, by not extending transit service to new growth areas, the City of Regina is limiting access to these communities to people who can afford to own a car.

Westerra embraced the principles of the OCP. We planned a neighbourhood that blends traditional single family homes, duplexes, townhomes, apartment rentals, townhouse rentals, seniors independent and assisted housing and our first retailer Sherwood CO-OP Gas Bar. All of these housing types and employers co-exist within our first phase of development. However, a consistent concern raised by our builders, retailers and residents is the lack of transit service, and this in itself is inhibiting Westerra's growth from both a commercial and residential perspective.

Current residents and employees at Trinity Manor and Coop who use transit walk down the shoulder of Dewdney Avenue to get to the nearest bus stop – which is located at Courtney Street and Dewdney Avenue. Dewdney Avenue has a 70 km / hr speed limit, no street lights, no sidewalks and no turning lanes; which is not reasonable and certainly not safe.

As the developer, we constructed a temporary pathway between Sharp Park and the residential portion of the community, but it is not illuminated so it gets little use in winter which forces people to the shoulder of Dewdney Avenue.

We have been working with Administration since the start of Westerra in 2014 on bus service – to ensure routes are possible through all stages of development. A bus stop with layby lane has already been constructed on Canola Avenue to avoid the issues that exist behind Golden Mile shopping center.

Through meetings with City of Regina transit, my understanding was that an extension to the area was going to be in this year's budget; however, it is not. We request City Council's support on this matter.

Yours truly,

WESTERRA DEVELOPMENT CORP.



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