

LETTERS

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Commuter rail won't solve gridlock

Re: Commuter rail less costly than overpass, Letters, Oct. 1.

I disagree with Dr. Keith Martin's solution regarding the congestion on the Trans-Canada Highway

I believe that an overpass at McKenzie Avenue would be the first solution as this would also serve the residents of Saanich, not just the West Shore who are caught in this gridlock.

To conclude that just the E&N commuter line would accommodate the majority is short-sighted and will not serve the growing populations of Sooke, Langford and Colwood.

This gridlock adds to exhaust emissions. Martin has been an MP for 18 years and has done nothing effective in regard to this growing problem.

Unfortunately, the federal economic stimulus money, which Martin could have lobbied for, has passed us by. We need an MP who can effect some change, not just talk about it. And we need that now.

Jan Webb

Metchosin

Transit appears bent on rapid buses

I went to the B.C. Transit open house in Langford and although I saw much information on display, the impression I got was disappointing.

It seemed that B.C. Transit has lost its way of going forward with a light rail line and is focusing on articulating buses and more lanes on the roadway.

Truly, if there is something we don't need, it is more roads. I fear that most people will not know or see this until it is too late.

Admittedly, the congestion on the major route into town has increased due to the construction on Island Highway. But, the other issue on that route is the fact that there was no McKenzie Avenue overpass put in.

We know that this is not a problem of B.C. Transit and does not require any input into that. In fact, I don't want B.C. Transit to remark on it unless it was to state that LRT is the way to go.

It is, of course, for the long run because it will cost more year to year that it hasn't been implemented.

It will be built once, then it will need improvements and will never be perfect, but then again, what is?

I am not against B.C. Transit, I just feel that the buses are not the way to continue.

Les Gardner

Langford

Province ignoring Victoria transit needs

Transit is certainly in the news lately. I think the Liberals deserve credit for replacing Vancouver trolley buses and building the Canada Line.

But Victoria is getting nowhere near its share of infrastructure money, and BRT (bus rapid transit) will do nothing to deal with the capital's transportation problems.

It seems Premier Gordon Campbell is leaning to BRT, even though it's been a washout in Ottawa. Meanwhile, everyone ignores the extremely successful and popular LRT system next door in Calgary. Go figure.

Louis Guilbault

Victoria

Money wasted on interchange

Re: Justice upolds Skirt Mtn. zoning, News, Oct. 1, 2010.

If Langford Mayor Stew Young thinks the South Skirt Mountain bylaw challenge was a "waste of taxpayer money," I'd like to talk to him about the City spending \$14 million for the bridge to nowhere with no payback.

Zoe Blunt

Langford