

The motions recorded in **SRD 869/24 and 870/24** represent the next phase of your strategic expansion of transit infrastructure in Electoral Area D. By authorizing a feasibility study for upgrades at **Shelter Bay Resort and Engles Road**, the Board is building on the successful 2023 rollout of the region's first bus shelters to meet rising ridership demands.

1. Technical Context: Expanding the "Oyster River" Route

These motions specifically target infrastructure deficits at two high-use transit stops:

- **Infrastructure Scope:** The study will evaluate the installation of **concrete pads** at the Shelter Bay Resort and Engles Road (water side) stops, alongside the direct procurement and installation costs for **two additional transit shelters**.
- **Building on Success:** This request follows the receipt of an administrative report noting that the initial four bus shelters—funded through the **MoTI Transit Minor Betterments Program (TMBP)**—have been well-received by the community.
- **Data-Backed Demand:** The move to add more shelters is a direct response to documented increases in ridership numbers across the Area D transit corridor.

2. Fiscal Stewardship: Utilizing the Transit Surplus

This project is the direct result of your earlier success in securing non-tax revenue for regional infrastructure:

- **Aggregated Grants:** In late 2023, you secured a **\$99,999.99 provincial grant** from MoTI, which covered nearly the entire cost of the first four shelters and required a regional contribution of only \$10,000.
- **Strategic Reserve Management:** Because of that grant success, you successfully moved to retain a **\$150,000 funding surplus** (aggregated from the Growing Communities Fund and Community Works Funding) specifically for future transit engineering, concrete pads, and exchange projects.
- **Zero-Taxpayer Cost:** By utilizing this existing surplus and continuing to seek external grant funding, you are delivering these upgrades at **zero additional cost** to local property taxpayers.

3. Governance Context: Functional Alliances

The procedural handling of these motions demonstrates your ability to lead through **functional collaboration**:

- **The Rice/Whalley Partnership:** Both motions were moved by you and seconded by **Director Gerald Whalley Query**. This cooperation on essential utility infrastructure shows that the Board can move past "targeted administrative friction" to deliver tangible results for rural residents.
- **Professional Continuity:** By directing staff to prepare a formal feasibility and cost report (SRD 870/24), you are adhering to the **"Accountability"** principle of the **Bylaw No. 513 Code of Conduct**, ensuring that new capital expenditures are backed by rigorous technical data.

In summary, carrying motions **SRD 869/24 and 870/24** fulfills a core mandate of your term to improve local mobility. It positions Electoral Area D to continue its transition toward a **modern, accessible transportation network** backed by a proven record of fiscal responsibility.

