

**Policy Number:** E-7

**Title:** Long Term Solutions and Rapid Transit Advocacy

**Passed:** March 23, 2016

**Expires:** March 23, 2019

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**Summary:**

*Supports the construction of rapid transit along the Broadway Corridor and directs the VP External to work with government entities to this end.*

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**Number & Title:**

E-7: Long Term Solutions and Rapid Transit Advocacy

**Effective Date / Expiry Date:**

March 23, 2016 / March 23, 2019

**Approval Date:**

July 19, 2017

**Policy Type:**

External Policy

**Review Date:**

This policy shall be reviewed every one (1) year.

**Responsible Body:**

AMS Advocacy Committee

**Authority:**

AMS Code of Procedure Section II, article 11(1)

“Council may create external and internal policies as well as combined policies.”

**Purpose and Goals:**

This policy is designed to state the AMS’s stance on:

- 1) The construction of a rapid transit solution along the Broadway Corridor, and its related effect on the Broadway Corridor;
- 2) Ways that the AMS can work with various government and external entities to secure the construction and efficient long term operation of the solution being built.

**Applicability:**

This policy is applicable to the AMS’s stance towards the Government of Canada, Government of British Columbia, the City of Vancouver, and any other concerned entity. Furthermore, the policy applies to the advocacy of the VP External Affairs to all the aforementioned entities.

**Exclusions:**

There are no exclusions for this policy.

**Definitions:**

**Broadway Corridor** is defined as the geographical area bound by 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, UBC in the west and Commercial-Broadway Station in the east.

**Policy:**

Whereas Broadway remains the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest commercial district in British Columbia and the busiest bus corridor in North America, posing challenges and difficulties to commuting students, demanding the need for a more efficient transit solution along this route;

Whereas Metro Vancouver's transit system is over capacity during peak hours and unable to meet the demands of a growing metropolitan area, especially along the Broadway Corridor, where, Translink has admitted that more than 2000 passengers are "passed up" each day in the Broadway Corridor;

Whereas the AMS supports sustainable, efficient transit in Metro Vancouver, and is seeking a commitment from all levels of government to building improved transit along the Broadway Corridor all the way to UBC;

Whereas the AMS seeks to develop long term, sustainable funding solutions for the future of transit as a whole in the Lower Mainland;

Whereas planning for Phase One of the Broadway Line extension to Arbutus Street is underway and construction is anticipated to start shortly;

- 1) Be it resolved that the AMS continue to advocate for rapid rail as the most suitable system of rapid transit along the corridor, while working with relevant entities to provide the most efficient solution possible;
- 2) Be it further resolved that the AMS ensure that during construction, relevant entities should strive to have the lowest degree of negative impact on businesses and neighbourhoods along the corridor;
- 3) Be it further resolved that the AMS support other such sustainable and efficient transit options in Metro Vancouver to alleviate ridership movement difficulties;
- 4) Be it further resolved that the VP External Affairs work with the relevant entities within the Federal, Provincial, Municipal, First Nations Governments and UBC to ensure the construction of this solution as soon as possible;
- 5) Be it further resolved that the VP External Affairs advocate for the minimization of the construction delay between Phase One of the Broadway Line extension and Phase Two connecting the project to UBC.<sup>1</sup>

**Consultations:**

The following groups have been consulted during the development of this policy:

AMS University and External Relations Committee, AMS VP External Office, AMS Policy Advisor.

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<sup>1</sup> See also E-8: Transit Advocacy, which states "Be it further resolved that the Arbutus bus exchange planned for the terminus of Phase 1 is a temporary solution and that the Vice President External advocate for a design that will facilitate the most efficient commute for students traveling to and from the UBC campus."

**History:**

This is the first draft of the third version of this policy.

**Related Policies:**

AMS's former policy 2012-07 "Rapid Transit Campaign", which expired in June 2015, mandates the AMS to support sustainable, efficient rapid transit in Metro Vancouver and defends the need to develop a rapid transit line along the Broadway Corridor, from Commercial Drive to UBC.

**Appendix/Appendices:**

No appendices accompany this policy.