Captain Gordon Houston

President and Chief Executive Officer

Vancouver Port Authority

999 Canada Place, 100 The Pointe

Vancouver, BC

V6C 3T4

Re: Bike Lanes on Waterfront Road

Dear Captain Houston:

On behalf of the Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition (VACC), I am writing to request a meeting with the port to discuss the potential of installing bike lanes along Waterfront Road in Vancouver. VACC is a member-based, non-profit organization that advocates for safe and convenient cycling facilities throughout the Lower Mainland. We believe installing bike lanes along Waterfront Road would improve safety for cyclists by reducing potential for conflict with an increasing volume of vehicle traffic.

We expect cycling traffic will increase along Waterfront Road in the coming years, regardless of whether there are bike lanes, due to:

* Expected increase in Seabus traffic over the next few years bringing more cyclists onto Waterfront Road
* It is the only flat route between Main Street and Stanley Park
* The City’s Carrall St Greenway project is intended to encourage cycling to this part of town and intends to complete the waterfront loop
* The City is considering installing a pedestrian bridge north of Carrall Street that would lead to Waterfront Road
* Construction of the new convention centre is likely to bring additional bike and vehicle traffic to Waterfront Road

We understand that the city has approached the Port Authority in the past about bike routes along Waterfront Road and that the Port was concerned that additional cycling traffic would impede existing commercial traffic. However, it should be noted that increased vehicle movements as a result of new parking garages and the conference centre will vastly exceed that of cycling for many years to come. VACC believes cyclists will continue to use waterfront Road regardless of whether there are bike lanes. However, they will be increasingly at risk of injury.

The VACC has been involved in numerous cycling infrastructure projects, some initiated by VACC (improved cycling access to YVR) and some in cooperation with the city and province (Lions Gate, downtown cycling paths, Canada Line Bridge). VACC members are well represented on the City of Vancouver's Bicycle Advisory Committee and can draw on a large pool of cycling experience as well as involvement in infrastructure development. The VACC could give valuable assistance in assessing the feasibility of bike lanes on Waterfront Road.

We look forward to an opportunity to further discuss this proposal with you.

Sincerely,

Arno Schortinghuis,

President,

Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition

Email: arno@telus.net

Phone: 604-325-1158

Cc: Darrell Desjardin, VPA Environmental Programs

Patrick McLaughlin, VPA Planning and Development

Anne McMullin, VPA Corporate Communications and Public Affairs

Tom Timm, General Manager of Engineering Services, City of Vancouver

VACC contact person: Gertjan J. Hofman

