



August 21, 2023

To: Office of the Mayor and Council, City of Burnaby Transportation
Cc: Jerry Dobrovolny, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer (jerry.dobrovolny@metrovancover.org)
Cheryl Nelms, General Manager, Project Delivery (cheryl.nelms@metrovancover.org)

City of Burnaby
Office of the Mayor and Council
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2
Canada

Subject: Request to Upgrade Winston St. Painted Bike Lanes to All, Ages, and Abilities (AAA) Protected Bike Lanes in conjunction with Metro Vancouver sewer upgrades

Dear Honourable Mayor Hurley and Members of the City Council,

I am writing for the Burnaby Local Committee of HUB Cycling, a dedicated cycling advocacy organization committed to promoting safe and accessible cycling infrastructure in the Metro Vancouver area. We commend the City of Burnaby for its continued efforts in advancing active transportation and fostering a sustainable urban environment.

I am writing to strongly advocate for upgrading the existing painted bike lanes on Winston St. to AAA-protected bike lanes. As you know, Winston St. is a vital component of the Central Valley Greenway, playing a pivotal role as a key connection through Burnaby since its establishment in 2009. The greenway has become an integral part of the transportation network, facilitating seamless travel for people cycling between communities and promoting sustainable commuting alternatives. Winston St. also connects the Brentwood Town Centre to the Lougheed Town Centre.

While we acknowledge the provision of painted bike lanes on this approximately 4 km section of Winston St. between Sperling Ave. and Brighton Ave., we believe the time has come to reimagine and improve the cycling infrastructure on this important route. The existing painted lanes, although a step in the right direction, no longer suffice to meet the evolving needs and safety concerns of the cycling community. Winston St. is also used by commercial vehicles and vehicles bypassing Lougheed Hwy and is not comfortable for All Ages and Abilities. The alternative east-west cycling route along Lougheed Hwy is a 70 km/h speed limit zone along a painted bike lane and is not a viable alternative for All Ages and Abilities.

With the Metro Vancouver sewer upgrades on Winston St. scheduled to be completed next year, we see this as a unique opportunity for the City of Burnaby to take advantage of the sewer project's conclusion



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and use it as a springboard to install AAA protected bike lanes along Winston St. By incorporating AAA cycling infrastructure into the post-sewer project phase, the city can efficiently allocate resources, minimize disruptions, and ensure a cost-effective implementation of this essential upgrade.

Here are several key reasons why upgrading Winston St. to AAA protected bike lanes is crucial:

1. **Safety and Confidence:** AAA protected bike lanes provide a physical separation between cyclists and motor vehicles, significantly enhancing safety and inspiring greater confidence among cyclists of all skill levels.
2. **Encouraging Active Transportation and Reducing Vehicle Kilometers Traveled:** Upgraded cycling infrastructure will encourage more individuals to choose cycling as a viable and sustainable mode of transportation, reducing traffic congestion and promoting public health and well-being.
3. **Accessibility and Inclusivity:** AAA protected bike lanes cater to a diverse range of people cycling, including children, seniors, and people with varying abilities, making cycling a more inclusive and accessible option for transportation.
4. **Environmental Benefits:** Encouraging active transportation aligns with Burnaby's commitment to climate action, as it helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fosters a greener, more sustainable city.
5. **Healthier and Engaged Workforce:** Employees who bike to work tend to have better mental health and are more productive. Studies show that commuting to work by bike lowers stress and increases energy levels, attention, and focus.

We firmly believe that the upgrade to AAA protected bike lanes on Winston St. will yield numerous benefits for the community and contribute to a healthier, more vibrant, and livable city. This is a prime opportunity to make Winston St. a shining example of progressive urban planning and active transportation.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. We remain optimistic that the City of Burnaby, with its commitment to sustainability and community well-being, will seize this opportunity to transform this approximately 4 km section of Winston St. into a model cycling corridor for the entire region, and finally enable the Central Valley Greenway to truly become All Ages and Abilities along its entirety.

Thank you,

Jasper Tam
Infrastructure Lead
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About HUB Cycling

HUB Cycling is a charitable not for profit organization that has spent over 25 years removing barriers to cycling in Metro Vancouver, while cultivating the health, environmental, and economic benefits that active transportation can bring. HUB has educated thousands of people, motivated thousands more, and championed improvements that #UnGapTheMap to create a connected cycling network. HUB Cycling's mission is to get more people cycling more often. HUB Cycling has close to 3,000 members and more than 45,000 direct supporters. HUB Cycling has 10 volunteer committees across Metro Vancouver that encourage cycling for all ages and abilities (AAA) in municipalities across Metro Vancouver. For more information, visit bikehub.ca.