

Your Cycling Connection

February 22, 2021

bikehub.ca

Renate Sitch Senior TravelSmart Specialist Translink (by email) cc: <u>gondola@translink.ca</u>

Dear Renate

Re: Burnaby Mountain/SFU Gondola Plans

We write today to express our support for the ongoing investigation into a gondola running from the Lake City Way Skytrain station, to SFU on Burnaby Mountain. We represent the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) of our HUB Cycling Board. RAC considers regional issues, working together with our Local Committees on local issues. We consider this project to have regional significance, because of people traveling from across Metro Vancouver to access SFU, the potential operating cost savings to Translink as a regional transportation provider, and also the tourism potential.

We are strong proponents of a multi modal approach to local transportation. Combining walking and cycling with transit greatly expands the usefulness of the total system for many people. An example is that people who may otherwise cycle to SFU can be deterred by the climb up the hill. A gondola that accommodates bikes within the cars would address this, and as such would further accelerate the shift to more active transportation.

The implementation of a gondola would also greatly reduce bus volumes on this route, making it more comfortable for those who do choose to cycle. As a result there are clear benefits to those who would not themselves use the new system, beyond the potential environmental benefits related to emissions and energy efficiency.

We encourage Translink to continue to explore this concept, and would like to be involved as stakeholders. Please include us as the primary HUB Cycling contacts for further discussions and engagement opportunities.

Sincerely

Jeff Leigh and Julie Facchin Co-Chairs, Regional Advisory Committee, HUB Cycling jcleigh@telus.net julie.facchin@gmail.com

About HUB Cycling

HUB Cycling is a charitable not for profit organization that has spent over 20 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 <u>#UnGapTheMap</u> 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 40,000 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.