2022 Action Plan HUB Cycling Vancouver UBC Local Committee

HUB Mission: Get more people cycling, more often.

From the HUB Cycling 2020-2025 Strategic Plan

Values to focus on:

Community, Sustainability, Collaboration, Inclusivity, Innovation, Responsibility

Goals, with a focus on those deemed most applicable to our Local Committee

- Achieve an expanded cycling network, focused on infrastructure comfortable for most people.
- A network of strong Local Committees
- Strengthened relationships with the communities we serve.
- Increased cycling among groups that may face social, cultural, and or financial barriers.
- Better capture and utilize data that supports evidence-based decision making.

Key Local Committee Actions & Successes from 2021

- Continued with virtual meetings due to the pandemic. Our LC held 10 meetings with continued strong attendance and much increased attendee participation due to the virtual format (eg chat window). Our LC mailing list now has 260 members. Continued with efforts to leverage the impact of our LC members who don't regularly attend meetings, with calls to action and current consultations mailings.
- Ongoing involvement with CoV Engineering and Planning. Note that overall, public engagement initiatives were substantially reduced during the pandemic.
- Hosted an LC guest speaker on inequities in Vancouver's cycling network
- Ongoing involvement with the Vancouver Parks Board re Kits Beach Park path improvements, the Stanley Park protected lanes, longer-term plans to reduce vehicle traffic volumes in Stanley Park, and the John Hendry Park renewal plan.
- Assessment Rides and Reports completed for the Dumfries Bikeway, Central Valley Greenway, Ontario Bikeway, and the Stanley Park Drive interim lanes.
- Completion of the Richards St bikeway and related works on Pacific Blvd.
- Construction of the Smithe St Bikeway
- Completion of the Haro St Bikeway, connecting Smithe St through to Chilco
- Completion of improvements to the Ontario Bikeway at 5th, 7th, and 16th.
- Completion of the 10th Ave improvements between Willow and Cambie
- Completion of the improvements to the Beach Ave Bikeway
- Engaged with MoTI on improved bikeways to UBC, following on from MoTI's new Cycling Gap List, which identified all MoTI routes to UBC as deficient.
- Updated our LC Priority Gap List, mapped all route segments, and merged the data with the State of Cycling route inventory and assessment data, showing all LC priority gaps in the context of assessed current AT infrastructure.
- Current working groups include Cycling in Parks, Broadway Subway, Assessment Rides, Cargo Bikes and Freight, the Arbutus Greenway, and the East Van Greenway.

2021 Action Plans

Continuously improve committee functioning

Work to make LC meetings relevant and valuable for all attendees. Post documents promptly and provide links to more information. Plan to hold 10 meetings in 2022. Plan out our future meeting formats, considering virtual meetings, in person meetings, and a combination of both (most likely). Transition to some in-person meetings as opportunities arise. Maintain the Current Consultations list (updated twice monthly) to encourage LC member participation in City consultations, particularly those requiring expressions of public support to be more likely to be approved by staff and council. Agendas will be distributed in the week prior to meetings; minutes will be distributed promptly and posted online for public access. Committee email responses will be timely. Ensure agendas don't get too bloated, focus on working groups that are functioning as independent teams with progress between LC meetings. Bring in LC guest speakers when appropriate. Respond to all new committee attendee email enquiries and expressions of interest; invite members to attend a meeting and follow up with them at meetings and afterwards to improve our onboarding.

Strengthen working groups

Focus on those working groups with identified leaders and regular team activity, especially those active between monthly LC meetings. Continue to encourage people to step forward for work on specific issues, spreading the load among more committee members. Utilize the working group structure to balance the workload between the chair and other LC members.

Working Group – Assessment Rides

Plan to hold four additional assessment rides this year, with reports completed and submitted on each one. Focus on current LC top infrastructure priorities, as well as identified City projects as they come up, and ensure that there is a committee position developed for each one. Look back at completed projects and do follow up assessment rides where appropriate. Following submission of assessment ride reports, meet with City staff to review and discuss the next steps.

Working Group- Cycling in Parks

Engage with both city staff and Park Board commissioners and staff while pushing for improvements on the Seaside South Greenway (seawall) from Vanier Park through the Kits Beach area. Promote the completion of this section with the public, the City, and Commissioners. Work to ensure that the interim protected lanes in Stanley Park are made permanent, as part of the plan for reducing vehicle traffic in the park. Engage on other park improvement opportunities as they are identified (eg John Hendry Park)

Working Group- Arbutus Greenway

Engage with the City and the public in the planning for permanent Greenway facilities, and on interim improvements until contracts are awarded for the permanent improvements. Promote improved connections at either end of this route, to the Seaside Greenway, Granville Bridge Connector project, and Kent Ave Bikeway. Identify safety issues with the current temporary path and follow up with City staff, particularly with intersections.

Working Group – Broadway Subway and Broadway Plan

Continue to engage with the CoV on the Broadway Planning process, advocating for a more complete street that includes cycling infrastructure on Broadway, and connecting to the new subway stations. Continue to engage with the Broadway Subway project team, on detours and roadwork. Monitor construction impacts and work to mitigate.

Working Group - Municipal Election

Prepare for the fall 2022 election. Compile information on the voting records of incumbents for items related to Active Transportation. Distribute questions to candidates and publish responses.

Ongoing City Bikeway Improvement Plans

Continue to engage with the public and the CoV consultation processes on improvements planned throughout 2022, including the Bute Greenway, the Portside Greenway, the Central Valley Greenway near Commercial Drive, the Drake St bikeway, the Granville Connector, Ridgeway/Midtown improvements, the Ontario Bikeway south of 49th, 14th Ave, as well as other routes identified by the City from time to time. Push for the CoV to address Kent Ave issues already included in the 2022 capital investment plan. Promote the use of new pavement markings, with green paint, for local street bikeways. Push for improvements to UBC with MoTI, building on the MoTI priority gap list and engagement work that has commenced.

Top Infrastructure Improvement Opportunities

Maintain our Gap Priority List process (portfolio management) and enter all Vancouver/UBC gaps brought forward, adding items as the year progresses and new issues arise. Update the Gap Priority List quarterly as action is taken by the City and other agencies on various items. Maintain prototype maps of our Gap Priority List along with maps of the SoC assessed routes to further identify priority gaps.

Work with Property Developers

Continue to work with property developers on projects that have a focus on improving cycling, whether through the funding of improved bike lanes or within the development itself. Work with the Bay Building development team on their concept for a 1500 bike parkade in downtown Vancouver (Georgia and Granville), addressing a critical shortage of secure bicycle parking downtown

RAC Liaison

Ensure ongoing coordination with the HUB Cycling Board Regional Advisory Committee. Participate in RAC region-wide initiatives such as #ungapthemap and represent the Vancouver UBC Local Committee. Provide an RAC update at each Local Committee meeting.

Liaison with other Local Committees

Maintain communications with other Local Committees. Participate in workshops and all committee meetings held by HUB staff to share best practices across all local committees.

Relationship Management (City Council & staff, UBC, MoTI, Translink)

Build and maintain strong relationships with relevant government departments and elected officials to present HUB Cycling positions and improve alignment. This includes CoV staff in Engineering, Transportation Planning, City Planning, Greenest City/Smart City teams, Climate Emergency Action Plan team, and various special project teams. The relationship with City staff remains positive, with CoV teams reaching out for LC input, and agreeing to present at LC meetings. Build relationships with key councillors and Park Board commissioners. Engage with authorities at UBC, including UBC planning, UEL, and MoTI to address identified gaps in the bikeway network.