



December 7, 2016

Joe McLeod, Vancouver Park Board

Re: Proposed Changes to Kitsilano Beach Park Bicycle Path

Dear Joe;

HUB Cycling is a charitable organization that works to make cycling better through education, events and collaboration. We are Metro Vancouver's leader in making cycling an attractive choice for everyone. The Vancouver UBC Local Committee of HUB Cycling has a Working Group of volunteers focused on the Seaside Greenway, and we write today to provide input into the planning process for the proposed bicycle path in Kitsilano Beach Park near the corner of Cornwall and Balsam. We also refer to our previous letter of August 16, 2016 on this topic, attached.

We are concerned about the safety of people at the intersection as it connects the Seaside Greenway on Balsam to the shared path through Kitsilano Beach Park. The desire line at that corner represents what people walking and on bikes have created to mitigate that risk.

We support Option 1, of the two options presented, as it most closely matches the expressed desires of people moving through the area. While Option 2 achieves a similar safety benefit, there is the possibility that people would not follow it and would return to the worn grass path.

We would like to see this option implemented soon. We also believe that the path it connects to, parallel to Cornwall and running down to Yew, can easily be made more safe. Plants should be trimmed back to the edge of the paved path, as they unreasonably constrict movement and contribute to unnecessary conflicts between path users. Consideration could also be given to designating this path for people on bikes only, as there are alternate pedestrian paths (and a sidewalk along Cornwall) for people walking. Pedestrian crossings could be painted on the path near Vine to improve safety for those accessing the crosswalk.

We look forward to future discussions on the connections to this path at the east end, to avoid the dangerous diversion through the vehicle parking lot.

Thank you for your work on this issue, and please feel free to contact us at any time to discuss it.

Sincerely,

Jeff Leigh
Chair, Vancouver UBC Local Committee, HUB Cycling

Attachment: HUB Letter of August 2 2016 re Seaside Greenway