

HUB Cycling Richmond meeting minutes

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017 • 7:00-8:30 pm

Waves Coffee Shop

No. 3 Road and Westminster Highway, Richmond



Attendance: Andrew, Donna, David Grigg, Ruth Grigg

- Regrets: Graham, Derek, Debbie, Ellie, Stephen

- 1. Presentation about proposed routing of Great Blue Heron Way, part of the Trans Canada Trail system (David Grigg)**
- 2. Spring Bike to Work Week (May 29-June 4).**
- 3. Committee Budget- Update**
- 4. HUB Richmond Letter to City Hall- Update**
- 5. Updates on the UnGapTheMap Campaign**
- 6. Next Meeting- Tuesday April 25th, 2017**

- 1. Presentation about proposed routing of Great Blue Heron Way, part of the Trans Canada Trail system (David Grigg, presentation summary below)**

David Grigg: "At the last HUB Richmond meeting on March 28th I spoke about my interactions (attendance at Annual Public Meetings, YVR 2037 Plan open houses and advocacy letter writing) with YVR to improve cycling amenities on Sea Island. My primary goal is to secure improved trail amenities along the Middle Arm west side dyke from #2 Bridge to the Sea Island Way Moray Bridge as an important component of the Great Blue Heron Way (GBHW) which will reach from the Peace Arch border crossing to Vancouver via Delta and Richmond. The GBHW is to also become an integral part of the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) system. Trails BC/ TCT have been supportive and involved with the GBHW for at least the last five years and have also been advocating for a Middle Arm westside trail.

The main purpose of my attendance at Tuesday's HUB meeting was to share information. I did not want to contradict or diminish the importance of the HUB Gap audit in setting priorities when speaking at YVR public meetings. (I fully accept the primacy role of HUB Richmond). However, during our meeting a brief review of the Richmond Gap_audit [UnGap List: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1o0Twh9C5gl92EDhA2OojGNuYtE4ACqWTMWV7NyOVY-s/edit#gid=1931269859>] indicated that Sea Island did not appear to be considered as part of the HUB Gap audit-but the audit appeared to be focused on Lulu Island only. For instance, the gaps within the trails around Burkville and along side Russ Baker Way, leading to the multi use underpass below the Moray and Airport Connector bridge, were not shown. It was also noted that the routes north of Sea Island Way leading to the Canada Line Bridge from Sea Island Way were not marked by a Gap red line either-perhaps indicating some dichotomy as to the best routing from Cambie Rd to the Canada Line Bridge via and across so many traffic busy

streets. Our discussion then broadened to the pros and cons of closing the gaps on the east side versus west of the Middle Arm between #2 Bridge and Sea Island Way.

The suggestion I posited for future consideration by the committee was to consider a larger view of both Lulu and Sea Islands as a cycling Mecca, as had already been proposed by Derek Williams (HUB Richmond Chair) where a complete circuit could be aggregated by plugging some of the gaps within the Shell Rd/ South Arm Dyke Rd/ Sea Dyke and Railway Ave Greenway/ Middle Arm River Rd and Bridgeport Trail system. The rationale for focusing on closing gaps to form a complete a circuit is based on provision of a cycling route where the 8 to 80 family cyclists could recreate in safety. Further, such a circuit would be a very attractive destination ride for Lower Mainlanders and would promote cycle tourism in Richmond and,as such, the HUB Gap analysis would provide the primary information for the circuit improvements. The alternative was the status quo whereby we are at the mercy of future development and infrastructure improvements for gap closures-a process that may last decades.”

Action Item: HUB Richmond/ YVR committee members to provide feedback on the proposed routing of Great Blue Heron Way (part of the Trans Canada Trail) at the next HUB Richmond committee meeting.

2. Spring Bike to Work Week (May 29-June 4).

Registration now open: <https://bikehub.ca/bike-events/bike-to-work-week>.

Action Item: HUB Richmond volunteers needed to table the following celebration station (sponsored by the City of Richmond):

Tuesday, May 30th (630am-900am), South Side of the Canada Line Bridge

Email richmond@bikehub.ca for more details and to sign up.

3. Committee Budget- Update

The 2016-17 committee budget of \$400 has now expired (~\$40 remained).

Any forthcoming committee costs will now be taken out of the 2017-18 Committee Budget.

Action Item: Donna to see if the HUB Richmond Committee would like to provide free ‘giveaways’ (ex. reflector strips, bells, etc.) at the Canada Line (south side) Bike to Work Week Celebration Station on May 30th. The City of Richmond will be supplying free municipal bike maps. Email btwwcoordinator@gmail.com (Mathieu) for more details.

4. HUB Richmond Letter to City Hall- Update

Ellie and Andrew have provided final comments on the letter.

Action Item: Additional comments /delivery of the letter is under the responsibility of the HUB Richmond Committee.

5. Updates on the UnGapTheMap Campaign (Andrew, UnGapTheMap Campaign Coordinator)

A. UnGapTheMap Video Launched!

We teamed up with videographer Spencer Kovatz to highlight what often happens when we encounter a gap in the cycling network. Over 40% of people want to cycle but currently don't and for many of them it's because they are scared of unsafe route conditions. Our video features HUB members cycling on a safe, protected pathway, only to have their ride suddenly end when a gap appears on their journey.

View and share the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjuMoUoQ5ok>

B. UnGapTheMap info cards are hot off the press!

Attached is a handy info card which summarises the campaign and the steps we're taking. Let Ellie or Andrew know how many printed (postcard sized) copies your committee would like

C. Let the Leaders know you want Cycle Highways in Metro Vancouver!

We've launched a letter writing campaign for cycle highways, a bold and innovative type of infrastructure that would provide riders of all ages and abilities direct, paved, and lit routes that would connect communities and destinations over longer distances.

Cycle highways are already shifting people out of other congested modes while reducing Co2 emissions in countries such as Denmark, Germany, and the Netherlands and would be a suitable solution for many of Metro Vancouver's highest priority gaps.

You can help us ungap Metro Vancouver's cycling network by showing your support for cycle highways here: http://www.bccc.bc.ca/metro_vancouver_cycle_highways .

6. Next Meeting- Tuesday April 25th, 2017

The next HUB Richmond committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 25th from 7pm-830pm at Waves Coffee, London Plaza, 5951 No. 3 Rd. Spread the word and see you there!