

March 31, 2021

Honourable Bowinn Ma
Minister of State for Infrastructure
Province of British Columbia

Pattullo Bridge Replacement Project – New Westminster Facilities and Connections

Minister Ma,

Thank you for your letter of December 16, 2020, regarding the Pattullo Bridge Replacement project's active transportation design advancements. We appreciate the time and consideration given.

We had a meeting with TiCorp's Pattullo Bridge Replacement team on March 24th, where they updated us on some design changes they have made. We are encouraged they have agreed to build an overpass from Agnes Street to the bridge deck, straighten the approach to the Agnes-Royal overpass and improve many aspects of the McBride Blvd multi-use paths.

Regarding the Central Valley Greenway (CVG), the project team performed an assessment of three routes in addition to their original design and showed that more direct routes were possible, however they argued that these more direct routes were not worthwhile improvements over their existing design. We disagree and respectfully submit that the standard of comparison needs to be the well-established existing route which should have been a consideration/constraint in the overall project design from the beginning. When comparing the proposed design to what currently exists in this section of the CVG, there is no question that this project will spend a lot of money to deliver an inferior active transportation product.

We are concerned that the degradation of this widely used route will discourage users and be counterproductive to the active transportation initiatives and strategies that the province, municipalities and citizens are working towards.

We respectfully request an opportunity to meet with you to further discuss how this design can be rectified so that it properly serves the current and future users it is being built for.

Sincerely,

Andrew Feltham, Co-Chair
Garey Carlson, Co-Chair
HUB New Westminster Committee
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c/c: Jennifer Whiteside, MLA for New Westminster
Mayor and Council, City of New Westminster