

E-mail to Mayor and Council

Date: June 12, 2017

Re: 2016-240-RZ; 22638 - 119 Avenue and 22633 Selkirk Avenue
Council meeting June 13

Mayor and Council,

With respect to the above development proposal, I would like to point out that the issue of cycling connectivity on Selkirk Ave. has not yet been satisfactorily resolved.

As you know, Selkirk Avenue is a designated bike route according to the 2014 Strategic Transportation Plan, and we would like to keep it that way in order to avoid yet another unnecessary zigzag in our route.

We have been told that another option would be to reroute the Selkirk bikeway via a "scenic route": i.e. the back lane meandering through this development, however this back lane is not really meant to be a utilitarian cycling corridor and will require cyclists to slow down to the speed of a pedestrian. It is obvious from the discussions that have continued to come up among Council members over the past eight years regarding cycling on the sidewalk, that separation of cyclists and pedestrians is much preferred. The Active Transportation Advisory Committee will in fact now be recommending to ban cyclists off the sidewalks on several streets in the Town Core. It doesn't make much sense to then specifically design bike routes to be shared with pedestrians in the town core.

It was also suggested that a third option would be to reroute the bikeway via 119th Ave., which is already a designated bike route. No bike lanes are planned for 119th Ave. either, despite the planned densification in the area. Cyclists will need to take the lane (ride in the middle of it) on 119th Ave. due to curb-side parking. This option would mean that we would lose a section of a direct, designated bike route on Selkirk Ave.

We would like to stick with option #1, which is to maintain Selkirk Ave. as a safe, designated bike route, as shown in the Transportation Plan. This could be made possible by making Selkirk between 227th Street and 226th Street one-way for cars, with bike lanes in both directions (buffered where parking is provided).

Thank you!

With kind regards,

Jackie Chow
HUB Cycling
Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Chapter

JC/IC/EO