

October 21, 2015

SENT VIA EMAIL

Lisa Slakov and Jeff Leigh, Co-chairs HUB Cycling Vancouver/UBC Local Committee 1-828 West 8th Avenue Vancouver, BC V5Z 1E2

Dear Lisa and Jeff,

Re: Seaside Greeway Cycling Path in Kitsilano Beach Park (near Balsam/Cornwall)

Thank you for contacting the Vancouver Park Board Commissioners on behalf of HUB Cycling Vancouver/UBC Local Committee regarding the section of the Seaside Greenway at the west end of Kitsilano Beach Park near Balsam Street and Cornwall Avenue.

Our new Board has been very supportive of cycling improvement initiatives, including the widening of the Stanley Park Causeway. Like HUB, the Park Board has also been concerned about the safety and comfort for people walking and biking on the Seaside Greenway at Kits Beach for quite some time. In particular, we are most concerned about the safety of pedestrians, especially older adults and children, walking through the park in the area you referenced near Balsam and Cornwall.

For this reason, we directed our Operations staff to convert the pathway worn by cyclists back to grass, and as you noted, we have closed this area to bicycles. Park Board staff are working with the Active Transportation Group of the City's Engineering Department to improve signs and paint markings on the existing designated bicycle routes. They are also reviewing opportunities to improve conditions on the adjacent streets and street right of ways so that the critical improvements you describe as needed can be accommodated outside of the park.

At this time, to ensure the safety of pedestrians and to protect valuable green space, we prefer that no new bicycle pathways be introduced in Kitsilano Beach Park. We recommend that you continue your collaborations with the Engineering Department and Active Transportation Policy Council to further additional on-street improvements for bicycles in the vicinity of Kitsilano Beach Park.

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Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation 2099 Beach Avenue Vancouver, British Columbia Canada V6G 1Z4



Thank you again for your interest in Kitsilano Beach Park and concerns for park patron safety. If you have any further questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to directly contact Tiina Mack at 604-257-8471. Tiina is our Manager of Park Development and she is working very closely with the City's Active Transportation Group.

Regards,

aldmbumley

Malcolm Bromley General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

/tm/el/clc

Copy to: PB Commissioners PB Senior Management Team Tiina Mack, Manager of Park Development Active Transportation Policy Council

