

From: Lisa Slakov <lslavkov@telus.net>

Sent: Sunday, December 4, 2022 11:15 PM

To: PBcommissioners@vancouver.ca

Cc: Jeff Leigh <jeff.c.leigh@gmail.com>; 'Park Board GM's Office' <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>

Subject: HUB Cycling Opposes Motion Regarding Stanley Park Bike Lane

Dear Commissioners,

HUB Cycling urges you to vote against the motion coming forward at the Dec 5th meeting: “Stanley Park Drive Temporary Bike Lane – Next Steps”. Although we understand that some Commissioners have indicated that there will be another bike lane installed by spring with 2 lanes of motor vehicle traffic, we don’t know how this could be accomplished. We believe the current staff-run Mobility Study provides the best up-to-date information on Stanley Park mobility. We are deeply concerned that the motion seeks to “reframe and otherwise repurpose” the study, which is essentially ready to come to the Park Board for a decision after a year of research, analysis and work on the best options for excellent, equitable and accessible Stanley Park mobility.

Aside from the fact that we have a rigorous Mobility Study almost ready to be presented to Park Board, we believe there are many other reasons that the bike lane shouldn’t be removed now. These include:

- There is great support for the lane. Multiple surveys have shown that Vancouverites like the lane
- Removing the lane costs money, and this is a time of year when Park Drive is much more lightly used by both motorists and people on bikes but a time when people biking very much need the protection from cars in more challenging conditions
- With climate change, the seawall has been closed for months at a time in recent years. Part of the seawall will be closed on Dec 5 for at least 2 weeks. Without the roadway lane, that leaves no protected space for people to bike
- The Park Board has an opportunity with this lane to be contributing to the City’s Climate Emergency Action Plan by encouraging other modes to access the park and thus helping to address one of the 2 biggest sources of carbon pollution in Vancouver. I have heard arguments that this lane is only used by people cycling for recreation, but I and many others use it for transportation as well; I use it frequently when accessing the North Shore as well as for getting to locations in the park.

Please vote against the motion, find out what staff recommend in the Stanley Park Mobility Study, and act based on hard research and analysis.

Sincerely,

Lisa Slakov

Park Board Liaison - HUB Cycling Vancouver/UBC Local Committee