



Your Cycling Connection

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May 25, 2021

Paul Storer, Director of Transportation, City of Vancouver (by email)

Re: Active Transportation along the Seaside Greenway near Kitsilano Park

Dear Paul:

We write to request your urgent attention to the lack of cycling facilities along the Seaside Greenway near Kits Beach Park. As we have discussed many times, this area is a critical gap in the network of safe and comfortable cycling routes in Vancouver. We are appreciative of the temporary removal of parking on the west side of Arbutus St, making that section safer for people cycling. Now, however, with the recent actions by the Parks Board to provide a temporary protected lane through the Kits Beach parking lot, and some path improvements within the park, we see ever more people taking advantage of this route. What is required now is attention to the on-street Seaside Bypass route, as user volumes increase, especially as we head into summer.

When people on bikes exit the parking lot today, heading eastbound, they are dumped onto Arbutus St. We have had numerous discussions with the Kits Point Residents Association (KPRI) on the need for a safe route from the parking lot to Ogden (to connect to Vanier Park) and they set out to document user volumes. The KPRI counts showed a peak hour cycle volume of 848. The peak hour vehicle volume was 600. Active Transportation mode share was 71%. The KPRI data is available [here](#). The numbers are quite incredible. This is designated as one of our slow streets, but barriers are constantly moved. The resulting traffic, especially at the stop sign in Figure 1, is chaotic.

We have an opportunity, in advance of formal consultation on this route, to implement a cone protected temporary lane, exactly as was done on Beach Ave, and for remarkably similar reasons. The lane would need to be sufficiently wide to accommodate expected user volumes, and it would relieve pressure on the waterfront seaside route. It would be temporary.



Figure 1 - Arbutus St at Kits Beach Park – Photo Credit KPRI

A proposed route for this temporary lane is shown in green, in Figure 2.

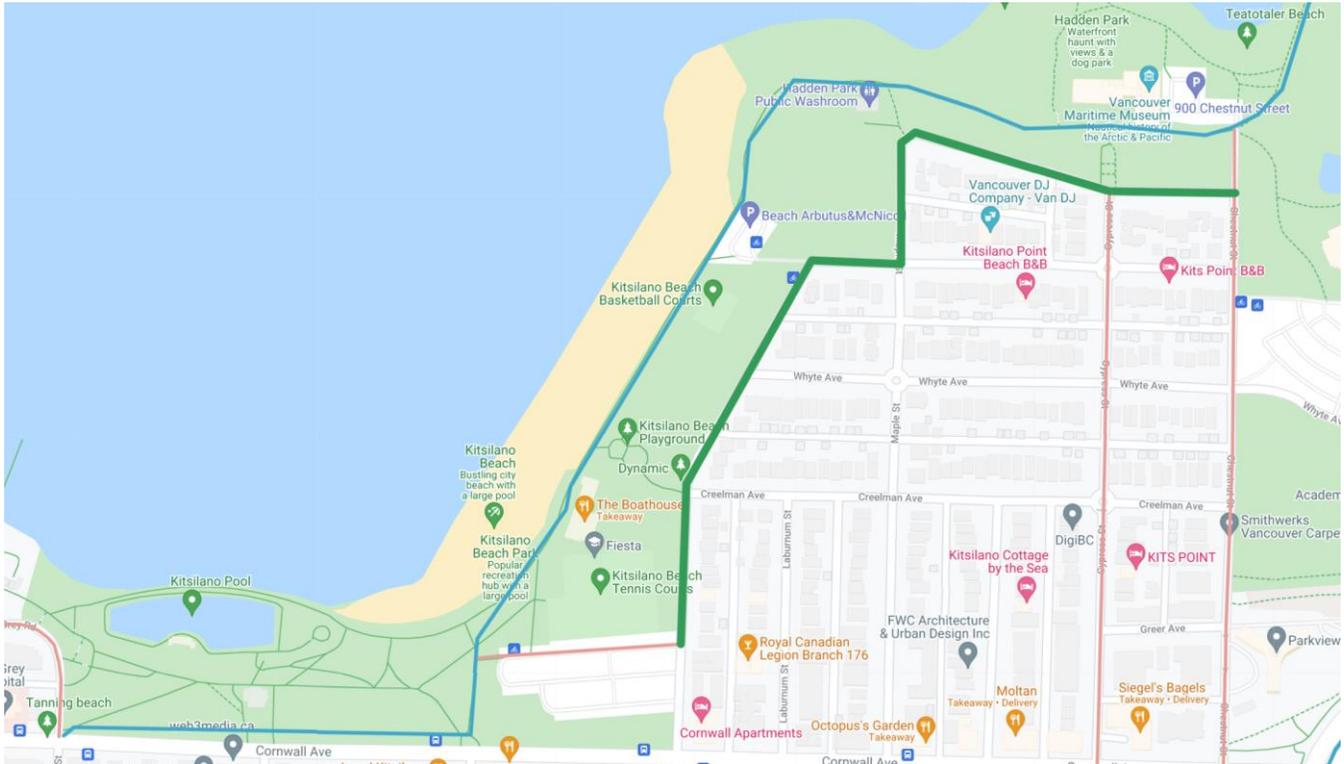


Figure 2 - Potential Temporary Protected Cycle Lane from Ogden to the Kits Beach parking lot

Thank you for your consideration of this issue. We see the user volumes rising dramatically on this route and are concerned for the safety of users. A temporary protected lane would increase comfort and safety and given that vehicle parking is currently restricted along this route, should be relatively easy to implement quickly.

Sincerely,

Jeff Leigh
Chair, Vancouver UBC Local Committee, HUB Cycling
vancouver@bikehub.ca

cc: Adam Smith, KPRA (by email)

About HUB Cycling

HUB Cycling is a charitable not for profit organization that has spent over 20 years removing barriers to cycling in Metro Vancouver, while cultivating the health, environmental, and economic benefits that active transportation can bring. HUB has educated thousands of people, motivated thousands more, and championed improvements such as [#UnGapTheMap](#) to create a connected cycling network. HUB Cycling's mission is to get more people cycling more often. HUB Cycling has close to 3,000 members and more than 40,000 direct supporters. HUB Cycling has 10 volunteer committees across Metro Vancouver that encourage cycling for all ages and abilities (AAA) in municipalities across Metro Vancouver. For more information, visit bikehub.ca.