



January 9, 2017

Mayor and Council  
District of North Vancouver  
355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver BC V7N 4N5

cc: Rick Danyluk, Manager - Financial Planning  
budget@dnv.org

### **District of North Vancouver Draft Financial Plan 2017-2021**

Dear Mayor and Council,

HUB is a charitable organization working to get more people cycling, more often. We believe that more cycling means healthier, happier, more connected communities.

We would like to provide comments on the Transportation and Engineering section of the Draft Financial Plan Workbook, pages 24 and 25.

“The truth about a city’s aspirations isn’t found in its vision. It’s found in its budget.” (Brent Toderian, urban planner)

- a. We appreciate that Active Transportation is listed as a separate item in the capital budget table (p. 25, Table 9).
- b. We would like to see a greater emphasis on active transportation in the Strategic Priorities listed (p. 24). The current list includes the completion of the Spirit Trail, but the protected bike network or other key initiatives are not mentioned that would improve transportation options and reduce over-reliance on car travel.
- c. Consider shifting the transportation budget more toward active transportation to better reflect OCP goals, the target mode share of active transportation, and the underinvestment in active transportation in the past 60 years.

The draft capital budget is split 15% for Active Transportation and 85% for the Road Network (excluding Local Improvements, Major Transportation Projects, Street Lighting and Traffic Operations). We recommend that capital investment in Active Transportation is at least close to the targeted mode share of over



35% in 2030. The proposed 15% budget share for Active Transportation is below the 21% mode share of active transportation in the District in 2011<sup>1</sup>.

For comparison, the City of Vancouver plans to spend significantly more in 2017 on active transportation (\$17.4 million) than on road paving (\$9.6 million)<sup>2</sup>, reflecting the city's commitment to increase non-car transportation.

- d. We encourage the District to put sufficient resources into planning bike infrastructure projects to take advantage of increased outside funding opportunities from TransLink and the province.

TransLink increased bike lane funding to \$29.8 million for 2017-2019 in its proposed 10-year plan. Up to 75% of the cost of bike lane projects are covered. The provincial BikeBC funding increased to \$20 million over the next three years.

We thank council and staff for working diligently on delivering community services including transportation in a sustainable manner, while taking into account changes and growth in our community.

Sincerely,

Antje Wahl  
Member, HUB North Shore  
Committee

Tony Valente  
Chair, HUB North Shore Committee  
[northshore@bikehub.ca](mailto:northshore@bikehub.ca)

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.dnv.org/sites/default/files/edocs/transportation-plan.pdf> (p. 2)

<sup>2</sup> <http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/vancouver-2017-budget.PDF> (p. 243)