



Your Cycling Connection

bikehub.ca



October 7, 2024

Emma Bean
Transportation Design Branch, City of Vancouver
By Email
cc: dunsmuir-melville-upgrades@vancouver.ca

Re: HUB Cycling Feedback on Proposed Dunsmuir-Melville Street Upgrades

Dear Emma

We write to express our strong support for the proposed improvements that will extend the Dunsmuir protected cycling lanes west towards the Stanley Park Causeway, and connect to the seawall paths at Broughton. This is a much needed improvement to our downtown cycling network of streets that are comfortable and safe for most riders. The route has long been on our HUB Cycling priority gap list. Our recommendations for this connection were included in our 2018 letter on the Pender Corridor.¹

We applaud the decision to provide protected lanes next to the new Coal Harbour school, and to connect to the seawall paths. This will support safe routes to school, and the community centre, and will also serve the needs of people riding who want to use the seawall paths to reach Stanley Park. We are also very pleased to see the inclusion of raised crosswalks on Hastings St.

The project display boards² were not clear that the section of bike lane on Dunsmuir from Hornby to Burrard will be physically protected with a concrete curb. This was important to our members. Following our discussion we understand that that is the intent, and we want to thank you for updating the display boards to show this detail.

We do have several recommendations for these improvements

- 1) We note the inclusion of crossings of the bike lane to the bus island on Melville. We support the use of floating bus stop islands here. We do suggest that the number of those crossings be reviewed, as there appear to be a lot of crossings in that section.
- 2) These improvements from Hornby are included in Translink's Major Bikeway Network, recognizing the importance of high quality connections between regional town centres and municipalities. While many recreational riders will likely use the seawall paths to Stanley Park, there are faster sport and commuter riders who want to reach both Stanley Park, and the Lions Gate Bridge. Those people should not be channeled onto the seawall paths through Coal Harbour, as this can create unnecessary conflicts with other path users. A direct connection should be included to the Georgia St cycle lanes for these riders. There is already infrastructure on Cardero, and the block of Hastings from Cardero to Nicola does not have vehicle traffic. This leaves only one block to address, along Hastings from Nicola to

¹ [HUB Cycling Pender Corridor Bikeway Proposal](#), Dec 12 2018

² [Dunsmuir Melville Street Upgrades - Project Display Boards](#), Shape Your City

Broughton. Incorporating protected cycling lanes on this section in to the project would greatly improve the comfort of users of the seawall paths. We understand that there are no signal lights on Hastings at Broughton, Nicola, or Cardero. For that reason, a bidirectional protected lane in the block from Nicola to Broughton may be a concern. If so, unidirectional parking protected lanes, matching up to the unidirectional lanes from Cardero to Nicola, may make more sense in the interim. We will leave it to the design team to determine the best solution, but we do think that channeling faster riders on to the seawall paths is problematic.

Thank you for your work to improve our cycling network. We look forward to seeing these improvements, and are available to discuss this project and our recommendations at your convenience.

Sincerely

Jeff Leigh
Anthony Floyd
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About HUB Cycling

HUB Cycling is a charitable not for profit organization that has spent over 25 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 that [#UnGapTheMap](#) to create a connected cycling network. HUB Cycling's mission is to get more people cycling more often. HUB Cycling has over 4,000 members and more than 65,000 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.