

HUB - New Westminster
Minutes of Hybrid Meeting in Discord and the Ash Street Room
of New Westminster Public Library (Main Branch)
Wednesday September 18, 2024

Present: Shane Griffin, Damian Gryski (left at 7:00), Heidi Hizsa (online), Deb Hughes, Fulton Tom (Minutes), Alexander von Houten (left at 7:14), Robert Wong,

Guests: David Grigg, Great Blue Heron Way Team Member, and Leon Lebrun, Trails BC

Call to order: 6:07 PM

1. Meeting Openers

a) Welcoming newcomers & introductions

b) Check-In

c) Review of Agenda - Add Bike Parking in Shopping Districts and Bike Infrastructure Improvements

2. Advocacy

a) HUB SD40 Bike Friendly Buildings Report - No new information.

b) Youth Advocates - Skwo:wech Elementary School has another parent interested in Go by Bike Week and more kids and parents biking to the school.

c) Construction & Flagging Issues - No new information.

Action: Deb and Heidi will investigate the issue with the City.

d) Sociable Tandem Bike - A recent news broadcast (see <https://globalnews.ca/news/10726250/cycling-without-age-great-outdoors-mobility-challenges/>) highlighted Cycling without Age in Vancouver, which uses a version of a sociable tandem bike.

e) Pathway between Hume Park and Braid Station - No new information

f) Great Blue Heron Way Project - David and Leon described the 140 kilometer multi-use pathway project in which First Nations will play a lead role in decision making and negotiations. More than 60% of the route, which runs between the Peace Arch border crossing and Horseshoe Bay, is already in place. The project will use existing pathways rather than new routes and complete gaps. Business plans have been submitted to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to improve connections such as those between the Peace Arch border crossing and White Rock, YVR and Vancouver, and Ambleside and Horseshoe Bay. The project prioritizes meeting and establishing trust with First Nations; it would also connect First Nations along the route with each other.

More information about the project can be found at Trails BC:
<https://trailsbc.ca/the-great-blue-heron-way-project-background/>.

David and Leon would like HUB-NW and the Downtown BIA to ask the City to prioritize a connection between the Brunette-Fraser Regional Greenway with New Westminster's waterfront.

g) Letter to TransLink - The letter requesting more and better situated bicycle parking at the New Westminster SkyTrain Station is essentially complete after input from HUB Central and will be sent out soon.

h) Bike Parking in Shopping Districts - Robert is concerned with the shortage of bike parking on Sixth Street adjacent to the NWSS Cycling Connector. HUB-NW has identified areas in the City that need bike parking (see page 7 of <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gRO3kdpVmVBwFylcBBkZfcmsErdWkYNRX5h-er6JW78/edit>).

Action: Robert will follow up with the City about HUB-NW's request for more bike parking.

i) Bike Path Improvements - Robert noted two recent bike path improvements: a new multi-use path (approximately 300 meters in length) along McBride Boulevard and paving of the Central Valley Greenway east of Douglas Road.

3. Activities

a) Go by Bike Weeks (Monday September 23 - Sunday October 6) - Members are encouraged to participate in the event's activities and to visit celebration stations for free bike mechanic services and refreshments. One of the activities is a group ride from the Ross Street Gurdwara to the Punjabi Market on Saturday October 5.

b) New West Cultural Crawl by Bike (Sunday October 6) - Robert will lead a ride in Uptown New Westminster to some venues participating in the New West Cultural Crawl beginning at 1 pm. To register, please go to <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/new-west-cultural-crawl-by-bike-tickets-1022261651117>.

c) HUB AGM (Saturday September 21) - Members are encouraged to attend the AGM. For more information and to register, go to <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/hub-cycling-2024-agm-tickets-876869469187?aff=oddtcreator>.

Adjourned: 7:4 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday October 16 at 6 pm