



20 October 2014

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

Re: Traffic Calming for Sunset Boulevard

Dear Mayor and Council,

HUB is a charity that removes barriers to cycling in Metro Vancouver through education, action and events. We want to make cycling an attractive and safe choice for everyone.

The HUB North Shore Committee submits the following comments on the proposed traffic calming for Sunset Boulevard, Local Area Service Bylaw 8093.

Sunset Boulevard is a potentially quiet, safe north-south bike route parallel to Capilano Road, as shown in the excerpt of the North Shore Bike Map (Figure 1, attached). Sunset Boulevard is a designated bike route in the North Vancouver Bicycle Master Plan (Figure 2). It provides cycling access to two schools in the area, Handsworth secondary and Cleveland elementary. Currently, Sunset Boulevard has no cycling facilities.

Despite being a quieter route than Capilano Road, Sunset Boulevard is currently not a safe bike route for people of all ages and abilities. Motor vehicle speeds and volumes are too high on this winding street, especially during morning and afternoon rush hours.

The HUB North Shore Committee strongly supports the proposed speed humps and the raised crosswalk identified for Sunset Boulevard in the staff report to council dated October 8, 2014. To improve safety, we have the following additional recommendations:

1. Implement traffic calming measures before Metro Vancouver starts the water main replacement along Capilano Road. Without traffic calming the growth in traffic on Sunset Boulevard due to road work on Capilano Road, will increase the risk to cyclists and pedestrians.
2. Add bike sharrows on Sunset Boulevard between Emerald Drive and Virginia Crescent through Upper Mackay Creek Park. This section has a significant hill and poor visibility near the north end. The sharrows would make drivers more aware of cyclists on the road.
3. Because it is a key north-south connector and provides access to schools, Sunset Boulevard route should be designated a future all ages and abilities (AAA) bike route. Alternatively, Capilano Road should be an AAA bike route with protected bike lanes.



We encourage the District to identify in the Bicycle Master Plan a set of routes in the Bicycle Master Plan that will form a future AAA bike network. Any repaving and other roadwork, traffic calming or redevelopment could take into account the planned network, thereby implementing the District’s Transportation Plan sooner and more cost effectively.

Sincerely,

Antje Wahl
Chair, North Shore Committee
HUB: Your Cycling Connection
northshore@bikehub.ca

Cc: Alex Milek, Supervisor Transportation Engineering, District of North Vancouver
Erica Geddes, Section Manager Transportation, District of North Vancouver
Steve Ono, Manager Engineering Services/Deputy General Manager, District of North Vancouver
North Shore Safe Routes Advocates (SRA), northshoresra@gmail.com

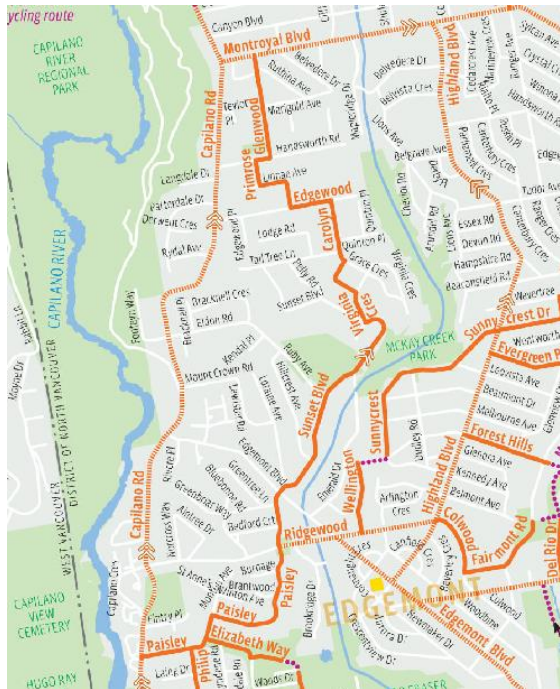


Figure 1: Edgemont area in North Shore Bike Map

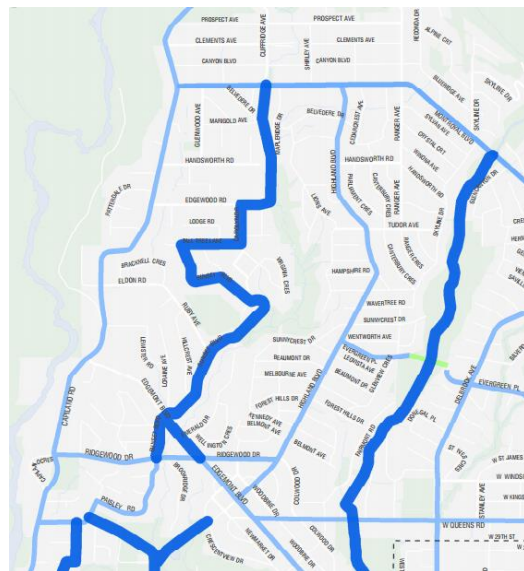


Figure 2: Edgemont area in Map C of North Vancouver Bicycle Master Plan (2012)