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bikehub.ca



Nov 03, 2019

Mayor and Council
City of North Vancouver

Dear Mayor and Councillors:

Re: AAA Route Priorities and Draft Budget

HUB Cycling is a charitable organization working to get more people cycling, more often and making cycling safer and better through education, action and events. More cycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions, relieves traffic congestion and means healthier, happier and more connected communities.

Thank-you to council for asking staff to produce the report prioritizing safe mobility lanes along the established all ages and abilities network.

To attract people to use bicycles for transportation, routes must be direct (not an easier to build scenic route), complete (no gaps) and safe. TransLink has identified corridors with the greatest potential to attract more cyclists based on density of sources (where people live) and destinations (where they work, shop, got to school and play) and this analysis is summarized in their major bike network.

HUB North Shore strongly supports prioritizing completion of the route along the Marine-Main corridor linking to the Seabus through the City to the two bridges. The Esplanade portion of this route is particularly important due to safety issues. We hope that the Esplanade portion of the Main-Marine route can be made as high a priority as possible. We also support prioritizing the Midtown route to the new Casano-Loutet bridge, as well as the South Chesterfield route and connectors from Esplanade up to Moodyville and from 23rd over the Jones overpass.

The City of North Vancouver has declared a climate crisis and would like to address road congestion. Encouraging people to bike for transportation can help mitigate both challenges.

We realize, we can't build a full network overnight. We must prioritize financial resources and are pleased to see in the preliminary draft budget, significant funding in 2021 allocated for street improvements along the Esplanade corridor. This area serves many different roadway users, people cycling, walking, and driving, goods movement and delivery, and is a major transit route and home to many businesses. It is a complex corridor and requires a high level of expertise and care in design and implementation.

We urge council to maintain the lines in the budget to fund Esplanade Street improvements in 2021 as you review budget priorities over the next few months.

Thank-you to council for taking mobility lanes seriously and providing the leadership to prioritize them and funding them to achieve their promise: safe, direct routes which encourage people out of single occupancy vehicles, reducing roadway congestion and greenhouse gas emissions.

Yours sincerely,

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