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Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 11:43 PM
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Subject: HUB Cycling - Recent Meeting with Staff on Parks & Cycling Issues

Dear Commissioners,

We appreciate the work you are doing in this, the last year of the current Commissioners' tenure, and particularly in the face of the severe and costly damage caused by the January storm.

We recently met with senior staff to share info with respect to cycling in parks and we acknowledge the challenges staff are facing with balancing numerous needs in the Parks system. We also concur with SFU Professor Clague who commented after the January storm "Our atmosphere is on steroids, and it's going to be increasingly more active with more moisture. Arguably, you're going to get stronger storms, so storms coinciding with high tide events are really trouble for us. We've got a lot of exposed infrastructure." HUB Cycling believes that we all have a responsibility to **not only learn to cope** with climate change impacts but to also do everything we can to **combat climate change**.

We were very happy to see the **proactive approach taken by the 2020 motion** to explore mobility options to reduce motor vehicle traffic in Stanley Park. We are, however, **very concerned right now that this mobility exploration including the massively popular bike lane on Park Dr, may end up nowhere**. Staff confirmed that the final decision on the study would now not happen until Nov 2022. In addition, staff indicated that the bike lane may not remain in place due to increased tourism and thus motor vehicle traffic in the park this summer. This strategy doesn't align with the minutes of the [Nov 21st /21 meeting](#) in which staff said the mobility study would be ready for a final decision in July and your Board voted to keep the bike lane open until the mobility study was complete. We hope that your Board and staff will continue to seize this moment in time with bold actions to reduce climate emissions (such as is already happening elsewhere, for example in [Central Park](#) in New York) and not only keep the bike lane open until the study is complete but push to get the study completed before Oct 15th.

There are a couple of other projects coming up shortly that we wish to comment on and that we will also be discussing with City Engineering staff for on-street options:

1. **John Hendry Park** – the proposed improvements in the park include using a Multi-Purpose Path (MUP) which research shows to be unsafe when all modes (walking/rolling, biking etc) mix on one path. In addition, this is a commuter route connecting people biking between the 14th Ave bikeway and the BC Parkway which will put additional pressure on that path. There are no plans for cycling connections from that path to highly used facilities like the Community Centre. We understand that there are challenges in this park but people on our committee living in that neighbourhood (next to the area with the highest bike mode share in the city), find it hard to imagine that the many families getting to the park by bike for ball games,

community centre activities, picnics and to teach their little children how to ride, won't continue to bike in many areas of the park.

2. **Kitsilano Seaside Greenway Project** – we are very pleased to see this project moving forward after a thorough and carefully thought out process which we believe has resulted in a good proposal. We are however, very concerned about the Greenway connection in what was originally Phase 4 that got dropped due to archeological concerns in the north end of the park. People who need protection for cycling will be left to make their own way through the north end of the park or on seasonally busy streets. At a minimum, a connection to the existing MUP around the point is required at this point .

Thank you for consideration of these issues and please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments.

Best Regards,

Lisa Slakov

Park Board Liaison - HUB Cycling Vancouver/UBC Local Committee

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