



April 3, 2017

Dear Mayor and Council

Re: Trial Closure of Charleson Road to Non-Transit Vehicles

HUB Cycling is a charitable non-profit, working to get more people cycling more often in Metro Vancouver. We have been involved throughout the public consultation and design phases of the upgrades to the South False Creek Seawall pedestrian and cycling paths, and congratulate the City of Vancouver on moving ahead with this project. We originally proposed to City staff that a significant improvement in conditions for users of the Seawall along this stretch would be brought about by the encouragement of faster riders to use the Seaside Bypass along Charleson Road and Lamey's Mill Road. This was referenced in the staff report to Council but was not commenced at the same time as the other seawall improvements.

We note the recent closure of Charleson Road, between Moberly and Lamey's Mill Road, to other than transit and emergency vehicles, and bicycles. This is a great step forward. We strongly support this move, and feel that it will have a large benefit on conditions on the Seawall paths themselves. Reducing motor vehicle traffic that is cutting through this neighbourhood and upgrading this route to be suitable for All Ages and Abilities (AAA), in combination with way finding signs for people on bikes, will encourage more people riding bikes to use the Seaside Bypass. Motor vehicle operators have a ready alternative to this road, as 6th Avenue is located only 20 m to the south, and while 6th Avenue is not suitable or safe for people riding bikes, is more direct for drivers as it does not have the stop signs that exist near False Creek Elementary School.

Thank you for making this significant improvement expanding our AAA cycling network, and we look forward to seeing the ongoing vehicle counts and future analysis by staff in support of making this road change permanent.

Sincerely,

Jeff Leigh
Chair, Vancouver UBC Local Committee, HUB Cycling