



October 20, 2014

Alan Kerstetter, City of Vancouver

Ross Kenny, City of Vancouver

Devan Fitch, City of Vancouver

Dear Alan, Ross and Devan:

RE: Connection Between the Powell Street Overpass Protected Bikeway and the End of the Mosaic Route

On behalf of the HUB Vancouver/UBC Committee, we would like to address the issue of the lack of connection between the eastern end of the protected bikeway on Powell Street at Clark Drive and the northern end of the Mosaic bike route, at Franklin and Maclean. Our committee members and other cyclists with whom we've been in contact find the lack of connection to be a significant deficit in the cycling connectivity in the area.

In the map below, you can clearly see the gap between the high quality Powell Street Overpass protected bikeway and the relatively safe Mosaic route. In order to travel between these two areas, cyclists must either share space with large trucks or cycle on the sidewalk. Neither of these makes this space easily navigable by cyclists of all ages and abilities, or even by cyclists who are moderately comfortable on the road.



We understand that the overpass was constructed by the Port of Vancouver and was focused on their needs and timeline. We congratulate the City on their efforts with a minimal budget to make the Powell Street Overpass easy to navigate for cyclists, especially on the Alexander Street side of the project. However, as these routes have increasingly drawn cyclists to the



area, it has only increased the need for this short gap to be connected for those cycling in the area.

We have also been approached by a representative of some businesses in the area under discussion who expressed similar concerns about the safety of their volunteers, customers and staff crossing the intersection of Powell St and Maclean Drive. They noted that crossing this intersection presents a serious safety issue for those customers, volunteers and staff who are travelling by bus, bike or on foot and would like a safety feature such as a pedestrian/cyclist controlled crossing light at this intersection.

At the moment, due to dangerous conflicts between road and sidewalk users in this area, we ask that the City implement a short-term solution for the area immediately. (One idea could be to officially make this section's sidewalks be a signed shared cycling and walking space with necessary cautionary wording). Additionally, we ask that the City work with HUB and business and other groups in the area to find a long-term sustainable solution for all ages and abilities of cyclists and pedestrians in the area.

Thank you again for your commitment to reducing cycling injuries and deaths in Vancouver and for your laudable actions to improve Vancouver's cycling network.

Sincerely,

Jeff Leigh and Lisa Slakov

Co-chairs, HUB Vancouver/UBC Committee

Cc: Lynn Guilbault, City of Vancouver

Ben Wells, Shift Delivery