



Your Cycling Connection



bikehub.ca

To: council@pittmeadows.ca

October 4, 2022

**Re: Onni development at Harris Road South;
Need for safe cycling facilities**

Dear Mayor and Council,

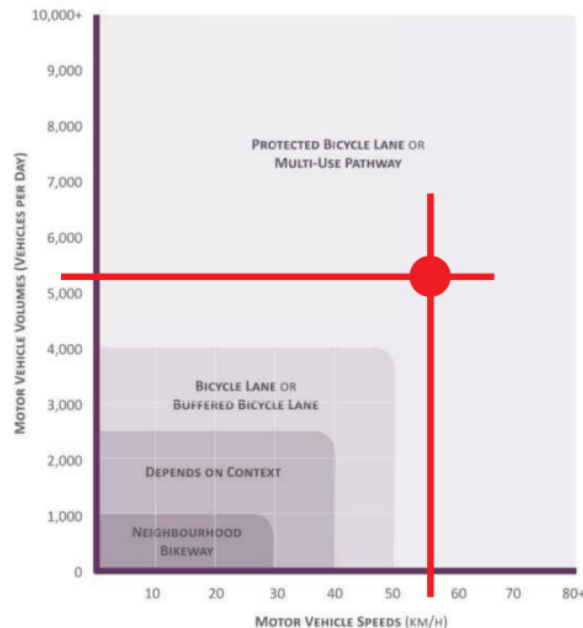
There is a significant active transportation opportunity about to be lost on south Harris Road. Urgent action is required.

Onni should provide or allow the City to provide protected bike lanes from Fraser Way to Fieldstone along Harris before they finish their work on Harris Road in the next couple of weeks. The private developer funds 99% of DCCs and just 1% funding comes from the City.

Congestion is already an issue including many new Amazon delivery vehicles on Pitt Meadows streets. Air quality, affordability and equity are pressures as well. Cycling for transportation provides people with a low cost, healthy way to get around, while using far less road space to move and park. Two thirds of local people already cycle or want to cycle but are held back by safety concerns. Painted lanes do not make people feel safe. They need protected lanes.

Example: Harris Road

BICYCLE FACILITY SELECTION DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
URBAN / SUBURBAN / DEVELOPED RURAL CORE CONTEXT



The [BC Active Transportation Design Guidelines](#) and Transportation Association of Canada indicate that for the projected traffic volume shown in City reports, including heavy trucks, and speeds of over 50km/h along Harris Road, the recommended facilities are protected bike lanes. The developer has ripped up both sides of Harris and needs to build sidewalks and repave. The City should require that they add a protected bike lane that would connect our community, allowing residents in Osprey Village to access the city centre, transit, shopping, schools, the library and other services, and vice versa, residents that wish to go down to the river and shops there should have a direct, intuitive and safe way to do so on bike.

Onni has plans to build a path for people walking and cycling on the back side of their warehouses, but at its north end, it will connect only to an unpaved, bumpy and unlit trail through the forest that the City has no intention of improving in the future. Pitt Meadows residents deserve a way to cycle at all times of day or night, with any kind of bicycle. They deserve paved, lit, direct and protected bikeways so they can choose a healthy, affordable, and active way to get around. 50% of all trips in Metro Vancouver are under 5 km – a distance that can be covered in 15 minutes by bike, made even easier by e-bikes that are gaining popularity.

The east side of the street is still unfinished while Onni completes the building construction. There is plenty of space available. There is still time to fix this! Shift the road spacing over, add a protective barrier with recommended width bike lanes and then the sidewalk. The added cost will be minimal. If it isn't done now, there will be no meaningful improvement for decades, and it will be much more costly for the City.

It is a requirement of Onni in their servicing agreements for Phase 3 and 4 to pay for a third party review of the roadworks operation to ensure performance/operations as intended by the design (i.e – levels of service). If this review determines defects, they are to be remedied at the developers cost. This fact should be used to communicate to Onni that it is more cost effective to do the work right the first time, so they don't have to pay more to fix it later.

Sincerely,

HUB Cycling Pitt Meadows - Maple Ridge Local Committee
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