

Connecting Vancouver's Separated Bike Lanes: Dunsmuir Viaduct to the Burrard Bridge VACC Recommendations May 4, 2010

The Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition was requested by the City to suggest routes for separated bike lanes to connect the existing lanes on the Dunsmuir Viaduct and the Burrard Bridge. The VACC considered who these routes should attract, and how the request fitted more comprehensive goals. We conducted an on-site assessment of potential routes.

Targeted cyclists: The 31 percent of the region's adults who identify themselves as regular, frequent, occasional or potential cyclists, comprising the "near market" for cycling. The Vancouver cohort is about 125,000 to 150,000 people. Their highest requests are for bike lanes separated from motor vehicles.¹

Context: We consider these connectors the next phase of a comprehensive grid of streets with separated bike lanes that allow safe and protected access to and through downtown, have potentially excellent connections to the Seawall and major transit centres, and have the highest potential to attract more bicyclists.

Recommended Action: To connect the Dunsmuir Viaduct to the Burrard Bridge via separated lanes on Dunsmuir St., and on the Hornby, or Burrard corridors as summarized below and detailed in the accompanying table and maps. We recommend initial temporary construction to test feasibility, the comfort distance between cyclists and motor vehicles, and public acceptance. We note areas with special design needs.

For each corridor these are acceptable routes and lane configurations, with our reasons for choosing them. Minor connecting streets are detailed in the table and shown on maps.

East-West Corridor Recommendation

Dunsmuir St.: bi-directional lane between Dunsmuir Viaduct and selected southbound street. *Benefits:* Direct flow on/off the viaduct. Not hilly. Excellent connections to offices, retail, educational institutions and transit centers. Direct connections to North/South streets. Easily continued to Pender for extension to Stanley Park.

North-South Corridor Recommendations

Hornby: one bi-directional lane **or** one northbound lane and one southbound lane. *Benefits:* Relatively flat. Relatively low traffic. Access to many shops, Law Courts, Robson Square, offices, Convention Centre. Good connections to the Seawall.

Burrard St.: two one-way lanes, northbound and southbound. Most direct route between Dunsmuir and the Burrard Bridge.

Hornby Two 1-way or One 2-Way: VACC Recommendations for Separated Lanes from Dunsmuir Viaduct to Burrard Bridge



Burrard Two 1-way: VACC Recommendations for Separated Lanes from Dunsmuir Viaduct to Burrard Bridge



Corridor	Street (Prime or Connector)	Start/ End	# of Lanes & Direction	Reasons for Recommendation	Special Design Areas
Dunsmuir	Dunsmuir (Prime)	Viaduct to most westerly southbound street	One Bi- directional	Direct flow on/off the viaduct. Not hilly. Excellent connections to offices, retail, educational institutions and transit centers. Direct connections to North/South streets. Continue to Pender for extension to Stanley Park	Burrard Bus Exchange. Bus storage on Dunsmuir. Hotel loading area on Dunsmuir.
Hornby Bi- direction	Hornby	Dunsmuir to Pacific	One Bi- directional	Access to many shops, Law Courts, Robson Square, offices, Convention Centre, Seawall.	Extension north of W. Hastings St. Connection to Waterfront Station
	<i>plus Pacific</i>	Hornby to Burrard	One East One West	Connection between Hornby and separated Burrard Bridge lanes.	
	<i>Or plus Drake</i>	Hornby to Burrard	One East One West	Alternate connection between Hornby and Burrard.	
	<i>and Burrard</i>	Drake to Bridge	One North One South	Alternate connection from bridge lanes to Hornby.	
Hornby Two 1-way	Hornby	Dunsmuir to Pacific	One North One South	Access to many shops, Law Courts, Robson Square, offices, Convention Centre, Seawall.	Counterflow lane south. Extension north of W. Hastings St. Connection to Waterfront Station
	<i>plus Pacific</i>	Hornby to Burrard	One East One West	Connection between Hornby and separated Burrard Bridge lanes.	
	<i>Or plus Drake</i>	Hornby to Burrard	One East One West	Alternate connection between Hornby and Burrard.	
	<i>and Burrard</i>	Drake to Bridge	One North One South	Alternate connection from bridge lanes to Hornby.	

Corridor	Street (Prime or Connector)	Start/ End	# of Lanes & Direction	Reasons for Recommendation	Special Design Areas
Burrard	Burrard	Dunsmuir to Bridge	One North One South	Most direct north-south route.	Burrard and Pacific intersection. Bus exchange @ Melville. Bus stops. Sutton Place Hotel. Connection to Waterfront Station.