



604.558.2002
bikehub.ca



23 January 2024

Mayor and Council,
District of West Vancouver
750 17th Street,
West Vancouver BC, V7V 3T3

Subject: Proposed bike lane on Cypress Bowl Road

Dear Mayor Sager and Councillors,

HUB Cycling is a charitable not-for-profit organization working to get more people cycling, more often and making cycling safer and better through education, action and events. More cycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions, relieves traffic congestion and means healthier, happier and more connected communities.

We understand that the Canadian Health and Fitness Institute is requesting that the District of West Vancouver, at its earliest convenience, create a separated bicycle lane ascending Cypress Bowl Road.

We are well aware that Cypress Bowl Road is within the jurisdiction of the MoTI. HUB North Shore Committee has been in contact with MoTI regarding improved cycling infrastructure on Cypress Bowl Road. On 3 October 2021, Committee Chair, Don Piercy, sent an email message to Gabriel Lord, MoTi Transportation Planner, Michael Braun, MoTI Operations Manager for Howe Sound/Sunshine Coast and Brian Patterson, Principal & Senior Transportation Planner at Urban Systems Ltd. Don provided them a summary of comments and recommendations that had been gathered from HUB Cycling members who ride Cypress Bowl Road.

It was observed that during the ski season, cycling conditions are marginal and there is heavy vehicular traffic. During the non-ski season, cyclists constitute a significant portion of the traffic. Most of the following recommendations in the email message focused on this season:

- We recommend a protected 2 m wide bike lane be added for both uphill and downhill from top to bottom. However, this is primarily a recreational route and there are multiple other locations under MoTI's jurisdiction on the North Shore that are in greater need of cycling improvements.
- Nevertheless, we suggest to add a protected 2+m wide bike lane (to allow passing) on the uphill direction from the Hwy 1 exit up to the viewpoint (2nd switchback).

- Noting the planned development of Cypress Village, it is expected that the section from the Hwy 1 exit to the 1st switchback will see much increased traffic from people both driving and cycling. Therefore, for the safety of all, this section of Cypress Bowl Road will need protected bike lanes on both sides of the road to connect to the existing West Vancouver cycling network.
- From Chippendale Road up to the viewpoint, a protected bike lane could be implemented by shifting the existing barrier left to widen the path outside of the barrier to 2 m and clearing/repairing this lane.
- HUB Cycling North Shore understands the challenges on what to do for downhill. Short of a new dedicated protected cycling lane down the whole road, the downhill shoulder on long straight sections could be widened to provide a smooth, marked lane for people cycling to move into in order to allow people in cars to pass.
- Finally, it was suggested to consult with the District of West Vancouver who raised this route in their submission to the MoTI Gaps study in the summer of 2021, as this lowest section of Cypress Bowl Road will be a key connection to the planned Cypress Village.

In summary, there are other higher priority bike infrastructure projects that we would like to see constructed in West Vancouver, especially along the Marine Drive corridor east of 31st Street including from the Lions Gate bridgehead to the District's eastern boundary. Nevertheless, we support this proposal for two reasons. Firstly, it would help meet HUB Cycling's objective of getting more people safely onto bicycles. Secondly, it would support our previous recommendation that the District be aware of the need for safe, protected bike lanes on that portion of Cypress Bowl Road that will connect the planned Cypress Village to other West Vancouver Cycling Network components.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Stott,
2129 Gordon Avenue
West Vancouver
V7V 1W1

Peter Scholefield
1288 Esquimalt Avenue
West Vancouver
V7V 1K3

Mike Cormack,
3609 Mathers Avenue
West Vancouver
V7V 2K8

HUB North Shore Committee, West Vancouver Liaisons

Cc: Jenn Moller, Director of Engineering & Transportation Services, District of West Vancouver
John Weston, President of the Canadian Health and Fitness Institute