



March 9, 2023

Dear Mayor Lahti, Council, and Mr. Keyworth,

## Re: Protected Bike Lanes on Guildford Way and Clarke Street

We're following up on previous letters we sent regarding safe cycling facilities on Guildford Way and Clarke Street (attached). Given the majority of council indicated a strong interest in building more cycling facilities in HUB's election survey, we believe it is worth noting that this route offers the best potential in the city to encourage more cycling due to its topography and connectivity to civic amenities and city centres. A map of our proposed routing can be seen on the next page as *Figure 1*.

With Coquitlam's plans to tender and build the Guildford Greenway this year, now is the time to build protected facilities on Guildford Way and Clarke Street to ensure Coquitlam's new safe, cross-town facility does not end at the Port Moody border, drastically cutting the potential of this route, and disconnecting it from the successful Murray Street protected bike lanes. On Clarke Street, we'd imagine Port Moody could repurpose the existing westbound HOV lane into a bidirectional protected bike lane, and simply offer protections to the Guildford Way bike lanes using low-cost curbs.

Although much has changed since October 2021 when we first sent our letters, unfortunately, the conditions seen in Port Moody remain unchanged. Our membership continues to request protected routes on Clarke Street and Guildford Way. Make no mistake, these are not your stereotypical "racing cyclists" - these are generally parents, seniors, or young adults looking for ways to get to work, school, or other destinations without the need for a car. Per TransLink, two thirds of local residents cycle regularly or want to, but are held back by unsafe or disconnected infrastructure.

In addition to reducing Port Moody's greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the mode share of cycling, consistent with your Master Transportation Plan, this would also reduce congestion. Further, protected bike lanes need not be costly - according to TransLink, quick-build materials, such as prefabricated curbs, are extremely cost effective, conferring most of the benefits of full-scale protected bike lanes at a fraction of the cost and schedule. One successful example of such a project is the 1st and 2nd Street protected bike lanes in North Vancouver. More recently, Tillicum Road in Saanich has also received suitable safety upgrades via prefabricated curbs (*Figure 2*).

We are hopeful Port Moody can again be a local leader in safe cycling infrastructure. As the first city in our subregion to install protected bike lanes (Murray Street), followed with the Gatensbury Gasp shortly thereafter, Port Moody has built great infrastructure before, and we hope it can do so again. We respectfully ask Council pass a motion directing staff to procure a design team for Guildford and Clarke protected bike lanes and provide a suitable budget for both design & implementation of such facilities following adequate cost certainty.

Yours Truly,

Andrew Hartline & Colin Fowler

Co-Chairs, HUB Cycling Tri-Cities







Figure 1 - A map of the requested new AAA infrastructure in red, with existing AAA infrastructure shown in green to demonstrate that much of the groundwork for a cross-city route has already been accomplished.



Figure 2 - Prefabricated curbs used to provide quick-build, low-cost bike lanes on Tillicum Road in Saanich. Photo courtesy Chris Campbell.





## **About HUB Cycling**

HUB Cycling is a charitable not for profit organization that has spent over 24 years removing barriers to cycling in Metro Vancouver, while cultivating the health, environmental, and economic benefits that active transportation can bring. HUB has educated thousands of people, motivated thousands more, and championed improvements that #UnGapTheMap to create a connected cycling network. HUB Cycling's mission is to get more people cycling more often. HUB Cycling has close to 3,000 members and more than 45,000 direct supporters. HUB Cycling has 10 volunteer committees across Metro Vancouver that encourage cycling for all ages and abilities (AAA) in municipalities across Metro Vancouver. For more information, visit bikehub.ca.