

December 7, 2023

To: Pitt Meadows Mayor and Council

cc: Samantha Maki, Director of Engineering

Re: Active Transportation Budget

Mayor and Council,

Our local Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows HUB Cycling committee would like to provide some input for you to consider regarding the decision package on the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) budget.

The city of Pitt Meadows is fortunate to have quite a compact urban area, and most destinations are within walking, rolling and cycling distance. In the Transportation Master Plan, the Mayor and Council have committed to prioritization in this order: pedestrians, cyclists, and transit above vehicles. However, although all streets are safe for people to drive, there are some cycling routes which are not safe for people of all ages and abilities cycling. There are also areas that could benefit from improvements for the safety and comfort of people walking, rolling and using mobility aids.

The Council-endorsed Active Transportation Plan includes more detail on these routes and areas. To make the required improvements, the new plan recommends the ATAC budget be increased to \$200,000/year. We heartily endorse this recommendation.

In the past, we have witnessed the City miss out on opportunities for considerable cost sharing allocations. In order to take full advantage of any available grant funding, we recommend increasing staff time dedicated to active transportation with an additional half time position, which would be required according to staff. Many of the grants offer 50% or even 75% cost sharing and this would make the increased budget stretch even further.

Lastly, the Harris Road Complete Streets project is the largest and most transformative project in the new plan. We recommend that the city start the feasibility study for this much needed project as soon as possible.

We are pleased that the city undertook the Active Transportation Network Review and then endorsed the resulting Active Transportation Plan. There is a strong desire by the citizens of Pitt Meadows to be able to walk, roll or cycle around our great community in a safe and efficient manner.

Jackie Chow, Co-chair
HUB Cycling
Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Committee

About HUB Cycling

HUB Cycling is a charitable not for profit organization that has spent over 25 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 over 3,000 members and more than 50,000 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.