



Your **Cycling** Connection

bikehub.ca



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City of Vancouver

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

The HUB Cycling Vancouver-UBC Local Committee is excited to see the Comox Year-Round School Street Project in front of Lord Roberts Elementary School in the West End. By providing a year-round safe and comfortable space for students and their caregivers, it will encourage those families to choose active transportation modes to get to school, whether that be walking, rolling, or cycling, and it will make school drop off zones feel safer with fewer motor vehicles. HUB Cycling supports all initiatives that will get more people cycling more often.

One of the challenges to having a successful School Streets project is the need to rely on volunteers during both the drop-off and pick-up times every school day. Unfortunately this burden means that at the end of the 2023 school year, the current program is unlikely to continue. The Year-Round School Street Program will address this problem with infrastructure changes, removing the need for on-site volunteers.

It is important to extend the program to be fully year-round. The Lord Roberts school grounds are used outside of school hours by community groups, many of whose members come from the surrounding area. This program will encourage those people to choose active modes to come to the school. The Comox Street separated bike lane disappears on this block and due to space constraints and the location of mature trees, continuing it was deemed unfeasible. This program will provide protection for all active mobility users as they travel along the Comox-Helmcken Bikeway. The West End is, as you well know, a very densely populated neighbourhood with significant traffic calming and diversions. These traffic mitigation efforts are essential to the walkability and bikeability of the West End. This Year-Round School Street fits nicely with the established character of the neighbourhood.

The fact that this project builds on Lord Roberts' School Streets program demonstrates how successful the School Streets program can be, and we hope that other schools in the city can use this success as a model on how to make it successful at their schools.

The Year-Round School Street implementation at Lord Roberts will be an important visionary example of promoting active transportation in the city, and will be used by other nearby communities as an example of how to reallocate street space to prioritize people over vehicles.

Sincerely,

Jeff Leigh
Co-Chair, Vancouver UBC Local Committee, HUB Cycling
Director, and President, HUB Cycling

Anthony Floyd,
Co-Chair, Vancouver UBC Local Committee, HUB Cycling

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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.