



- To: Metro Vancouver icentre@metrovancouver.org
- cc: Chad Neufeld, Manager of Parks Planning and Development, City of Maple Ridge
  <neufeld@mapleridge.ca>
  Diane Chamberlain, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture
  <info@pittmeadows.ca>

## Re: Northwest Langley Wastewater Treatment Projects – Fraser River Crossing Project

To whom it may concern,

The HUB Cycling Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Local Committee believes that the Fraser River Crossing Project is a fantastic opportunity to implement some minor changes that would have a big impact for people walking and cycling. A multi-use path would allow safe and comfortable travel by people of all ages and abilities (AAA) between our two communities of Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge.

This new path could be constructed from Wharf Street, over the sewer line to be installed, and connect to the existing pathway just south of Airport Way. An example of a similar path is the Waterline Trail in Colony Farm Park, which is installed over a water main.

Presently the only way for people of all ages and abilities walking and cycling east-west vice versa in that area is via 113B Ave. and the two Golden Ears Bridge roundabouts and Airport Way, which is an intimidating route for many people. With this new pathway on the west side of the bridge, it will be possible to avoid this uncomfortable and dangerous area.

Both cities have long been waiting for an opportunity to construct a connecting pathway such as the one we are proposing. Cyclist and pedestrian connectivity for all ages and abilities between our two communities has been increasingly challenging with little else other than the dike pathways along the Alouette River to the north existing as a safe connection route.

A connecting pathway would:

- be a small but meaningful step to help residents and visitors to the area reduce their emissions by traveling by bike or on foot;
- improve mobility for all;
- improve livability of not only the surrounding neighbourhoods, but make travel by bike and exploring our neighbourhoods and the dike trails network more appealing to many more people living in our communities and elsewhere;
- provide more options for local recreation; and
- improve population health.

We would very much appreciate it if Metro Vancouver could work with the Cities of Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge as well as with TransLink to explore the possibility of building such a pathway.

We sincerely hope you will seriously consider our recommendation.

With kind regards,

Peter Jongbloed - member, HUB Cycling Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Committee Jackie Chow - Communications, HUB Cycling Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Committee

JC/PJ/EH/IC/NC/JF

## **About HUB Cycling**

HUB Cycling is a charitable not for profit organization that has spent over 22 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 <u>#UnGapTheMap</u> 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 <u>bikehub.ca</u>.