



Dear Port Moody Council, Engineering, and CPKC,

## Re: Murray Street Multi-Use Pathway / loco Subdivision Railway Crossing, Port Moody

We write to you today regarding the intersection of the Murray Street Multi-Use Pathway and the loco Subdivision rail line in Port Moody, British Columbia (*Figure 1*). At this location, pathway users heading east and west, including people biking and walking, people using mobility devices and strollers, are all forced to converge from a 1.8 meter wide sidewalk and 3 meter wide multi-use pathway into a single 1.8 meter wide sidewalk. On the east side, the transition off the multi-use pathway is made of loose, large cut gravel (*Figure 2*), posing a danger for people biking or using other wheeled mobility devices such as wheelchairs or strollers.

This area is highly trafficked on an average weekend or even weekday morning or evening. It's not uncommon to see hundreds of people using both routes, especially given the new and improved connections to the Shoreline Trail (*Figure 3*). Given the presence of a large tree immediately east of the crossing (*Figure 2*), this is also a blind corner. In many instances, users are forced to stop suddenly leading to some swerving, resulting in a crash and perhaps injury. This is especially concerning as the pathway is right beside a fast-moving arterial road with traffic often exceeding the posted 50 km/h speed limit, and the gravel is also very likely to cause injury via slippage. There is no room for "swerving" and little forgiveness wherever one lands after the swerve.

We have heard that because of the high cost of relocating a CPKC rail signal, it is not possible to widen the crossing for pedestrians and people biking to accommodate the full 4.8 meter width of a sidewalk and multi-use pathway. On behalf of HUB Cycling, we request that this area is reviewed and that both the City of Port Moody and CPKC cooperate in finding a solution and funding to widen the crossing.

We are happy to provide more information if requested, but at this point would like to reiterate our concerns that 6 years following the completion of the Murray Street Multi-Use Pathway, this intersection continues to pose high danger to people biking and walking and using mobility aids or strollers. This is becoming more of a hazard as the population and trail usage increases, especially following the COVID-19 pandemic and region-wide population growth. We also see recent



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improvements to the adjacent Guilford Way pathway and connecting Shoreline Trail as encouraging more trail usage which cannot be safely handled at this time. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Hartline and Colin Fowler Co-Chairs, HUB Cycling Tri-Cities Committee <u>Tri-Cities@bikehub.ca</u>

Copies to: TransLink, Transport Canada



Figure 1 - The intersection in question. Note the narrowing of the pathway and the "cyclists dismount" sign. However, this route is often so congested as to make it impractical or lead to a multi-minute wait for crossings.





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Figure 2 - Note the large rough gravel patch and tree on the east of the crossing, leading to unsafe conditions, including blocking visibility.



Figure 3 - A wider shot indicating the Murray St Multi-Use Pathway (left-right), the Shoreline Trail (brand new asphalt, left side), and the rail crossing (right side).

## 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 <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>.