



Your **Cycling** Connection

bikehub.ca



April 26, 2021

City of Vancouver Mayor and Councillors (by email)  
Cc: Paul Storer, Director of Transportation, CoV

Dear Mayor and Councilors:

We have reviewed the proposed motion being brought before you on April 27, 2021, directing staff to incorporate a Bike Safety Index into active transportation planning.

We do not support this motion, for the following reasons:

- 1) Cycling crash and injury data is incomplete, and generally of low quality. It does not typically include other than vehicle crashes, and neither does it include near misses. It is based on where people are currently cycling, not on where they may want to or need to cycle.
- 2) We have good information available on the existing cycling network. The City of Vancouver participated in HUB Cycling's State of Cycling benchmarking report, where our research team inventoried and assessed all cycling infrastructure in Metro Vancouver. That report is available [here](#), and a Translink web portal [here](#) allows users to view the data by municipality. This is not just an inventory, but also a quality assessment using a standard set of definitions across all of Metro Vancouver, including with Translink.
- 3) Our Vancouver UBC Local Committee of HUB Cycling maintains a Gap Priority List for gaps in the cycling network in Vancouver. We have mapped that gap inventory over the assessed routes, and priority gaps can be seen [here](#).
- 4) Our Vancouver UBC Local Committee continually prepares proposals on resolving key gaps and has positions available on the top cycling gaps in the City. We assess network gaps based on user comfort and safety, utility (connectivity, permeability, destinations, etc), and practicality. We would be pleased to discuss this with you at your convenience. City staff use this data as an additional input in determining priorities for cycling network improvements and additions.

Instead of prescribing a method to prioritize gaps in the network, we urge you to adequately fund the transportation engineering department to allow them to more rapidly address the gaps that have already been identified, some dating back as priorities to 2012. Our observation is that this team is resource constrained and directing them to develop a new index when we have good information already, would be counterproductive.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeff Leigh  
Chair, Vancouver UBC Local Committee, HUB Cycling  
[vancouver@bikehub.ca](mailto:vancouver@bikehub.ca)

### 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 [#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](http://bikehub.ca).