



Helen Cook,
Transportation Planning Manager, TransLink

Brian Gould,
City of Vancouver Active Transportation Branch

June 9, 2015

Dear Helen and Brian,

HUB is a charitable organization whose mission is to get more people cycling, more often.

HUB would like to express its continued appreciation to the City of Vancouver and TransLink for their efforts to improve the cycling network. Pathways like the Central Valley Greenway, which quickly move cyclists across Vancouver, encourage commuters and families to cycle. However, conflicts between those cycling and walking often occur where the Central Valley Greenway crosses major streets and meets up with SkyTrain stations.

At the ground level of Rupert Station, there are two safety issues. First, the blind corner on the west side of Rupert Street, where pathway users move between the sidewalk and the Central Valley Greenway, is dangerous whether users are cycling or walking. Second, on the Rupert Street west sidewalk, pedestrians and cyclists share space with those waiting for the bus.

We would like to suggest the following steps to create a safer, shared pathway for walking and cycling at this intersection:

- Eliminate the blind corner by working with the BC Liquor Distribution Branch to remove the fence and/or bushes that block sight lines, as well as any other measures to improve visibility at this corner of the Central Valley Greenway.
- Widen the pathway to provide separate space for cycling and walking. This could be done by moving the user-activated crosswalk button to the right side of the west crosswalk and by moving the bus stop to the north side of the crosswalk.
- An alternative would be to add a second crossing for those cycling on the south side of the southbound bus stop. Either of these two changes would prevent conflict between users of different transportation modes.
- If neither of these options is immediately possible, we recommend that the pathway be clearly marked to indicate that it is shared, and add signage informing path users that the space is shared.

Although the Central Valley Greenway is an excellent all-ages and abilities path for those using a variety of transportation modes, spots like Rupert SkyTrain station create friction and safety hazards between different users and can discourage the use of alternative transportation. We hope that improvements can be made in the area described in this letter and we look forward to hearing your comments on this matter. We have also attached a January 2015 assessment ride report that documents in greater detail the issues we describe should you wish to reference it.

Sincerely,

Lisa Slakov, Co-chair HUB Vancouver/UBC Committee
Jeff Leigh, Co-chair HUB Vancouver/UBC Committee