



April 29, 2013

Ms. Erica Geddes
Transportation Section Manager, District of North Vancouver
GeddesE@dnv.org

Proposed bike network in the Lower Capilano Marine Village Centre

Dear Ms. Geddes,

The HUB North Shore Committee supports the proposed bike connections in the Lower Capilano Marine Village Centre, as described at the March 2013 open house. The proposed network would significantly improve cycling connectivity and safety in the area.

Where new streets are created or existing streets rebuilt, we recommend building physically separated bike lanes instead of painted bike lanes or sharrows. This would allow residents of all ages and abilities to cycle. Where the street design restricts car speeds to 20km/h or less (cycling speed), shared lanes would be acceptable.

The following aspects of the implementation plan are particularly valuable for expanding transportation by bike:

- Planning principles that support cycling on all streets
- A finer grained street network

Connection from Lions Gate Bridge needed

A significant gap in the area's bike network remains: there is no safe and convenient connection from Lions Gate Bridge to the village centre. Currently cyclists are directed on to a shared vehicle lane on Marine Drive, where cars come off the bridge at 70-80km/h, or they have to circle around the Squamish Nation Capilano reserve. This is a major gap in the bike network that has unfortunately not been addressed during the recent rebuilding of Marine Drive from the bridge into North Vancouver.

We hope that the District will work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and the District of West Vancouver to provide a safe and more direct connection from the bridge to the Lower Capilano Village Centre. A pedestrian/cyclist overpass across Marine Drive close to the bridge would do much to improve connectivity, not only for cyclists but also for pedestrians. It would also reduce the frequent trespassing on the Squamish Nation reserve by northbound cyclists seeking to avoid Marine Drive through the Capilano Road intersection.



We look forward to seeing the detailed designs of the cycling facilities when the District plans the streets and greenways in the new centre.

Sincerely,

Antje Wahl

Chair, North Shore Committee
HUB: Your Cycling Connection
northshore@bikehub.ca

Cc:

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