


7th December 2017

Mayor and Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC
V5G 1M2

Dear mayor and council members,

I hope this letter finds the council in good spirits and health and that you are all gearing up to enjoy the winter season.

It should be recognised and applauded that our city has made great progress in improving the safety of cyclists and pedestrians by laying down multi-use paved pathways such as that running along the east side of Willingdon Avenue, between Hastings Street and Lougheed Highway.

Before we rest on our laurels, however, I would like to draw the council's attention to the potential for danger at the north-east corner of the junction between Willingdon Avenue and Canada Way.

Travelling south on the multi-use paved pathway along the east side of Willingdon Avenue, one finds the path interrupted by the presence of a number of posts and guy wires that effectively narrows it by half, near the Shell petrol station, as one nears Canada Way.

As a cyclist, I have had more than one pedestrian complain to me about my presence on that segment, indicating that I should be on a bike path, not realising that the pathway, as dangerously narrow as it is, is actually a shared route for pedestrians and cyclists. While it did irk me at the time, especially since I had been on the receiving end of some rather less than decorous language, I could understand the reason for the diatribe, as the pathway did indeed shrink in width to such an extent that even the simultaneous passage of two pedestrians abreast would have been near impossible.

This narrowing of the pavement, in combination with the relatively high traffic volume at that junction, along with the presence of a drive way for cars departing from the Shell petrol station, makes for rather stressful and potentially dangerous encounters amongst pedestrians, cyclists and motorised traffic.

Please find attached to this letter, some pictures that would hopefully aid in the council's appreciation of the problem.

I look forward to your consideration of the matter and, hopefully, a solution.

May you, your family and your office, a most wonderful holiday season filled with many happy memories.

Yours sincerely,

Bertrand
P. Lau 
Digitally signed by Bertrand P.
m, c:CA
Date: 2017.12.07 05:18:48 -08'00'

Bertrand P. Lau

Referred to:
Public Safety Committee (2018.01.23)



Willingdon Ave

North-east corner of Willingdon Ave. & Canada Way

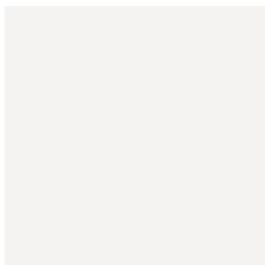


Image capture: May 2016 © 2017 Google

Burnaby, British Columbia



Street View - May 2016





Burnaby, British Columbia

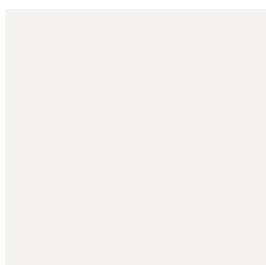
Junction b/t Willingdon Ave. and Canada Way



Image capture: May 2016 © 2017 Google



Street View - May 2016





Willingdon Ave

The offending poles from another angle



Image capture: May 2016 © 2017 Google

Burnaby, British Columbia



Street View - May 2016

