From: Michael Tsiroulnikov Sent: May-06-21 7:37 PM

To: Parks - City of Burnaby < Parks@burnaby.ca>

Subject: Burnaby Mountain bikers frequently jam into hikers

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Dear PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION,

I live at SFU University and hike on the nearby trails daily. Some of my not-so-young friends, who live right here at University, complain that they cannot walk on any trails because of the racing bikers. Practically all people I meet on trails have described to me at least one recent accident of a rude and aggressive biker who nearly bumped into them at a high speed and then yelled at them with all kinds of accusations.

I was, too, a subject of such assaults, both verbal and physical, a few times recently. I wrote about one of the assaults to BMBA, and the response was "Gear Jammer was built by bikers, and maintained by bikers and the City's works department. It has bermed corners, built by the trail company hired by the City, and is not a hiking trail, which is why I pointed out the path next to the trail. Hikers are also required to be aware of their surroundings, at any age, and be ready to step off the trail to avoid conflict. As previously stated, if you and your friends wish to avoid conflict with bikers, please select another trail." I became profoundly confused...

The attacks by bikers meanwhile continued, and I wrote about another to Burnaby NOW, <a href="https://www.burnabynow.com/local-news/letter-burnaby-trails-plagued-by-bikers-and-aggressive-off-leash-dogs-3749506">https://www.burnabynow.com/local-news/letter-burnaby-trails-plagued-by-bikers-and-aggressive-off-leash-dogs-3749506</a>

Bikers responded with online bullying all over social media, an example: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/michael.tsiroulnikov/posts/4191297497550150">https://www.facebook.com/michael.tsiroulnikov/posts/4191297497550150</a>.

There are many small children and elderly on our trails who are physically incapable of defending themselves. As far as I know, Europe saw this phase of conflict between the pedestrian majority of trail users and mountain bikers ~20 years ago and resolved it quite successfully. May I please inquire if you have any similar plans or you are perfectly fine with having blood on your hands?

Note: Facebook link is no longer active.

Thank you, Michael Tsiroulnikov

PS. Do you agree and/or support the BMBA statement above?