

LegislativeServices

From: City of Burnaby <WebAdmin@burnaby.ca>
Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 10:22 PM
To: LegislativeServices
Subject: Webform submission from: Submit a Letter #2
Attachments: How Horses Help Youth.pdf

Submitted on Thu, 07/04/2024 - 21:39
Submission # 2

Submitted values are:

I have read and understand the above statements.

Yes

I consent to having my contact information collected and published publicly online as part of the permanent public record in accordance with the BC Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Yes

Are you a resident of Burnaby?

I prefer not to disclose

Pronouns

She/her/hers

I wish to have my letter addressed to:

City Council (Mayor and Councillors)

Name

Nancy McRitchie

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable)

Urban Horse Project Society

Phone number

Redacted as per FIPPA S. 22

Email address

Redacted as per FIPPA S. 22

Full mailing or residential address

18 - 3550 Adanac Street

VANCOUVER, British Columbia. V5K 4Y6

My letter addresses matters related to

Public safety or public space use matters

What is the intended title of your letter?

Concerned about potential paving of Avalon Trail in Burnaby Lake Park

Submission

Dear Mayor and Council,

I was distressed to hear that Avalon Trail in BLP may soon be paved. I lead Urban Horse Project, a non-profit agency that provides free and very low cost opportunities for diverse Burnaby children, youth, families and seniors to connect and interact with horses at the Burnaby Equestrian Centre. Over 140 Burnaby residents participate each year in our ongoing community horse programs. Most of them have had no previous experience with horses, and they LOVE the horses and tell us they feel happy and calm when in our programs. We are thanked over and over for providing this access.

Keeping the Avalon Trail safe for horses and our programs is very important to the community. There is growing validated research that shows that interacting with horses brings many direct benefits to humans, including increased confidence, self-esteem, sense of wellbeing, and increased life skills - communication, empathy, teamwork, problem solving and leadership.

Mayor Hurley and council, please halt the proposed paving of Avalon Trail! The equestrian trails in Burnaby Lake Park are truly a unique and precious resource for the city and its residents. Preserving them will ensure that the benefits that horses can bring to humans will remain available to Burnaby communities, whereas this part of our heritage has been already lost to most people living in urban settings.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration on this important matter.

Respectfully,

Nancy McRitchie

Executive Director

Urban Horse Project

Attachments

How Horses Help Youth.pdf