

From:

Redacted as per FIPPA
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To:

[Lee, Richard; LegislativeServices](#)

Subject:

Lake City Skytrain station, dangers for cyclists

Date:

Wednesday, January 15, 2025 1:17:30 PM

Dear Councillor Lee and Transportation Committee Members,

I write to you as an avid cyclist who wonders why I cannot get from my home to either one of two local skytrains safely. Infrastructure must be present and then it must *connect* cyclists to their intended destination. Sadly the local cycling infrastructure on the south side of Burnaby Mountain where I live at 8400 Forest Grove Drive is almost non-existent to connect me to the Lake City Skytrain safely by bike.

I write to ask to you to:

1. Create safe and separated cycling infrastructure for cyclists by removing the car parking on both sides of the street between Enterprise and Lougheed Highway on the east and west sides of Lake City Skytrain station. There is more than ample parking on the streets north of Enterprise and under the new commercial studio being built.
2. Remove the drop off area for pedestrians on the west side of Lake City Station in front and just under the skytrain station. Direct users to the more than ample pick up and drop off space for pedestrians in the short term parking (15 mins or less) on the skytrain property mere steps from the skytrain door.

I include a map as attachment #1 which has the route I take from my home on Forest Grove Drive to the intersection of Enterprise and Lake Way City at least 4 days a week. It's the best/worst route to take to get to the Central Valley Greenway which is the only off road cycling facility in North Burnaby. See attachment #1.

As I travel west along Enterprise past Global TV to the corner of Enterprise and Lake City I use the bike activation button nicely installed on the N/E corner of Enterprise and Lake City Way. See attachment #2. I guess someone was expecting bikes along here as bike activation buttons aren't installed just anywhere.

I turn left to go south on Lake City Way to Lougheed Highway. I ride past the Skytrain station on my right. You will note the new Bridge Studio going up on this T intersection. See attached image #3.

As I turn left you can see in Image #3 there is absolutely no safe space to ride my bike. I often do battle with pedestrians on the sidewalk. Interestingly someone has installed a bike activated button right in front of the studio as well as adding some elephants feet. Sometimes I ride south, on the road depending on the traffic flow. The road is not really safe because cars drive faster than recommended to get to Lougheed Highway and there are parked cars as well as drop off and pickup station in front of the skytrain. Further, the road is narrow and cars are parked on the west (right hand side in Image #3).

If pedestrian traffic is too heavy I jump onto the sidewalk and ride under the skytrain. See image #4. Bollards and posts are everywhere. How is this safe? There is no clear pathway to the pedestrian button to cross to the south. I can imagine riding my bike through this area is going to be annoying for everyone when the studio opens and the skytrain gets busier here. Cyclists will ride on the sidewalk to be safe, no matter what pedestrians say to them or how uncomfortable both parties feel.

Upon returning home, I ride east on Lougheed Highway to cross at Lake City. See image #5. There are no elephants feet on the crossing. Motor vehicles typically run hard yellow and red lights here. A red light camera would be beneficial to nab these drivers and generate some revenue.

As I cross Lougheed Highway going north towards the Lake City skytrain, I ride under the skytrain and up to the corner of Enterprise and Lake City Way to travel east on Enterprise to get home. I take the sidewalk as this is the only safe way to access the bike button at the T intersection on the west side of Lake City and Enterprise At the T intersection. See attachment #6. While pedestrians are clearly annoyed at me for crowding them at this little crossing, it's the only safe way to get home.

Could I take another approach to get home? Image #7 shows the cross walk looking east at Lake City and Lougheed that takes cyclists to a multi use path. This pathway is not useful for me. Image #8 shows the T intersection of Lake City and Lougheed Highway going north. Even if I were to use this crosswalk and ride north up to Enterprise there is no space to safely ride. Cars are parked in what could be cycling space to safely access Enterprise St.

Please allocate some resources and identify and create some safe and separated cycling infrastructure for cyclists by removing the car parking on both sides of the street between Enterprise and Lougheed on the east and west sides of Lake City. Do not follow the lead of Translink and merge pedestrians and cyclists at any points around the station. I cannot overstate the importance of separating cars from bikes *and* bikes from pedestrians.

In order to maintain a distance between cyclists and pedestrians I ask you to remove the drop off area for pedestrians on the west side in front of the skytrain station. For drivers and users of the Skytrain there is more than ample pick up and drop off space for pedestrians in the short term parking (15 mins or less) on the skytrain property mere steps from the skytrain door. All the parking on the eastside of Lake City could be removed to create separated cycling infrastructure up to Enterprise. There is more than ample parking north of Enterprise and Lake City for drivers.

I have attached the images to this letter in numerical order.

thank you

Cathy Griffin

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