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File Number: GB 3070-30

Via email: Brad.Boyden@gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
3rd Fl, 2100 Labieux Rd
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6E9

**Attention: Brad Boyden
Operations Manager**

Dear Brad:

Re: Village Trail Bike Path

At the Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee's (LTC) regular business meeting on January 14, 2016, Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) Electoral Area B Director, Howard Houle, updated the LTC on recent complications arising with the width required for the Village Way Trail cycle path.

The LTC would like to confirm that the Gabriola Island Official Community Plan notes the following, regarding cycle paths on Gabriola Island:

Land Transportation Objectives

3. *To support alternative transportation initiatives that reduce dependency on private automobile use and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including, but not limited to, public transit, car stops, neighbourhood zero emission vehicles, car shares, bicycle routes, and walking trails that link population to services;*
4. *To provide a network of bicycle routes and ensure island roads are able to accommodate cycling safely;*

Land Transportation Policies

- i) All on-road bicycle shoulder lanes shall be a minimum of 1.2 metres (4 feet) in width but may be a minimum of 0.6 metres (1.97 feet) in width in the following situations only:
 - i. changes to natural geographic features, such as escarpments, would be required in order to implement the 1.2 metre (4 foot) paved bicycle shoulder lane; and
 - ii. mature trees would need to be removed in order to implement the 1.2 metre (4 foot) paved bicycle shoulder lane.
- k) The creation of an off-road bicycle and pedestrian trail along Gabriola's busiest traffic corridor from the ferry hill to Tin Can Alley should be considered when land use decisions, rezonings, subdivisions, road resurfacing or other development occurs along this route.

In addition to the policies stated above, the Shared Roadways Gabriola Island Bicycle Route Plan, dated March 29, 2010, developed by the Gabriola Cycle Paths, was used as a resource for the bicycle related policies and bicycle path mapping in the Official Community Plan. One of the routes noted in the plan is the village trail; a map is attached at the end of this letter.

Preserving Island communities, culture and environment

We hope this provides further information regarding desired land use for Gabriola Island, and we are pleased to hear that MoTI has stated its commitment to working with the RDN to resolve this issue.

Sincerely,

Laura Busheikin, Chair
Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee

