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MAR 23 2018

Rhona Martin, Chair
Columbia Shuswap Regional District
555 Harbourfront Drive NE
PO Box 978
Salmon Arm BC V1E 4P1

Dear Chair Martin,

Re: Active Transportation

Thank you for your letters, sharing with me the requests of the Board of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District that the ministry incorporate active transportation corridors and greenway plans into all current and future highway projects, and that "Share the Road" signs be included on all cycling routes. Many apologies for the delay in responding.

The ministry strongly supports cycling and walking and other modes of active transportation and recognizes reduce congestion and emissions, promote healthier communities and generate economic activity through tourism and recreation. Where possible, the ministry integrates cycling and pedestrian facilities, such as wider shoulders on highways or separated multi-use paths, in new construction and improvements to highways. I have shared your letter of support for active transportation facilities with regional planning department staff.

Creating and maintaining cycling infrastructure within towns and cities in B.C. is the responsibility of local governments, and the ministry's BikeBC program supports their efforts. BikeBC shares the cost of municipal cycling infrastructure projects, such as separated bike paths and bicycle/pedestrian overpasses, with local governments. Every year, BikeBC invites municipalities, regional districts, local governments and First Nations to apply for cost share funding for the construction of cycling infrastructure.

BikeBC focuses on improving safety for cyclists, and upgrades to existing infrastructure are now also eligible under the program, as are projects such as repair stations, bike racks and lockers. These enhancements will help further encourage active transportation in B.C. More information about BikeBC is available at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/funding-engagement-permits/funding-grants/cycling-infrastructure-funding>.

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The ministry uses "Share the Road" signs in areas where there is a high volume of cyclists to ensure that drivers know to expect them on the road. While the ministry is careful not to overuse these signs, as drivers may ignore overused or improperly used signs, local staff would be happy to review any requests for the placement of "Share the Road" signs on a particular highway corridor.

To have staff review a route for the placement of "Share the Road" signs, please feel free to contact our local District Manager, Jack Bennetto. He can be reached at 250 712-3664 or at Jack.Bennetto@gov.bc.ca and would be pleased to assist you.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Trevena
Minister

Copy to: Jack Bennetto, District Manager
Okanagan Shuswap

Kathryn Weicker, Senior Regional Transportation Planner
Southern Interior Region