



Elphinstone Community Association

info@elphinstonecommunity.ca

<https://elphinstonecommunity.ca>

Serving the Elphinstone Community since 1971

November 27, 2024

Jeremy Waksel
Area Manager, Roads
Ministry of Transportation and Transit
Sechelt, BC

Dear Mr. Waksel,

On behalf of the residents of Elphinstone (SCRD Area E), who the ECA represents, we are very pleased to see the repair to the “S” curve on Gower Point Road nearing completion. However, we wish to inform you that numerous residents have also asked us why no provision was made for cyclists and pedestrians. Although some residents tried to get information through your offices or Capilano Highways, as far as we know there was no consultation with the community regarding design requirements.

Because no space was included for active transportation, the reconstructed road is now significantly more dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. The previous poor condition of the pavement forced a degree of caution on vehicle operators. What drivers now see is brand new pavement built for them. Pedestrians have nowhere to walk or run but on the pavement, and with no shoulder there is no escape from a careless driver. Cyclists have no choice but to ride in the center of the traffic lane regardless of speed.

Since many cyclists and pedestrians rely on Gower Point, and it is now much less safe for them, we reluctantly conclude that this much needed project has a fatal design defect. Because MoTT’s own website indicates that modern design standards incorporating active transportation are part of your mandate, we further contend that any design process that doesn't include the safety of all road users by default is itself a defective process.

We respectfully request the following:



Elphinstone Community Association

info@elphinstonecommunity.ca

<https://elphinstonecommunity.ca>

Serving the Elphinstone Community since 1971

- That MoTT provide to the ECA the design standards under which this project came to be approved.
- That MoTT take steps, in consultation with our community, to supply the much needed active transportation infrastructure now, while the road is still under construction.

We hope that you will respond to our requests without delay. We very much want to support your efforts to improve our transportation infrastructure. Thank you again for your attention to our community's growing needs.

Yours truly,

Janet Oxley

David Weintraub

Brian Thicke

Rod Moorcroft

(all on behalf of the Elphinstone Community Association)

CC: Michael Braun, MoTT
Honourable Randene Neill
Donna McMahon, Area E
Transportation Choices
Capilano Highways