

Subject: RE: Mt. Fromme access and use for mountain biking

Date: Fri, 6 Jun 2003 09:26:23 -0700

From: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

To: <rnetzel>

CC: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

Dear Ms Netzel:

This is further to your e-mail and my reply to you re this issue. You may underestimate the magnitude of irresponsible behavior by some of these bikers. The number of Yahoos may only constitute 5 % of the total number of bikers but that is enough to create serious problems. Sex in open places, defecating and urinating on private properties in full view of children, blocking peoples access with cars, drinking, drugs etc, are not acceptable behavior, neither should people have to put up with such manifestations of barbarism.

It is always the same, the few spoil it for the many and we simply do not have the resources to police these places sufficiently to prevent serious problems.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

-----Original Message-----

From: Rhonda Netzel _____]

Sent: Friday, June 06, 2003 9:01 AM

To: Don Bell; Ernie Crist; Janice Harris; Maureen McKeon Holmes; Lisa Muri; Alan Nixon; Richard Walton; Susan Rogers

Subject: Mt. Fromme access and use for mountain biking

I would like to take this opportunity to express my opinion on the access and use of Mt. Fromme for mountain biking. I am an electrical engineer operating my own company on the north shore and a home owner in Deep Cove. I am by no means an atypical representation of the north shore mountain biking demographic. We are lawyers, engineers, businessmen/women, students, CEOs, housewives; are true cross-section of society.

The north shore mountains are a treasure and they are everyone who lives in the GVRD's treasure. The north shore mountains are world-reknowned for their mountain bike trails and are the home base to some of Canada's Olympic athletes. I count myself as lucky NV resident and a proud Canadian every time I meet someone who has travelled from another country to use our trails. Often times, they know the names of them better than myself, having read about them in magazines and seen them in videos.

The trails are maintained by dedicated passionate outdoor enthusiasts who care deeply about the longevity of the terrain. It is these volunteer trail maintenance groups that keep the trails in shape for everyone's future enjoyment.

I urge you to not let the voices of a few self-serving homeowners spoil the enjoyment of everyone's north shore mountains. There have to be some accepted downsides when you live next to a public facility. The homeowners proximity to the access point does not make them owners of the north shore mountains. A tragic example of implementing parking restraints to appease residents can be seen at the end of Riverside Drive. A few homeowners have been granted the privilege of enjoying some of the best swimming holes on the north shore while the rest of the public has been shut out. You can't fault the homeowners, who wouldn't want a beautiful serene mountain river all to themselves. The tragedy is that someone let them have their way.

My recommendation is to filter through the complaints of the homeowners for valid, specific concerns. Are they blocked into their driveways? (Send parking by-law enforcement officers). Did someone steal something? (Send the police). Did someone's dog do something in a yard? (Send the pound).

But DON'T, I beseech you, respond with a knee jerk ban on parking or worse ban on trail use.

Thank you for taking the time to read about my concerns. I am available for further consultation on this matter at any time.

Best regards,
Rhonda Netzel, PEng

