

Subject: [Fwd: Re: Monday night's Mtn. View Park motion (July 19)]

Date: Wed, 21 Jul 2004 14:19:31 -0700

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: Re: Monday night's Mtn. View Park motion (July 19)

Date: Wed, 21 Jul 2004 10:59:20 -0700

From: M E Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>

To: James Ridge <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, Mayor and Council - DNV <Council@dnv.org>, Senior Management Committee <managemcomm@dnv.org>

CC: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, Maureen Bragg <m.bragg@shaw.ca>, Liz James <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

Dear Mr. Ridge:

I have had a little time to think about what you said regarding agenda item on Mtn. View Park, and about it not predetermining the outcome of the Alpine Recreational Strategic Study. I strongly disagree with your comment to Council. We have had a lot of bicycle traffic through the park in the past few years. Since the RPO was implemented in our Upper Lynn neighbourhood, it did two things -- kept the commercial dog-walkers away, and "controlled" the amount of bike traffic we had coming through the park. It has been noted on the Alpine Plan maps (at the displays, recently) that the bulk of mountain biking is centred on Fromme in the Dempsey/Braemore area (west of Mtn. Hwy).

Since the "Griffen" trail, and others on the east side of Mtn Hwy gravel road, below "Roadside Attraction" area, were getting neglected, less mountain bikers were "risking" the trails there, leading into Mountain View Park. Thus mountain bike traffic was "dwindling" in numbers there. Many bikers said the area really wasn't an important area to ride, yet "feared" letting go of it due to the "slippery slope argument". I have repeatedly asked DNV to decommission the mtb trails leading into the park, to no avail. It falls on deaf ears.

Instead, much money was spent on building the "multi-use" gravel road through Mtn. View Park, and then letting the NSMBA join their bike trail to this trail (while their children and dogs romped freely in and around the sensitive pond all through the "trail day"-- June 27th). The lack of sensitivity shown this area by the mountain bike trail builders, has proved once again that mountain bikers care only about their trails and structures, and not one iota about the environment. Instead of decommissioning mtb trails into the park, I see that there are at least two more "Griffen" trail days planned this year on the NSMBA site. Why is DNV predetermining the Alpine Plan by allowing the fixing up of long neglected mtb trails that would have been better off being decommissioned? By allowing rebuilding of mtb trails, thus encouraging mountain biking, once again in Mountain View Park (officially), you have effectively **pre-determined** the outcome of the Alpine Plan. You have also threatened the environmental integrity of this sensitive wetland park (which cannot be returned to it's natural state without a lot of dollars being spent).

I am also getting conflicting reports, depending who I am speaking to, that there is no money left to properly fence the pond, and sensitive areas, this year. This is a slap in the face and shows poor "environmental leadership". All for the mountain bikers, and nothing left to protect a species at risk, and the pond. Great planning, folks! All DNV has done is to show its insensitivity to environmental concerns and it's lack of care to "community-sensitive planning". The Upper Lynn Community, and in particular, this Mountain View Park neighbourhood, will be feeling the effects of DNV's poor decision making for years to come.

Unless, mountain biking is BANNED from Mountain View Park, and mtb trails decommissioned leading into this park, the DNV will have to keep the RPO (Residential Parking Only) in effect, and supply a full-time, and consistent by-law officer to monitor and ticket those in the affected mountain bike zones in residential areas -- including Riverside Dr. area (at much expense). This is the only thing that is having some control over the mountain bike problem. Meanwhile the lower areas of Upper Lynn are being affected by mountain bike parking, etc. (Evelyn and Mill Streets, in particular re: my contact with homeowners there, and also on Dempsey).

Moving the problem down the hill is not a viable solution. I have yet to hear of the real "Solution". Bringing mountain biking into Mountain View Park "officially" is not a solution, and yet, like it or not, **HAS predetermined** the Alpine Recreational Strategic Plan's final outcome. Extreme sports does not belong in, or near, residential neighbourhoods, period! There is NO substantial buffer zone between this neighbourhood and the extreme sport. In the end, banning mountain biking from Mountain View Park will save a lot of money and grief for DNV. It will allow them to make the proper and best decisions for the "*mountain bike*" recreational strategic plan (which it effectively IS). But call it what you will, community sustainability should come first in DNV's priorities --- not the wiles of an aggressive sports group.

Please take my comments into serious consideration in determining the final outcome of the Alpine Recreational Strategic Plan, the future of Mountain View Park, and the integrity of this Upper Lynn Community. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monica Craver
North Vancouver, BC V7K 2R3