

**Subject: [Fwd: Re: Council Agenda 24 Jan 2005]**

**Date:** Sun, 23 Jan 2005 17:48:45 -0800

**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject: Re: Council Agenda 24 Jan 2005**

**Date:** Sun, 23 Jan 2005 17:15:32 -0800

**From:** Lyle Craver <lcraver@shaw.ca>

**To:** Mayor Janice Harris <jharris@dnv.org>, Councillor Alan Nixon <anixon@dnv.org>, Councillor Ernie Crist <ernie\_crist@dnv.org>, Councillor Lisa Muri <lmuri@dnv.org>, Councillor Maureen McKeon Holmes <mmckeonholmes@dnv.org>, Councillor Richard Walton <rwalton@dnv.org>

**CC:** FONVCA <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Dear Mayor and Council,

I have been avoiding e-mailing Councillors this week in view of the fact that District Hall is clearly extremely busy with the events of Wednesday morning and I do not want to prevent or delay anyone from doing what needs to be done in this time of crisis.

As someone who grew up in Blueridge (near Sechelt and Whitman) I can assure you that all us kids knew that the Riverside escarpment was NOT somewhere you played near since we all knew that getting our fannies covered in mud was the 'best case scenario'.

I am not surprised that it was felt necessary as a precautionary measure to close trails this week as was done shortly after noon on Thursday. Nevertheless we continue to see riders emerging from the woods both Thursday evening (at 10:30pm so let none say they were unaware of the closure) and today (Sunday). Given the environmental disasters of the past week surely no one should need a lesson on why chopping trees without permits is a bad thing? Yet we all know how many trees were illegally chopped down or spiked by Mr. "Dangerous Dan" Cowan in his illegal trail building. (One councillor I've spoken to insists Cowan is loathed by the NSMBA yet at Alpine Rec Study meetings Cowan was in the close company of and entirely friendly with at least three NSMBA board members.) We also know clearly that the ban on new trail construction passed by Council on 23 June 2003 has been repeatedly violated by NSMBA members and supporters.

I see from this week's Council Agenda that the North Shore Mountain Biking Association has determined that they think they deserve a seat on the Transportation Planning and Advisory Committee and that the Joint Bicycle Advisory Committee should report directly to Council.

This is absurd and should be rejected out of hand. TPAC concerns the movement of vehicles of all sorts on the streets and roads of North Vancouver. As a committee devoted to promoting "bicycling as a viable form of urban transportation" JBAC naturally reports to TPAC. There is no genuine recreational aspect to either TPAC or JBAC and as such why would Council consider involving recreational groups?

Both NSMBA and the Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition have the majority of their members from outside DNV - and members of both organizations who live in DNV are quite capable of applying for appointment to TPAC or JBAC via the usual process. That NSMBA supporters were NOT appointed by Council to TPAC says clearly that they either did not apply or the Mayor and Councillors found other more qualified applicants. NSMBA is already well-represented on PNEAC by one of their members who DID apply through the usual process.

Let us not give them via the back door what they are unable to achieve by the front door.

Best regards,  
Lyle Craver

Quote of the day:  
Where is there dignity unless there is honesty?

-Marcus Tullius Cicero