

**Subject: [Fwd: Re: FW: "Heavenly wheeling -- Mountain bikers blend exercise, great outdoors"]**

**Date:** Fri, 07 May 2004 14:57:05 -0700

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

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

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**Subject: Re: FW: "Heavenly wheeling -- Mountain bikers blend exercise, great outdoors"**

**Date:** Fri, 07 May 2004 18:31:46 +0100 (BST)

**From:** Elizabeth James <cagebc@yahoo.com>

**To:** Ernie Crist <ernie\_crist@dnv.org>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, Cagebc@yahoo.com

**CC:** Mayor and Council - DNV <Council@dnv.org>, Senior Management Committee <managecomm@dnv.org>

Clr. Crist:

That's a good letter. However, I'm sure at least as many letters are being written in support of 'the other side.'

Most readers of this email will know where I stand on the issue - dedication of appropriate areas for mountain biking, together with protection of wetlands, natural habitat and of areas for peace, quiet and contemplative thinking.

In the past, I have objected - albeit silently - to the worst of the mountain-bikers, who seemed to think the Baden-Powell was theirs to use and destroy. Today, it appears that bikers on North Shore mountains have reached a critical mass - to the point where political action needs to be taken. Let's hope that GVRD staff are up to the task and can find 2 or 3 areas in the Lower Mainland which are large enough and appropriate enough to provide a good experience for the bikers, and protected spaces for the rest of us....the silent majority, that is.

As for "auto-dependence" - it's a worthy goal. Things will not change, cannot change, until the people rises up to demand that transportation dollars be more wisely spent.....on affordable transit, region wide. And THAT cannot happen so long as we allow more and more SkyTrain to be built!

**SkyTrain is to GVRD transportation, what the Fast-Cats were to the BC Ferry system - a guarantee that the whole system will be brought to its knees for lack of sufficient money to support more appropriate solutions.**

Until the public is prepared to rise up and tell that to the decision-makers with one voice, nothing will change.

Sincerely,

Liz James

[604] 988--2066

*Ernie Crist* <ernie\_crist@dnv.org> wrote:

I AM PASSING THIS ON FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

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

From: Mike Vandeman [mailto:mjvande@pacbell.net]

Sent: May 6, 2004 9:33 PM

Subject: "Heavenly wheeling -- Mountain bikers blend exercise, great outdoors"

To: letters@tucsoncitizen.com

[http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/index.php?page=outdoors&story\\_id=050504c4\\_outmtnbike:](http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/index.php?page=outdoors&story_id=050504c4_outmtnbike)

In Tucson Outdoors, Wednesday, May 5, 2004

"[Mountain biking] is a beautiful dance between you and the bike and the terrain. Showing the gentler, kinder side of mountain biking is what I want to accomplish."

What HOGWASH! Mountain biking is, BY FAR, the most destructive activity ever allowed in our parks! One look at a mountain bike, with its rugged

construction and knobby tires, will tell you that it is up to no good. It's built tough because a normal bike can't ! withstand the beating it would get on the trail. Well, by Newton's laws of physics, the exact same forces that the trail apply to the bike, the bike also applies to the trail!

Even solid rock can't stand up under such a beating, much less the small animals that get crushed by the tires, or those that get driven away due to the increased human presence that the bikes enable. I would like to hear more honest reporting about mountain biking, that balances the thrills with the harm that mountain biking is doing to wildlife and people.

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I am working on creating wildlife habitat that is off-limits to humans ("pure habitat"). Want to help? (I spent the previous 8 years fighting auto dependence and road construction.)

<http://home.pacbell.net/mjvande>

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