

Subject: RE: Mountain Biking on Fromme

Date: Thu, 4 Mar 2004 20:44:55 -0800

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

To: "Grand Wazoo" <motherpeople@hotmail.com>, "Mayor Bell" <mayorbell@dnv.org>, <cam@nsmb.com>, "Janice Harris" <Janice_Harris@dnv.org>, "Maureen McKeon Holmes" <Maureen_McKeonHolmes@dnv.org>, "Lisa Muri" <lisa_muri@dnv.org>, "Alan Nixon" <Alan_Nixon@dnv.org>, "Richard Walton" <richard_walton@dnv.org>
CC: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <cagebc@yahoo.com>

Dear Shane Hayes;

I appreciate the good will you bring to the table. Unfortunately it is not quite as simple. The information I receive from a variety of sources including even from the Boy Scouts, not to speak of residents, many of whom are afraid of speaking up is that, mountain biking is a unique sport that takes a great toll on the environment. It is especially acute adjacent to residential areas and developed trail systems where this sport can do great harm.

It is for this reason that I have proposed the relocation of this site to one on the North Shore where bikers could do their thing without facing the obstacles they now face. What we have to keep in mind is that this wonderful sport will grow to astronomical proportions for it has world wide appeal. The number of messages I receive from around the world is truly astounding.

Notwithstanding, there is absolutely no doubt in my mind that you and most mountain bikers are responsible people with nothing but the best of intentions. I appreciate that and so do many of the residents. I can assure you that I believe in a win win situation and I will apply myself to achieve this objective.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

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

From: Grand Wazoo [<mailto:motherpeople@telus.net>]

Sent: March 4, 2004 7:53 PM

To: Mayor Bell; cam@nsmb.com; Ernie Crist; Janice Harris; Maureen McKeon Holmes; Lisa Muri; Alan Nixon; Richard Walton

Subject: Mountain Biking on Fromme

Dear Council Members:

My name is Shane Hayes and I am an avid mountain biker on the mountains of the North Shore. I have climbed every peak on the North Shore mountains on foot and have cycled close to every bike trail. I have NEVER had a bad experience with ANY cyclist while hiking the trails of the Shore. At the same time I always go out of my way to be sure not to inconvenience hikers while riding, thanking them for moving aside and always giving a friendly hello. I have never had any type of bad experience with ANY other person hiker or biker on Fromme or any other Mountain on the Shore.


In 1999 I moved to North Vancouver to be closer to the beauty and excitement of the mountains but due to the inconvenience of the (Then under reconstruction) bridge traffic I found it in my best interest to move back to downtown Vancouver. In the last few months I have once again been looking to make my home in North Vancouver. As I have followed this situation regarding biking on Fromme I have found myself wondering if North Vancouver is in fact the place for me to live. I find it hard to believe that people would even consider trying to stifle Mountain Biking considering the sport has put the city of NV on the world map. Every time the Edmonton Oilers play a hockey game, the name Edmonton is flashed not only on local media but around the world. Were it not for the Oilers, Edmonton would not exist to most of the world. Prior to mountain biking the city of NV was nothing more than VANCOUVER. Nobody new there was a difference! today a person would be hard pressed to find ANY mountain bike magazine, movie, tv show, etc, that would not mention and/or show North Vancouver. I personally would have NO reason to come to NV from my home in Vancouver were it not for mountain biking. As it is now I am

in NV at least twice a week. In my travels to your city I shop in your stores, I eat at your restaurants, I use your shops and services, all to the tune of a substantial portion of my yearly income. If I were a business owner I would be very upset to know that a small group of narrow minded people could cause such a negative effect on my business. Furthermore, a city with such an emphasis on tourism should have the foresight to realize the huge financial impact to be had from embracing a growing and world recognized sport. North Vancouver has a gift that very few places in the world can offer and it would be a shame to not do all that can be done to share it with the world.

Having said all this, I do realize there are a few Hooligans that may be inconsiderate to residents and or hikers. I fully sympathize with the residents who have had bad experiences but I am sure you are well aware that these situations are few and far between. Educating everyone involved of proper behavior would greatly increase the enjoyment for all involved as well as help people better understand things perhaps they are not aware of. I am sure groups like NSMBA would do all they could to take part in such programs to help keep costs minimal for all involved. I know that I would gladly donate my time for the good of residents, bikers and hikers alike!

I hope ALL the consequences and all points of view are considered so that all the parties involved can get along in harmony. In the year 2004 I find it hard to believe that people cannot be considerate to each other and get along especially when surrounded by such beautiful surroundings!

Thank you for your time
Shane Hayes

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