

Subject: FW: Conservation green belt needed!

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

To: <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

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

Sent: Friday, January 21, 2005 10:59 AM

To: Ernie Crist

Subject: Conservation green belt needed!

Dear Councillor Crist: I have been reading your comments about the mudslide the past few days in the news. I am aghast about landfill being used on cliffs for housing. Every area I know about (including my hometown in Ontario), added organic landfill has always created problems. A very expensive suburb in my Ontario hometown had houses cracking and shifting with five years due to "landfill". Much of this building was done in the late 1960's and early 1970's. We talked about a development project south of the landslide area, and problems like instability, in PNEAC last year. We were assured everything was just fine. Like the Van Sun letter I sent you, we are developing over too many wetlands, and need a greenbelt. We are just giving away too much. Too much is at stake.

I feel -- once again -- the Alpine plan is being pre-determined. In the last couple weeks many green "bike route" signs have been placed along Dempsey/Braemore, supposedly "training" the mountain bikers to get used to the proposed Braemar parking lot area. This is ahead of any decisions being made as to whether Council will be going ahead with the Alpine Rec plan. This is why people are just "giving up", here. What gives??

The "Extreme Hazard--Trails Closed" signs have gone up along Fromme Mountain area and Mountain View Park, late afternoon yesterday, yet the riders keep on coming in the pouring rain, and with trails running like little creeks (thanks to all the rock armouring of many trails). Last night, three nightriders came out of Mountain View Park at 10:30pm. This morning, on Braemar, a car with bike rack (empty) was parked near one of the trails into Fromme. These guys on mountain bikes just do not give a damn about anything but their own self-gratification!

With all that has happened the past couple days, we sorely need action toward conserving a greenbelt for the North Shore, not developing higher up the mountain on DNV lands. We do not need more "development" to carry extreme off-road recreational sports in our forests and wetlands. We need viable, thriving wetlands and forested greenbelts. There is already enough development up the mountain for extreme recreational sports in the form of Cypress, Grouse, LSCR and Mount Seymour. Further up there is Whistler. How many lessons need to be learned before we become proactive for conservation vs. unrestrained development? When does the insanity stop?? But the little green bike route signs say it all. The Alpine Plan is being pre-determined in favour of the mountain bikers.

Where is the million dollar plus funds going to come from to carry this sport on Fromme and soon Seymour area? Not from my pocket! Pass this letter on to those who you feel may be interested. Take care.

Monica Craver



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