Subject: [Fwd: Mountain Biking on the North Shore]

Subject: Mountain Biking on the North Shore
Date: Mon, 16 May 2005 12:58:36 -0400
From: Stephen Belch <SBelch@assante.com>
To: "'council@dnv.org'" <council@dnv.org>
CC: "'fonvca@fonvca.org'" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Please don't allow Ernie Crist to stop the sport we love so much.

One of the reasons why I purchased my first home at 1625 Alderlynn Drive (18th & Mountain Highway) was so I could cycle right from my house to the trails on Mt. Fromme. I am also well-positioned to be able to use the HuckWagon on Mount Seymour with pickup service from SuperStore. This minimizes the use of a car which I understand annoys local residents at the top of Mtn Highway & over in the Seymour area.

While I can appreciate that some concerned people may think this sport causes environmental damage, the trails that have been constructed make use of techniques which are sustainable. I urge people who are concerned to simply go take a look at them so they can see this fact for themselves. The maintenance & upkeep of the trails is ongoing.

Hopefully once the bike park opens at Cypress Bowl, that may relieve some of the sheer numbers of people using the local mountains to some degree.

It is also very important for Council to understand that the vast majority of people comprising the mountain biking community are responsible citizens. Most of us are not yahoo's or skids. In fact, I would suggest that the main age demographics are people in their 30's & 40's with above-average incomes. Most of us are normal human beings, constructive & employed individuals, who have decent jobs. And yes, many of us vote in elections.

I will be watching what happens & which members on Council are supportive to this quality sport which is so important to my well-being & enjoyment of life. Please don't pass Ernie Crist's motion set for this evening, May 16th.

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