

Editorial: Stanley Park cycling plan badly needed

The Province September 9, 2011



Vancouver Parks Board wants the public's help in developing a solution to increasing conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians in Stanley Park. Photograph by: Arlen Redekop - PNG Files, The Province

In August, bike counters were placed in three locations along the Stanley Park seawall. The Vancouver Parks Board, with support from the city's engineering department, was collecting data for a study that will be completed later this year. The study will include short-and long-term recommendations to improve the safety and enjoyment of the cycling experience in the park.

Providing the research does not result in sweeping changes and/or significant expenditures, we support the study.

As anyone who was on the seawall this past long weekend will attest, usage can be overwhelming.

And while pedestrians pose little to no risk to others, regardless of how crowded the walk gets, the same cannot be said for cyclists.

Cyclists on the seawall can be a dangerous menace. It must be said that most bike riders obey the speed limits and walk in designated dismount areas. But there exists a significant number of cyclists who don't follow these simple rules. This behaviour puts pedestrians, including children, at risk of being struck and seriously injured.

As part of its report, the board is holding two open houses tomorrow in the park.

For more information go to www.vancouver.ca/parks.

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