

From: Jamie Proctor [REDACTED]
Sent: October-24-24 6:37 PM
To: Council
Subject: Support for Protected Bike Lanes on Esquimalt Road

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I'm writing to urge support for the implementation of protected bike lanes on Esquimalt Road.

As I biked home today, I reflected on the significant progress Esquimalt has made in creating safer ways for people to move around town, no matter how they travel. Our family commutes daily - by foot, car, and bike - and the current painted lines don't provide a strong sense of safety for pedestrians nor cyclists.

Esquimalt Road is a central corridor for our community, and forcing cyclists onto longer, indirect routes makes driving the default choice. Building protected lanes offers more choice for everyone. By investing in them, we can improve safety, promote sustainability, and reduce traffic congestion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jamie Proctor
809 Selkirk Ave

From: Eric Rotgans [REDACTED]
Sent: October-27-24 7:32 PM
To: Council
Subject: Esquimalt Road Active Transportation Improvements and Utilities Upgrades Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am writing to express my support for the Active Transportation Improvements and Utilities Upgrades Project **Phase I Esquimalt Road from Dominion Road to Joffre Street.**

Though I support underground infrastructure maintenance and necessary upgrades generally, ***I am writing today specifically in support of the proposed cycling and pedestrian improvements.***

As seniors in Esquimalt, living in a 'car-lit' maner we generally do 75% of our shopping by bicycle. We rarely 'go for a bike ride' but rather use our bikes to go do the day to day shopping and errands of life. Groceries, the pharmacy, the library, Cafe or down the road to Thrifty Foods or into Vic West or downtown Victoria, we generally and most frequently GoBy Bike.

So you see a 'recreational' route along Lyall St. is not appropriate to our needs. We are traveling to get things done, to do commerce, supporting our local retailers and service providers. Providing safe bike infrastructure has been shown in many studies to increase business traffic.

We are among the privileged but choose to own one car that we use for longer trips - but within five kilometers we generally use a bike - yes, through most of the year.

Thank-you for supporting Active Transportation making Esquimalt a vibrant place to live.

Eric Rotgans

From: Kym Thrift [REDACTED]
Sent: October-28-24 9:19 AM
To: Council
Cc: Joel Clary; Charles Davie
Subject: Support for Active Transportation & Underground Improvements (Oct. 28 Mtg; EPW-24-026)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing in support of Council proceeding with Phase 1 of the Esquimalt Road Active Transportation and Underground Improvements. This will continue the Township's leadership and commitment to climate action, community safety and active living.

This action would continue implementation of the Township's Active Transportation Network Plan and lead to significant improvements to pedestrian and cycling, as outlined in the Staff and "What We Heard Report".

The township has capable staff that are able to deliver the project with a sensible design. We have seen this from the Tillicum road improvements that the project was completed and is operating well; including minor changes that were made to balance all road user needs in a reasonable way.

I also support the direction to leverage other sources of funding towards this project which demonstrates good financial management.

Finally, as a regular user of the Tillicum and Lampson improvements, I can say they have made a big change personally, for my family, and also for the increasing number of users that I never used to see using the corridor due a lack of safety.

I look forward to continued Council leadership.

Kind regards,

Kym Thrift
Esquimalt Resident

From: David Shaw [REDACTED]
Sent: October-28-24 9:24 AM
To: Council
Subject: Regarding council meeting October 27th 2024

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Council,

I hope your day is going well. I am unable to attend tonight's meeting as I am hosting a chamber of commerce event tonight.

Our two businesses on Esquimalt Road at 1316 and 1318 Esquimalt Road are against removing street parking to replace them with bike lanes. The majority of our clients come from outside Esquimalt. By removing bike lanes it will severely impact our business. The city of Esquimalt benefits by driving in new customers from outside its own economic bubble. Please reconsider and move the biking lanes to Lyal Street along the commercial drag. There is already highly visible pedestrian signage to protect cyclists and to warn drivers. Any cyclists accessing our businesses can turn up the corresponding streets that run perpendicular to Esquimalt Road.

Thank you,
David Shaw
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: andrea schadeck [REDACTED]
Sent: October-28-24 9:36 AM
To: Council
Subject: Removing parking for bike lanes

Categories: Inputted in to Mail Log

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern,

I have to get to the point and say as a part owner of an Esquimalt business, Errant Empire, I am against dedicated bike lanes on Esquimalt Road. I have no issue with a bike lane taking up part of the road on Lyall Street. That is mostly residential but is very close to the main drag and wouldn't impact any businesses. A good portion of our clients are elderly and need to park close to our shop for easier access.

We also have to do improvements or drop off deliveries and equipment to our shop and it is hard to do when there is no parking close to the door. Our business does not have any rear doors. The only access is the front door. The 3 private parking spots we have are at the rear of the building. This doesn't provide access for deliveries and the elderly would have to walk up a rather steep incline to get from the lot to the front door.

I'm all for bike lanes, but realistically, I don't see many bike riders using them for a good portion of the year while it is raining heavily. For the few riders who ride rain or shine, I think Lyall Street is a much better solution and also wouldn't impact all of the local businesses. Small businesses are already struggling after the Covid debacle and after the economy in the last several months. I think any detriment to customers getting to local shops will be a hit to our bottom lines.

If you want a thriving community, we need strong local businesses. I would like to have both: happy and healthy businesses and happy and healthy bike riders. I think a different street could provide both.

Thank you for your time,
Andrea Schadeck

Sent from my iPhone