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JUN 04 2012

CRD PARKS

The Corporation of the District of Saanich | Corporate Services | Legislative  
770 Vernon Avenue Victoria BC V8X 2W7 | T 250-475-1775 | F 250-475-5440 | www.saanich.ca

File: 1310-40

May 30, 2012

Susan Brice, Chair  
Regional Parks Committee  
Capital Regional District  
490 Atkins Avenue  
Victoria, BC V9B 2Z8

CRD EXECUTIVE OFFICE		
Received		
JUN 8 - 2012		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Chair	<input type="checkbox"/> GM CS	<input type="checkbox"/> GM IWS
<input type="checkbox"/> GM ES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks Agenda	

\* to draft response

V S. Brice

Dear Chair Brice:

**PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE CENTRE FOR PLANT HEALTH (EXTENSION TO THE INTERURBAN RAIL TRAIL)**

This letter will confirm that on May 28, 2012 Saanich Council considered a recommendation from their Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee (BIPED) regarding the proposed closure of the Centre for Plant Health in North Saanich and the need to secure the old Interurban rail right-of-way through this property as an important link to extend the Interurban Rail Trail. Council passed the following resolution:

*"That Council urge Capital Regional District (CRD) Parks to contact the federal government to request that the missing trail link located on the Centre for Plant Health site be identified and secured, through whatever means possible, as an important extension to the Interurban Rail Trail, should the property be sold in the future."*

Attached is background information from Saanich's BIPED meeting.

Council looks forward to receiving comments back from the Regional Parks Committee following review of the matter.

Sincerely,

Donna Dupas  
Legislative Manager

cw

Attachment

cc: The Honourable Peter Kent, Federal Minister of Environment  
Dr. William Lanterman, Director – Centre for Plant Health  
Councillor Judy Brownoff, Chair (BIPED)  
MaryAnn Greco, Senior Committee Clerk



Making a difference...together

Regional Parks  
490 Atkins Avenue  
Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 2Z8

T: 250.478.3344  
F: 250.478.5416  
[www.crd.bc.ca/parks](http://www.crd.bc.ca/parks)

July 23, 2012

Donna Dupas, Legislative Manager  
The Corporation of the District of Saanich  
770 Vernon Avenue  
Victoria, BC V8X 2W7

Dear Donna Dupas:

**Re: Proposed Closure of the Centre for Plant Health (Extension to the Interurban Rail Trail)**

Thank you for your letter of May 30, 2012. Please accept my apologies for the long delay in responding.

The old Interurban rail right-of-way through the property of the Centre for Plant Health in North Saanich is not identified in the CRD's recently approved Regional Parks Strategic Plan as a future Regional Trail. However, the CRD's Regional Pedestrian and Cycling Master plan (March 2011) does identify and recommend the route as a Primary Inter-Community Bikeway. Such a bikeway differs from the multi-use Regional Trails such as the Lochside or Galloping Goose regional trails. As such, planning matters related to the recommended bikeway are dealt with by the CRD's Planning and Protective Services department.

I understand from staff that the matter raised in the Saanich Council motion will be dealt with at the next meeting of the Planning, Transportation and Protective Services Committee on Wednesday July 25<sup>th</sup>. Comments from that meeting will be forwarded to Saanich Council.

Sincerely,

Susan Brice  
Chair, Regional Parks Committee

6130.01



# TOWN OF SIDNEY

2440 Sidney Avenue, Sidney, British Columbia V8L 1Y7  
Phone: (250) 656-1184 Fax: (250) 655-4508  
email: townhall@sidney.ca Website: www.sidney.ca

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JUN 21 2012

TOWN OF SIDNEY

June 15, 2012

Lloyd Rushton,  
General Manager  
CRD Parks & Community Services  
490 Atkins Avenue  
Victoria, BC V9B 2Z8

Dear Mr. Rushton:

**Subject: Proposed Closure of the Centre for Plant Health  
- extension to the Interurban Rail Trail**

This is to advise you that Sidney Town Council, at a meeting held on June 11, 2012, considered the proposed closure of the Centre for Plant Health and passed the following resolution:

*That the CRD Parks be urged to contact the federal government to request that the missing trail link located on the Centre for Plant Health site be identified and secured, through whatever means possible, as an important extension of the Interurban Rail Trail, should the property be sold in the future.*

Council is in support of securing the old rail right of way through this property as an important regional link into the north part of Saanich.

Best Regards,

Sandi Dunic  
Deputy Clerk

c. District of Saanich



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Regional Parks  
490 Atkins Avenue  
Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 2Z8

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July 20, 2012

Sandi Dunic, Deputy Clerk  
Town of Sidney  
2440 Sidney Avenue  
Sidney, BC V8L 1Y7

Dear Sandi Dunic:

**Re: Proposed Closure of the Centre for Plant Health (Extension to the Interurban Rail Trail)**

Thank you for your letter of June 15, 2012. Please accept my apologies for the long delay in responding which was due to a mix-up at our end.

The old Interurban rail right-of-way through the property of the Centre for Plant Health in North Saanich is not identified in the CRD's recently approved Regional Parks Strategic Plan as a future Regional Trail. However, the CRD's Regional Pedestrian and Cycling Master plan (March 2011) ~~does identify and recommend the route as a Primary Inter-Community Bikeway.~~ Such a bikeway differs from the multi-use Regional Trails such as the Lochside or Galloping Goose regional trails. As such, I have forwarded your letter to the CRD's Planning and Protective Services department where planning matters related to the recommended bikeway are dealt with.

I understand that the matter raised in the Sidney Town Council motion will be dealt with at the next meeting of the Planning, Transportation and Protective Services Committee on Wednesday July 25<sup>th</sup>. Comments from that meeting will be forwarded to you Council.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Rushton  
General Manager  
Parks and Community Services

