

February 18, 2014

His Worship Mayor Naheed Nenshi and Council

Office of the Mayor

The City of Calgary

P.O Box 2100, Station M,

Calgary, AB, T2P 2M5

Dear Mayor Nenshi and Council:

As I am unable to attend the SPC on Transportation and Transit committee on February 19, 2014, I am writing to ask you to support the upcoming plan for cycletracks in our downtown.

I live in Ward 4 and am one of the fortunate ones who use the cycling infrastructure that has been implemented in the Northwest portion of Calgary over the last few years. I started commuting by bike to our downtown office 2 years ago, and I now ride to work almost daily. I am not a cycling fanatic. I own 2 vehicles and sometimes commute using transit, and I occasionally drive. Although there are many benefits to commuting by bike, the primary reason I choose to cycle downtown to work because it is fun.

I'm confident that, if placed properly and as a portion of a usable network, other people will use cycle tracks for not only commuting, but for recreational purposes as well.

As I mentioned above, I am lucky to have the existing cycling infrastructure in place for my commute. The last part of my 13 km bike commute takes me down the 10th St. NW bike lanes, over the Peace Bridge, and onto the 7th St. cycle track. On three occasions last summer I did that same ride into downtown with my family, including my then 9 and 13 year old children. We parked in the bike cage at my office and went shopping at a number of the downtown stores and restaurants.

The City of Calgary has an excellent pathway system; however some routes into and through the downtown area are virtually inaccessible by bike unless one is brave and skilled enough to ride on the roads. If properly placed, engineered, and maintained cycle tracks are installed downtown, I feel citizens from a large number of neighborhoods would be given the opportunity to enjoy Calgary as much as I can.

I greatly appreciate the fact that our city is exploring this subject.

Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,

Trevor Marr

