
From: InfoAlias
Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 1:48 PM
To: Proton, Adriana; Dallamore, Cammy
Subject: FW: Comment on OCP Strategic Priorities

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From: Jenn Hall [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 1:43 PM
To: InfoAlias <info@courtenay.ca>
Subject: Comment on OCP Strategic Priorities

Hello,

I love the direction the OCP is headed, however I have two concerns: The part where you want to work with MOTI to address congestion at the 17th st bridge, you're not thinking of adding extra lanes, are you? There isn't a single study that exists that shows that extra lanes take care of congestion in the long term. Once safe, wide cycling lanes, sensors that change the lights within town when you're on your bike, and a proper maintenance schedule are implemented, the traffic on that bridge will take care of itself.

The other concern I have is the continued lack of a noise bylaw. If anyone has ever walked down 5th anytime of year (it's much worse in the summer, but still happens year round), you almost can't have a conversation because of the amount of vehicles doing their best to bounce that wildly loud noise off of the concrete buildings. It's extremely stressful for the residents who are living on 5th, and for anyone who wants to dine on a patio and just can't, because they can't have a conversation with whoever they're with, let alone ask the wait staff for napkins and what not. We should really be trialling 2 weeks a month from June to August where 5th is shut down for all of Saturday and all of Sunday. That'll divert traffic, encourage businesses who normally close on Sunday to hire staff and stay open, and will increase the amount of sales that every business gets. This has been proven several times all over the world, including here in Canada. As someone who lives on 5th, I can tell you that Bigfoot is doing rather well, now that they're open on Sunday. I used to love the light traffic, but that doesn't happen anymore, because donuts.

I don't begrudge anyone their donuts, believe me, but I am willing to bet that because of their business being open on Sundays. multiple other businesses would benefit just because of their traffic alone. I saw that there was a plan to try to attract more business to Courtenay. Why not start by watching and keeping metrics on what happens to businesses on Saturdays in the summer who are open and no one has to deal with cars?

Jenn