

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# City supports safe cycling with opening of new bike lane along Bruce Ave.

Residents encouraged to grab their bike and go cycling!

## **Summary**

A new alternative transportation solution was officially added to the City of Nanaimo's roads network this morning. A bike lane running down Bruce Ave. is now available to residents wishing to safely commute by bike. The new lane was added as a deliverable of the City's Transportation Master Plan which includes the goal of increasing cycling throughout Nanaimo by 400 per cent by developing a cycling network that connects the City's neighbourhoods together with quality cycling facilities.

On hand to mark the opening of the new lane were Mayor John Ruttan, Councillor George Anderson, Councillor-elect Wendy Pratt and Councillor-elect Jerry Hong.

*Strategic Link:* Creation of alternative transportation solutions, including bike lanes, supports the transportation priority of the City's Strategic Plan.

# **Key Points**

- During 2014, the City of Nanaimo developed over 3 km. of new bike lanes. Locations include: Hammond Bay Rd., Linely Valley Dr., Bowen Rd. and Bruce Ave.
- For 2015, cyclists will be able to access additional bike lane infrastructure with the addition of lanes along Boundary Ave. from Bowen Rd. to Northfield Rd.
- In many cases, cycling facilities can be developed for less money and faster by integrating them with existing roads projects, including road repaying projects or senior government grants and funding.

#### Quotes

"Today marked the opening of another alternative and safe method of transportation for Nanaimo residents who value the importance of commuting throughout our community by bike. As more and more kilometres of bikes lanes are added, I'm confident more and more people will switch to cycling as a convenient, sustainable and healthy option for local travel."

John Ruttan Mayor City of Nanaimo Continued... City supports safe cycling with opening of new bike lane along Bruce Ave.

### **Contact:**

Gordon Foy Manager of Transportation City of Nanaimo 250-755-4409



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