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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
Date: 9/9/2020 4:05:12 PM
Subject: Cyclists on sidewalks - enforcement

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

In follow up to a concern regarding cyclists riding on sidewalks and the associated risk to seniors and other vulnerable pedestrians, I am forwarding the following response from VPD regarding their members' work to enforce the Motor Vehicle Act and City bylaws. To confirm, we rely on VPD members to play this enforcement role given limitations on the legal authorities of City staff.

The VPD views road safety as a shared responsibility. All road users – cyclists, pedestrians and drivers – have a role to play in keeping Vancouver's roads safe for everyone. However, we recognize that seniors are a vulnerable segment of the population, and we do our best to ensure sidewalks are clear throughout the city.

We focus significantly on education and awareness and partner with organizations like ICBC to roll out numerous campaigns throughout the year.

The VPD's Traffic Section has primary responsibility for enforcing road safety legislation for cyclists, pedestrians and drivers. However, in addition to writing violation tickets, the Traffic Section also prioritizes providing warnings and face-to-face education when violations are observed.

In 2018, the VPD wrote 764 CoV by-law and provincial *Motor Vehicle Act* tickets to cyclists specifically. In 2019, 611 tickets were written to cyclists. From January 1 to July 31, 2020, 177 tickets have been written.

The decline in tickets in 2020 is due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This decline was also observed in other areas of traffic enforcement. During the pandemic, officers from the Traffic Section were deployed to other areas to help provide support to patrol officers and to help tackle the increase in break-ins to commercial premises left vacant due to pandemic restrictions. All patrol members were asked to continue enforcement if they observed behavior on the road that posed a direct threat to public safety. The decline in enforcement also helped to reduce contact with the public, in line with physical distancing requirements.

Best,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.