

Marine Drive Petition Position Paper 2021

As a resident of White Rock, I oppose the Summer *Marine Drive Westbound Lane Closure* decided by [City Council on May 10, 2021](#):

- There was no consultation with the residents of White Rock, namely those living on **Victoria** and **Columbia Avenue** and **Maple Street**. They will be directly and negatively impacted by a significant increase in traffic (250+ vehicles/hour during peak).
- Increased vehicular traffic on **Victoria Avenue** and **Maple Street** is a serious safety concern; inadequate sidewalks for pedestrians and emergency service vehicles (Fire and Police) will be impeded with slower response times. **Ash Street** is a major pedestrian walking pathway with no sidewalks leading to the stairs at East Beach. "The Marine Drive lane closures are not recommended due to potential safety concerns described, impacts on residents, reduction in available parking spaces for visitors, logistical challenges for loading restaurant supplies and unbudgeted costs". (See report by Jim Gordon, White Rock Director of Engineering, to Mayor and City Council dated April 26, 2021).
- Rushed notice. White Rock residents were notified by letter dated June 1st, 2021 (received June 3rd) to prepare for a detour starting on June 7th, 2021.
- Clogged arteries will divert traffic to laneways and smaller streets (**Victoria** and **Marine Lane**, **Balsam**, **Finlay**, **Fir** and **Ash Street** and **Johnston Road**) and will equate to increased climate change implications.
- For the restaurants of Marine Drive, indoor and outdoor dining is now allowed with capacity limits based on physical distancing requirements and other rules in British Columbia negating the need for the *Marine Drive Westbound Lane Closure*. I support these restaurants with my patronage.
- Canadian Federal Government has already provided financial relief to White Rock restaurants through CERB and low interest rates.

The solution is to maintain the existing two-way traffic on Marine Drive. By signing this petition, you support this measure. Please feel free to sign and return the petition to me at k.sean.graham@gmail.com or private message me for further details.