

From: Stuart Westie [REDACTED]
Sent: March 1, 2024 4:51 PM
Subject: HWY 20 / Williams Lake

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Dear Leaders,

I am writing in support of calls for improvements to the section of Highway 20 in Williams Lake for cyclists, pedestrians and mobility-device users. I echo the call from the City of Williams Lake for the Ministries of Environment and Climate Change and Transportation and Infrastructure to work with our local governments to improve Highway 20 through our community. This section divides our community, limits the options of those who would like to be able to move safely between these sides of our city and endangers those who have no option but to walk, ride or roll.

Due to this section of highway, major recreational trail areas are challenging to access without a vehicle. It also limits the tourism and economic opportunities for our community.

The debris-laden shoulders, the lack of access for cyclists to bridge walkways and lack of a safe option on the bridges heading west, poorly-placed barriers and high speed of traffic through this section make it a major barrier for connectivity in our community and has a negative impact on air quality.

Improving this section could greatly improve safety, air quality, and sustainable growth in our community.

I support all levels of government working together, with the province enabling our community to build a healthier, more sustainable, inclusive and accessible community by improving this section of highway for those outside of vehicles.

Sincerely,

Stuart Westie

PS I ride this portion of the hwy 330 days a year, back and forth and it is dangerous for a variety of reasons ... one reason not mentioned above is that both ends of this section is regulated by traffic lights which cause traffic to flow through in packs of 20 - 50 vehicles at a time, in two lanes ... the right hand lane traffic comes dangerously close to me ... try to do something before I get killed ...