

# COMOX VALLEY CYCLING TASK FORCE & COMOX VALLEY CYCLING COALITION

News  
Release

For immediate release

June 8, 2011

## Livable community design ideas coming to the Comox Valley

The Comox Valley cycling task force and the Comox Valley cycling coalition have teamed up with community livability advisor Gil Peñalosa on a two day series of events that include a free public presentation from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday June 16 at Native Sons Hall in Courtenay.

The presentation will give residents in the Comox Valley an opportunity to hear about innovations in community planning and design for livability, and to learn how that can translate into opportunities for our region. Doors for the public event open at 6:30, and the free tickets can be obtained in advance at recreation centres in Courtenay, Comox and Cumberland, and at Simon's Cycles, Black Cycles, Mountain City Cycles, Broken Spoke, Trail Cycles, or Dodge City Cycles.

"Gil is well known for his inspirational talks," said Jim Gillis, chair of the Comox Valley cycling task force. "This session will help lead to an understanding of what cycling and other active transportation communities are doing, and what is reasonable and feasible in the Comox Valley. We will also learn how to move from talking about these things to actively doing them."

Gil Peñalosa is the executive director of 8-80 Cities, a non-profit

organization dedicated to the transformation of people-oriented communities that are easily accessible, safe and enjoyable by eight to 80 year olds. 8-80 Cities is advised by some of the world's leading experts in urban planning, public health, conservation and sustainable development.



Ryan Road, Courtenay / Photo: CV Cycling Coalition



Stanley Park Seawall, Vancouver / Photo: 8-80 Cities

Safe, efficient, integrated and multi-modal transportation is one of the tenets of the sustainability strategy received by the Comox Valley Regional District in 2010, to be used as a guide for local governments to consider sustainability in all future actions. A sustainable transportation system provides for convenient mobility with low environmental impact.

In addition to the public event on June 16, local government elected officials, senior staff and community representatives will meet with Mr Peñalosa for a number of activities over his two day visit. The activities will include a tour of cycling "hotspots" in the Comox Valley, and dialogues on what makes a community livable and how walking, cycling and public places are the foundation for vibrant communities, and how the Comox Valley has the potential to become one of the most livable places in the world.

*The **Comox Valley Cycling Task Force** comprises politicians and staff from each of the four local jurisdictions.*

*The **Comox Valley Cycling Coalition** is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating a safe environment for cycling in the Comox Valley and encouraging cycling as an effective, economical, healthy and environmentally friendly mode of transportation.*

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