

Vancouver residents and persons who work downtown re: motorcycle parking

Please see below a motion for on-street free motorcycle parking. As a resident of Vancouver you have the power to bring about positive change for motorcyclists who live and work in the downtown core. Please take the time send an email to mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca with your feelings on this matter. Motorcyclists who work in the downtown may want to forward this to friends who are residents as well. This is your chance to be heard!

Adele Tompkins
Executive Director
B.C. Coalition of Motorcyclists

From: Adele Tompkins [mailto:adele@bccom-bc.com]
Sent: October 8, 2009 9:08 AM
To: 'mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca'
Cc: 'Ian Tootill'
Subject: Motorcycle/Scooter parking motion

The B.C. Coalition supports this motion 100% and asks that the Council and Staff look towards the future of where this city will be in 5-10 years regarding congestion. The motorcycle/scooter is seen, in most major cities in the world, as a positive alternative to the car for the many reasons which this motion lists. Every one of you has a copy of the "Vancouver Parking Initiative" that was presented in 2003 by the B.C. Coalition of Motorcyclists then every year since, now is time to be pro-active regarding this transportation alternative to the single occupant vehicle.

Sincerely,

Adele Tompkins
Executive Director
B.C. Coalition of Motorcyclists

MOTION

Scooter and Motorcycle on - street parking

WHEREAS the City of Vancouver should do everything in its power to encourage its residents to use environmentally friendly modes of transportation; and

WHEREAS Canada is committed to the Kyoto Protocol; and

WHEREAS Vancouver residents are being urged to do their part in the federal government's One-Tonne Challenge (Canada to reduce its annual greenhouse gas emissions by one tonne); and

WHEREAS the Greenest City Initiative mandate includes reducing pollution, improving transportation and its action plan will identify best practices from leading cities around the world; and

WHEREAS there are greater than 26000 motorcycles and scooters in Vancouver and the rate of growth for usage has been 5 times that of passenger vehicles in BC over the last 5 years; and

WHEREAS motorized scooters use up to 90 percent less gasoline than passenger cars and trucks, and motorcycles use less fuel than cars and trucks; and

WHEREAS scooters and motorcycles are significantly smaller than cars and trucks (often carrying the same number of passengers), use far less road space, thus reduce congestion and gridlock; and

WHEREAS scooters and motorcycles are significantly lighter than other vehicles, thus cause less wear and tear on roadways and thereby leave a small footprint; and

WHEREAS scooters and motorcycles regularly encounter problems when currently parking because other vehicle operators often do not see the cycles thus damaging them which incurs increased costs for all insurance ratepayers; and

WHEREAS there is very little on-street parking available on Vancouver roadways, forcing motorized cycle operators to find innovative solutions which are often illegal and sometimes dangerous; and

WHEREAS most tourist destinations worldwide facilitate scooter and motorcycle transportation; and

WHEREAS best practices in neighboring cities with similar transportation challenges to Vancouver's (including San Francisco, Portland and Toronto) all have established free and abundant parking to encourage and accommodate scooter and motorcycle use; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Vancouver City Council request Parking and Engineering staff to initiate a revenue neutral change to present bylaws to free up street parking by designating free of charge parking for motorized scooters and motorcycles in all 6 meter spaces between pedestrian crosswalks and auto parking AFTER intersections.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, given the small size of certain scooters (both electric and gas), the City of Vancouver amend the relevant right of way and parking by-laws to allow certain scooter operators to park on sidewalks, as long as they are not obstructing pedestrian flow, similar to the way in which non-motorized bicycles are permitted to be parked on sidewalks.

http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/councilmeetings/documents/motionb2_000.pdf