

Informed Consent Form (Qualitative Study)

Project title

TACES CRD Gendered Trail Use Initiative: addressing the cycling gender gap on CRD regional trails

Study Investigators

Primary investigator: Chelsea Power (she/her/they/them), Research Coordinator at the Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria (CSPC).

Email: chelseap@communitycouncil.ca

Co-investigator: Talula Gent (she/her), summer research student at CSPC.

Email: talula@communitycouncil.ca

Funding source

Transportation Access Climate and Economic Security (TACES) project, via the Vancouver Foundation's Systems Change Grant.

Invitation to participate

You are invited to participate in a research study exploring the cycling gender gap on regional trails in the Capital Regional District (CRD). Participation is optional and consent is ongoing; there will be no negative impacts if you decide not to participate, including your relationship with the researcher. This form will explain what is involved in this project and what will be asked of you. Please read carefully and don't hesitate to ask any questions that come up. Consent is an ongoing process: You will be alerted of any changes to the project that would affect your participation, and you may withdraw your consent at any time.

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Purpose of the research study

The purpose of this study is to discover and mitigate barriers to cycling on regional trails in the Capital Regional District (CRD) to make them easier to use and more accessible for everyone with an emphasis on gender barriers. Data has indicated that the trails are used more by men for cycling, we aim to investigate this unequal gender ratio and explore possible solutions to mitigate barriers to cycling for women and people with non-binary gender identities.

What you will be asked to do

You will be asked to attend: one group 'ride along' session in August 2022 (walk or bike a part of one of the CRD regional trails with a group of 5-10 people, 2 facilitators, biking instructor and CRD staff), one focus group session in fall 2022, and a solutions workshop in the spring 2023. You will be asked to provide feedback either verbally or written about the trails and your experiences. You will be asked to either bike the trails or walk them depending on your comfort level. The trail length will range from 5-10 km and the location and times will be provided ahead of time.

Bike loans are available for participants that do not have access to a bike.

Who can take part in the research study?

Anyone who:

- is over the age of 18
- identifies as a woman, nonbinary, gender queer or non-men
- is interested in using a bicycle
- can arrange travel to the walk and rides

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- can communicate in English
- Available August 23rd from 10am-12pm or August 24th from 2pm-4pm

Possible risks and benefits

Risks: The risks associated with this study are no greater than the risks that are foreseeable from day-to-day life. There is a small chance of physical harm caused from a crash on the monitored trail rides. There is also a risk of psychological harm if a participant has had a negative experience in the past on regional trails or while using a bike. By agreeing to participate in this research, you are not giving up or waiving any legal rights if you are harmed during the research.

Benefits: There is no guarantee that you will benefit directly from participating in this study. However, you will be involved in the process of improving access to regional trails in the CRD, ensuring your voice is heard by decision makers, making the Greater Victoria area more accessible and safer for women and people with diverse gender identities, and being a part of the fight against climate change via accessible active transportation. You will also participate in a focus group that may provide you with different perspectives and opinions regarding cycling, safety and having your voice heard.

Compensation / reimbursement

You will be paid for your time participating in the study. An honorarium of \$21 per hour will be awarded to active participants for their time participating in the study.

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Privacy and confidentiality

Participant information will be kept confidential. Participants will not be identified by name in any reports of the completed study. The personal information collected in this project is handled in accordance with the Privacy Act. You have the right to correct or gain access to any of your personal information. We will only be collecting information needed to carry out the study.

No personal information will be shared with anyone outside of the core research team, unless required by law. Instances where researchers are required, by law, to breach confidentiality includes the following: child abuse or neglect that is ongoing and unknown to police, cases of imminent risk of physical harm to oneself or another, cases of sexual abuse, sexual assault, or sexual harassment by a health professional.

Limits to confidentiality

Please be aware that there are limits to confidentiality in a focus group and workshop setting. All members of the focus group and workshop will be asked to respect the privacy of other members and to keep what is said confidential. However, there is no guarantee that they will do so. Please keep this in mind when deciding what you feel comfortable sharing.

Withdrawing from the study

Your participation is completely voluntary, and you are under no obligation to participate. You may withdraw at any time.

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Questions and contact information

For any questions or concerns regarding the project or your participation please contact:

Chelsea Power

chelseap@communitycouncil.ca

Or

Talula Gent

talula@communitycouncil.ca

Signature Page

Project title: TBD

Lead Researcher: Chelsea Power, email: chelseap@communitycouncil.ca

Statement of consent

By signing this form, I agree that:

- The study has been explained to me
- All my questions have been answered
- Possible harm and discomforts and possible benefits (if any) of this study have been explained to me
- I have been told that my personal information will be kept confidential

In addition, I understand that:

- I have the right not to participate and the right to stop at any time
- I may refuse to participate without consequence
- I have a choice of not answering specific questions
- I am free now, and in the future, to ask any questions about the study

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