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Make walking, cycling, and public transit preferred transportation options.



GREEN TRANSPORTATION

TARGETS:

- 1. MAKE THE MAJORITY (OVER 50%) OF TRIPS BY FOOT, BICYCLE, AND PUBLIC TRANSIT.**
- 2. REDUCE AVERAGE DISTANCE DRIVEN PER RESIDENT BY 20% FROM 2007 LEVELS.**

How we move around a city makes a big difference to our quality of life. The air we breathe, the amount of land we need, our physical health and well-being, and the cost of travel are all impacted by our transportation choices. Green transportation includes transit, as well as active transportation like cycling and walking. It is also about the places we see and experiences we have on the way to our destinations.

To achieve the Green Transportation goal, we need to make Vancouver a city where moving on foot or by bike is safe, convenient, and enjoyable. Transit should be fast, frequent, reliable, accessible, and comfortable, getting you where you need to go when you need to get there. Streets, public spaces, and neighbourhoods should be vibrant places that are alive with people, plants, and activities.



BASELINE NUMBERS

In 2008, around 40% of trips to and within the city were by foot, bike, or transit, up from 33% in 1994. With the high number of residents using the Canada Line that opened in 2009, it's likely that these numbers have continued to grow.

Currently there is no 2007 baseline data for the second Green Transportation target of reducing the distance driven per resident. City staff are working with partner agencies to identify how data collection for distances driven can be improved.



GREEN JOBS

- public bicycle operator and technician
- car-share manager and scheduler
- transit operator
- transportation engineer
- road and public realm maintenance crew
- policy analyst and researcher
- educator

HIGHEST PRIORITY ACTIONS

The following are the highest priority actions for 2011–2014. The complete list of Green Transportation actions can be found in the *Greenest City 2020 Action Plan* available at talkgreenvancouver.ca

1. *Complete a new Active Transportation Master Plan and update the Transportation Plan with direction from the strategies and actions in the Greenest City Action Plan.* Vancouver's last Transportation Plan was completed in 1997, with most actions either completed or in progress. These new plans will provide the strategies and framework for the next decade of action.
2. *Improve pedestrian safety by developing and implementing a pedestrian safety study and action plan.*
3. *Support transportation and active transportation planning with land use policies that enable the City to meet mobility and transportation targets.*
4. *Work with TransLink and the Province to advocate for high-capacity, fast, frequent and reliable rapid transit for the Broadway Corridor from Commercial Drive to the University of British Columbia.*
5. *Pursue the development and installation of a bike-share program in Vancouver's downtown and other high-potential cycling areas.* Multiple bike-share stations would provide easy access to affordable rental bikes for short trips around the city.

KEY STRATEGIES TO 2020

Make active transportation choices such as walking and cycling feel safe, convenient, comfortable and fun for all ages and abilities

Many of us may want to choose our walking shoes or bicycle instead of the car, but barriers such as feelings of safety, comfort or convenience can get in the way. This strategy aims to address these concerns. Some key actions include: safer and more convenient bike routes, better bike parking and end-of-trip facilities, more dedicated pedestrian-priority spaces, streets and sidewalks that encourage active transportation, and improved safety through design, education and enforcement.

Plan for complete communities to encourage increased walking and cycling and to support improved transit service

A complete community is one that provides the services we use such as grocery stores, coffee shops, and post offices all within a convenient distance from where we live.

Some key actions include: planning for mixed-use areas with pedestrian-oriented public spaces so that goods and services are within a safe and enjoyable 10-minute walk from where people live; planning for new development that supports existing and new transit infrastructure; and encouraging new housing choices in existing walkable neighbourhoods to reduce household and transportation costs.

Support transit improvements to increase capacity and ensure that service is fast, frequent, reliable, fully accessible, and comfortable

It's important for people to know that their bus or SkyTrain will be there when and where they need it. In community consultations, residents have said that these kinds of improvements would increase the amount they use transit services.

Some key actions include: working with the Province and TransLink to enable new financing tools to help pay for expanded transit service; improving the transit experience through better design of waiting areas; protecting future transit corridors; and expanding measures to improve the reliability of transit services.

Advance policies that encourage residents to reduce car ownership and use

In addition to transit services and more complete communities, the City can use other tools to create opportunities for reduced car use among residents.

Some key actions include: expanding support for car sharing; better management of on-street parking; unbundling the cost of parking from housing; and working with partners to encourage work-from-home and other programs that reduce the need for vehicle trips.

Accelerate the shift to low- and zero-carbon-emission vehicles

Since cars are going to be a part of our city for some time to come, it is important to support technologies and infrastructure that reduce the environmental impact of these vehicles.

Some key actions include: supporting electric vehicles with convenient charging stations and other infrastructure, and integrating electric vehicle use into City operations.

Work with local and regional partners on a sustainable goods-movement strategy that supports a growing economy while reducing GHG emissions

Vancouver's Green Transportation targets are dependent on partnerships with others in the region. They include not just how individuals move around the city, but also how products and goods are transported.

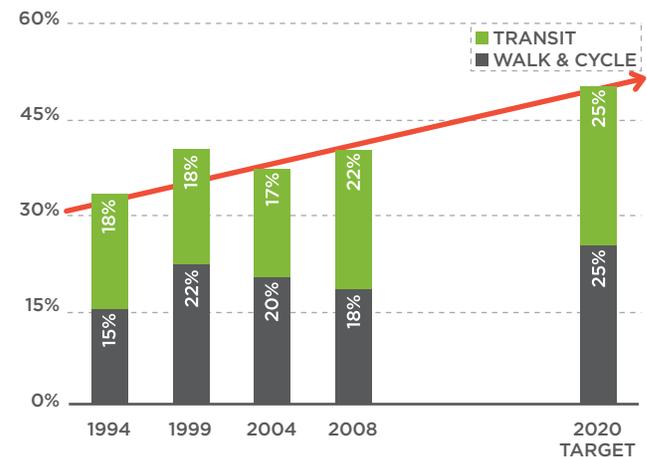
Actions include: protecting key goods-movement corridors (especially rail); encouraging low-impact goods movement such as low-carbon trucks and bicycle transportation; and encouraging the right-sizing of delivery and service vehicles.

WHAT IT'S GOING TO TAKE TO GET THERE

The City can do a great deal when it comes to greening transportation, but there is significant need for support from other agencies like TransLink, the Province, Metro Vancouver, and ICBC in order to achieve these targets.

Vancouver needs to achieve the Green Transportation targets in order to meet the 2020 targets for Climate Leadership, Lighter Footprint, and Air Quality. Green Transportation is also tied to Access to Nature and specific actions such as building new greenways and upgrading portions of our bikeways to greenways.

City-wide, 24-hour mode share (%) of all trips to and within city by walking, cycling and transit





HOW MANY WAYS CAN WE USE A CITY STREET?

In 2009, Vancouver started to answer this question with the Summer Spaces program, initiated in four different neighbourhoods. Summer Spaces closed streets to cars and opened up the asphalt to a whole range of activities including badminton, salsa dancing, street hockey, art lessons, choirs, food carts, lounging on couches, and much more.

In 2010, the Open Streets program expanded to include five blocks of Granville Street and is expected to continue, creating more opportunities for community members to share the road. The program is now known as Viva Vancouver. Find out about upcoming activities at vancouver.ca/viva



CANADA LINE AND THE OLYMPICS LEGACY

The 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games built our confidence and capacity to deal with large increases in public transit use. It showed that we can increase the number of residents who use public transportation, walking, or cycling to get around our city.

Six out of 10 Metro Vancouver residents who currently drive have said they would shift to public transportation if they had the level of service provided during the Olympics. We know that this future is possible and that people are ready for it.

The Canada Line was a key piece of this transportation puzzle, boasting a current ridership that wasn't projected to be reached until 2013. The Canada Line has also encouraged new approaches to coordinated transportation and land use planning, which work together to create neighbourhoods that encourage us to choose active or public transportation options.

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that a green
transportation
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ENCOURAGING SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION MAKES SENSE FOR MANY REASONS:

Health – Sustainable transportation choices mean healthier and more active citizens, cleaner air, and reduced accident risk, all of which result in higher quality of life and reduced public healthcare costs.

Resiliency – Great transportation cities are better prepared to deal with the uncertainty of rising gas prices since they are less reliant on fossil fuels. They also have the capacity and flexibility to host big events and the ability to respond to the unexpected.

Affordability – Sustainable transportation can be more affordable than driving and can reduce the need for residents to own cars. Households that go car-free or “car-lite” can save thousands of dollars each year. This is money that can be spent on housing or in the local economy.

Community – Cities that focus on moving people rather than cars have more vibrant public spaces, which provide richer cultural experiences and more opportunities for social interaction.

Economy – Sustainable transportation choices support a strong economy by enabling the exchange of goods, services, and ideas throughout the city. Implementing the Green Transportation plan positions Vancouver as a place where the world wants to live, work, and do business. It also increases our reputation as a tourism destination, creating jobs and opportunities for residents.

Environment – Motor vehicles are some of the largest sources of greenhouse gases and other pollutants. Sustainable transportation choices help us clean our air, reduce our carbon footprint, and lead toward a stable climate future.

