

Exploring Vancouver's Transportation Future

An innovative Facebook event for Vancouver for residents and commuters to give advice to the City of Vancouver, learn and help shape the future of transportation in our city.

May 31 – June 14, 2011

Go to: apps.facebook.com/VanTransportFuture

Want a Better Commute?
So Do We.


Join the Facebook event for Vancouver drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians and bus riders to shape the City's Transportation Plan.

How Your Participation Makes a Difference

You want a safe, reliable and affordable commute. You also want a healthy, prosperous and livable city.

This groundbreaking Facebook conversation is your chance to tell the City of Vancouver how to plan for both.

Public input received this spring will be integrated into a draft plan by the City of Vancouver, which will then go back to the public for feedback in 2012.

At this early stage, specific programs and projects aren't yet being decided. This conversation is about setting directions for the draft Plan.

Why Talk Transportation?

We all travel around the city, for work, school, play, shopping and more. What kinds of transportation actions and investments will help Vancouver be a city where it's easy, safe, sustainable and affordable to get around - today and in the future?

The City of Vancouver is about to update its Transportation Plan and they are asking the public for direction. The Plan will set goals to the year 2040, and guide the City's transportation decisions for the years ahead.

This Facebook event is an important part of setting the strategic direction for Vancouver's transportation over the next 30 years. Thank you for participating!

From May 31 - June 14, participants will meet in small discussion groups to:

1. **Discuss** key issues and share your own transportation stories
2. **Propose** strategies for the City to feature in the Transportation Plan

Starting June 15, discussion groups will:

3. **Promote** their recommendations in a public Facebook page

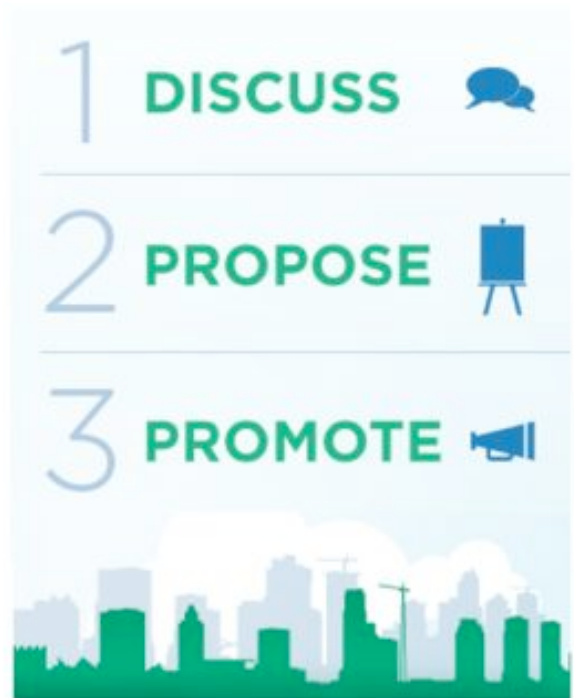


How to Participate

You and your team have five tasks to complete from **May 31 to June 14**. (On Tuesday May 31, you'll get an email from us introducing you to your group.) The best way to participate is to **post something every day or two in your group discussion**. Plan to keep the Facebook application open during your participation hours, or take a moment now to schedule some time in your calendar.

Five Challenges for Your Group During the Event

1. **(Discuss) Share stories** about the best and worst parts of your typical Vancouver commute. May 31 to June 2
2. **(Discuss) Explore key issues** and action targets that influence Vancouver and its transportation. June 3 to 5
3. **(Discuss) Consider** various transportation strategies. June 6 to 12
4. **Propose strategies** for the City to feature in the Transportation Plan. June 13 to 14
5. **Promote** and discuss your the transportation recommendations of all discussion groups in a public Facebook page. Starting June 15



What is Greenest City Conversations?

A City-University research and action partnership that is exploring the future of sustainability.

This Facebook event is a partnership of the City of Vancouver and Greenest City Conversations, a University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University research group.

Greenest City Conversations is an interdisciplinary and wide-scale research project aimed at developing and testing new approaches for public engagement on sustainability policies. www.gcc.ubc.ca

Research Institutions:  a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Partners and Sponsors:



Planning to Be a Great Transportation City

Vancouver will continue to grow over the next 30 years, and the City’s goal is to **accommodate the majority of trips in Vancouver with sustainable travel choices** — walking, cycling and transit — while also supporting a strong local economy.

As the City develops the 2040 Transportation Plan, we’re not starting from scratch, but building on the

successful implementation of the 1997 plan and the ideas that came out the recent Greenest City planning process.

Vancouver’s Transportation Plan will also take into account existing plans and ongoing partnerships with Metro Vancouver, Translink, the provincial and federal governments.

Transportation Plan Goals and Targets

The 1997 Transportation Plan set targets for 2021, the majority of which were achieved by 2006. Much of the success to date has been about good land use and transportation decisions and investments.

Vancouver’s updated Transportation Plan will support and build upon the Greenest City directions, as well as recent regional and provincial targets. It will also set new targets out to 2040, and identify indicators to help us track our progress on the way.



Provincial **transit** targets focus on increasing transit use in Metro Vancouver, from our current 12% of all trips to 17% in 2020 and 22% in 2030.

The province’s **greenhouse gas** targets are to achieve a one-third reduction below 2007 levels by 2020 and an 80% reduction by 2050.

TransLink’s regional transportation target is to have over half of the region’s trips be taken on foot, bike, or transit by 2040. It also prioritizes locating the majority of jobs and housing in the region along streets designed for frequent transit use.

Translink’s targets support aggressive reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from transportation, in support of federal, provincial and regional targets.



Through the recent Greenest City initiative, goals & targets have already been set for 2020

Make the majority (50%+) of trips on foot, bike, and transit

Eliminate dependence on fossil fuels, including targets to reduce greenhouse gases 30% from 2007 levels by 2020, and 80% by 2050

Breathe the cleanest air of any major city in the world

Building on Vancouver's Successes

One great trend for Vancouver is that **while population, jobs, and number of trips continue to grow, the number of cars entering the city is declining.**

This is true for at a citywide scale and for the downtown, where the numbers are even more dramatic.

So for the past 15 years, Vancouver has been accommodating growth, not by driving... but by walking, cycling, and public transit.

City-Wide Vancouver Growth 1996-2011:



• More people & jobs

• Fewer cars

Projected Growth

Over the next 30 years or so, we're anticipating well over a 130 thousand new residents, and close to ninety thousand new jobs, bringing more trips and more life to the city. If past trends continue, we'll be older and even more diverse in 30 years.



Working Together for Transportation



City of Vancouver's Role

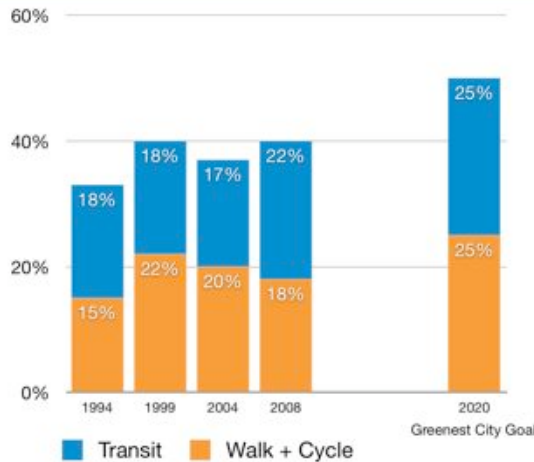
- Act directly on streets, sidewalks, public spaces, built environment
- Support regional & provincial plans
- Provide leadership to other municipalities
- Advocate and partner with outside agencies on transportation actions outside City jurisdiction
- Empower citizens

Partnerships to reach 50%+ Trips by Walking, Cycling and Transit

Through City-led initiatives, the City of Vancouver believes it can increase the share of people who walk and cycle to about 25% of all trips by 2020.

The number of people travelling by transit needs to grow too, but right now Vancouver transit demand exceeds supply in many areas.

Public transit isn't owned or operated by the City, so key improvements will require support from TransLink and other partners.



50% by 2020 is achievable... by working together.

Source: 2004 & 2008 TransLink Trip Diaries

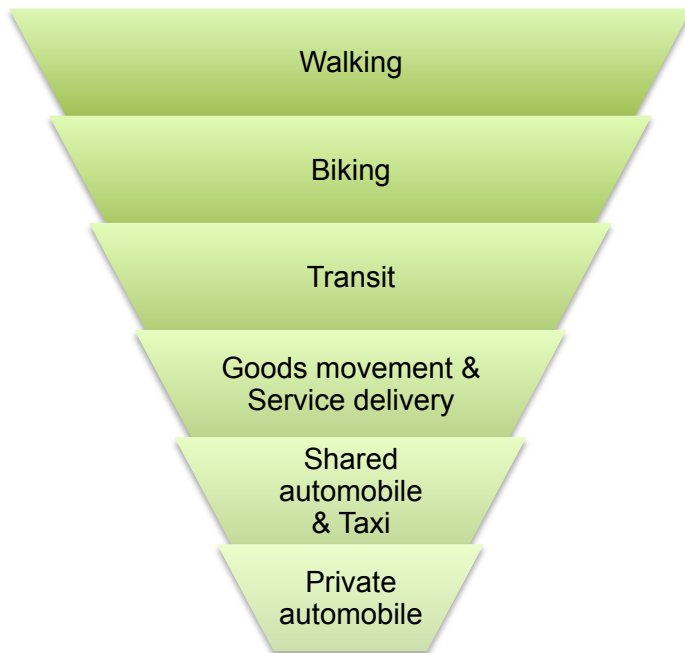


Funding Vancouver's Transportation Improvements

Implementing transportation improvements often depends on finding necessary financing. Transit improvements are among the most expensive and important, and these are likely to continue to come mostly from the Province.

The City of Vancouver will allocate existing funds and may work to secure new funds in support of the actions and investments needed to implement the completed Plan.

Vancouver's Transportation Priorities: Pedestrians First



Vancouver's 1997 Transportation Plan prioritized active and sustainable transportation choices over automobile use. For the future, walking will continue to be Vancouver's number one priority.

Goods movement and service delivery are ranked above personal automobile use because they are the corner stone of Vancouver's economy.



Transportation Challenges

A group of Vancouver's transportation thought leaders and experts recently met at a meeting convened by Carbon Talks, which is a dialogue group looking to advance Canadian global competitiveness by shifting to a low-carbon economy. Participants discussed Vancouver's transportation past and future and identified the following key challenges:

- Funding for public and sustainable transportation
- Aging population with specific accessibility needs
- Smooth integration of different transport choices (e.g. car share services at skytrain stops)
- Enough capacity for public transit and commercial uses, including transit on the Broadway Corridor
- Integrating the City of Vancouver Transportation Plan within a regional context
- Changing behaviours is not easy, and is an important part of the situation
- Vancouver's vulnerability to environmental and political changes
- Impacts of transportation on social equity
- Safety in a densely populated and highly travelled city
- Competing interests of agencies involved
- Air quality

Timeline of Public Consultation on Transportation Plan



Important Background Information for Exploring Vancouver's Transportation Future

Watch a video on Vancouver transportation **goals** and trends

<http://youtu.be/dGaXeejDsws>

Watch a video about promising **strategies** for Vancouver's transportation future

<http://youtu.be/nIS6I5TRae0>

Read short description of key **issues** impacting transportation (economy, health, environment, affordability and community)

<http://talkvancouver.com/document/show/68>