

Cycling Towards Sustainability

The City of Vancouver is taking strides to make our community more sustainable, healthy, and livable. Our Transportation Plan emphasizes the importance of cycling as a sustainable choice for personal transport, and places a high priority on expanding the City's cycling infrastructure and supporting initiatives. And, we are seeing healthy results from our efforts!

A Growing Bicycle Network

The Seawall is one of the earliest and most recognized bicycle pathways in Vancouver. However, the development of the City's cycling network did not begin in earnest until the early 1990s. Since that time, we have developed almost 400 lane-kilometres* of bicycle network throughout Vancouver.

The cycling network includes:

- **Local street bikeways along residential streets**, such as Ontario Street and 10th Avenue, with traffic calming to reduce the impacts of motorized traffic and features to help cyclists cross major roads.
- **Bike lanes along arterial roads**, such as Dunsmuir and Burrard Street.
- **Pathways**, such as the Seawall and Central Valley Greenway, separated from motorized traffic.

More People Riding Bikes

The City has achieved remarkable success in increasing travel by bicycle. Cycling is the fastest growing method of travel, and the number of daily trips by bike has increased by 180 per cent since 1997. There are now approximately 60,000 trips made by bike every day in Vancouver.

According to the latest Statistics Canada Census in 2006, cycling now makes up almost 4 per cent of work trips by Vancouver residents, a relatively high proportion by North American standards.



Cycling in Vancouver

- *Almost 60,000 trips are made by bike every day in the City of Vancouver.*
- *Over 3,500 cyclists commute to work downtown every morning, which is equivalent to 65-75 full transit buses.*
- *The number of daily trips made by bike has almost tripled since 1994.*
- *Cycling was the fastest growing method of travel in Vancouver between 1994 and 2006.*
- *About 4 per cent of commuting trips in Vancouver are made by bike. (2006 Statistics Canada Census)*
- *In some neighbourhoods, over 10 per cent of commuting trips are made by bike. (2006 Statistics Canada Census)*
- *We are enhancing neighbourhood cycling by installing and improving cyclist-friendly traffic signals.*

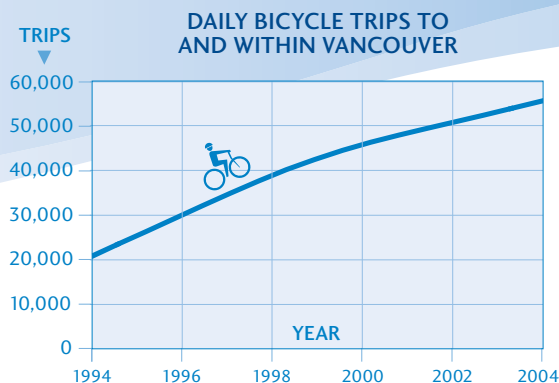
* One kilometre in a single direction along a road. For example, one kilometre of a two-way bikeway is two lane-kilometres.



Cycling Towards Sustainability *continued*

In neighbourhoods such as Kitsilano and Grandview-Woodlands, over 10 per cent of work trips are made by bicycle.

Vancouverites tend to commute relatively short distances. Almost half of all Vancouver residents commute less than 5 kilometres to work, and over 80 per cent commute less than 10 kilometres. These relatively short distances are ideal for cycling.



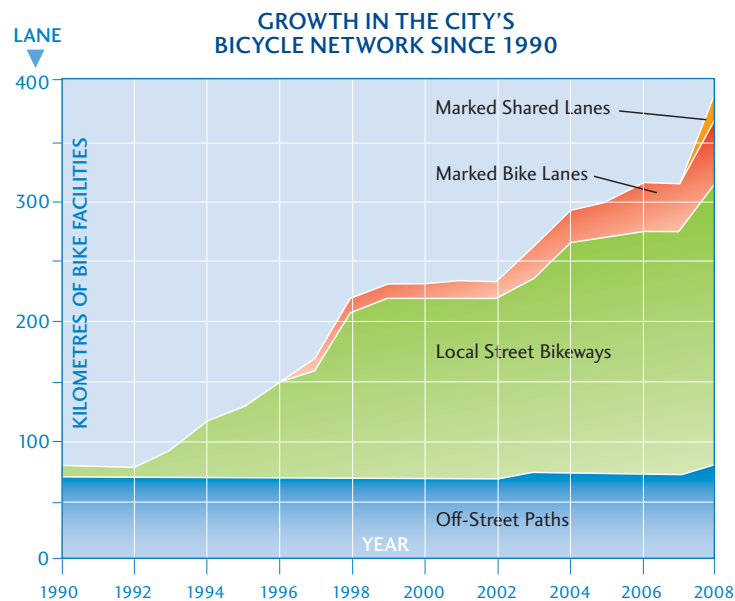
Encouraging People to Take Their Bikes

In addition to developing infrastructure, the City is working to encourage cycling through a variety of support initiatives. For example, the City's by-laws have been updated to require secure bicycle parking in new multi-family and commercial developments. As well, we are expanding the placement of bike racks throughout the city so that more people can cycle for local trips. The City also produces a free map of the local bike routes that's available to citizens in a convenient wallet-sized format.

Riding into the Future

The City will continue to develop bicycle routes to encourage even more people to cycle for commuting and recreation.

The City is currently developing over 90 lane-kilometres of additional bike routes, such as the Yukon Bikeway, the 29th Avenue Bikeway, and bike lanes on Cambie Street. Several more



bikeways are also on the drawing board, including the Borden-Dumfries Bikeway and the 59th Avenue Bikeway/Greenway. The City is committed to cycling as an important way to get around in Vancouver, and to becoming a city which embraces cycling.



Cycling in Vancouver

- The City of Vancouver's top transportation priorities are walking, cycling, and transit.
- The City is committed to developing bike routes throughout Vancouver, expanding the network from 116 to almost 400 lane-kilometres of bike facilities since 1994.
- Local street bikeways provide parallel, quieter alternatives to cycling on major arterial roads.
- The City is working to complete a network of bikeways spaced about 1 kilometre apart, similar to our arterial road network.
- New routes will provide regional connections to UBC, Burnaby and New Westminster, and to Richmond via the Canada Line Bridge.
- Where possible, the City is developing bike pathways that are separated from traffic.
- The City has created a network of bike lanes downtown and is creating bike lanes on other major roads as possibilities arise.

For more information: vancouver.ca/cycling