



**Transportation, Public Space & Street Use Update** July 24, 2024 | Paul Storer & Lisa Parker

## **Transportation Policy, Targets & Trends**



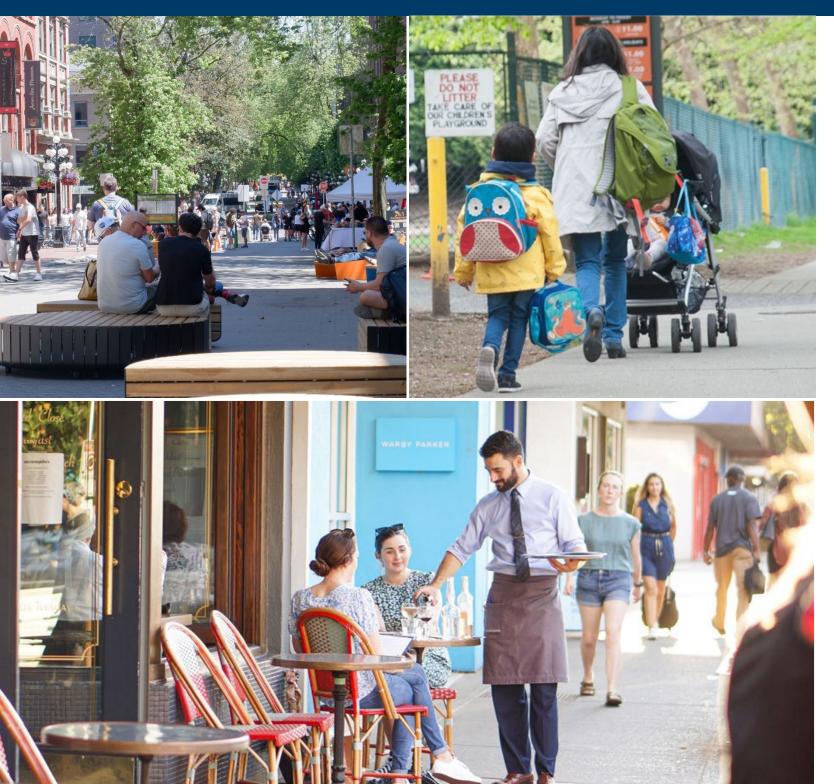
## **Key policies**



### **Transportation 2040**, Vancouver Plan, and a suite of city and regional plans lay the foundation for transportation and public space planning in Vancouver



## **Vibrant Vancouver: Council priorities**



- Vibrant & diverse
- Housing
- **Supporting business**
- **City services & infrastructure**
- **Safety and security**
- **Climate emergency**
- Healthy, inclusive & equitable
- **Reconciliation**
- **Good government**

https://vancouver.ca/your-government/city-council-s-strategic-priorities



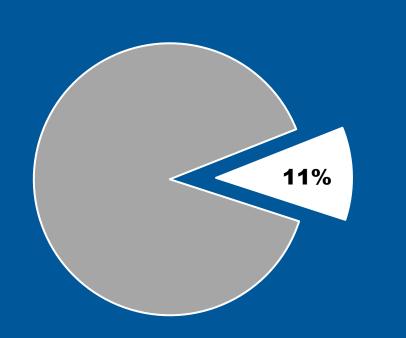


## **Streets: more than just transportation**

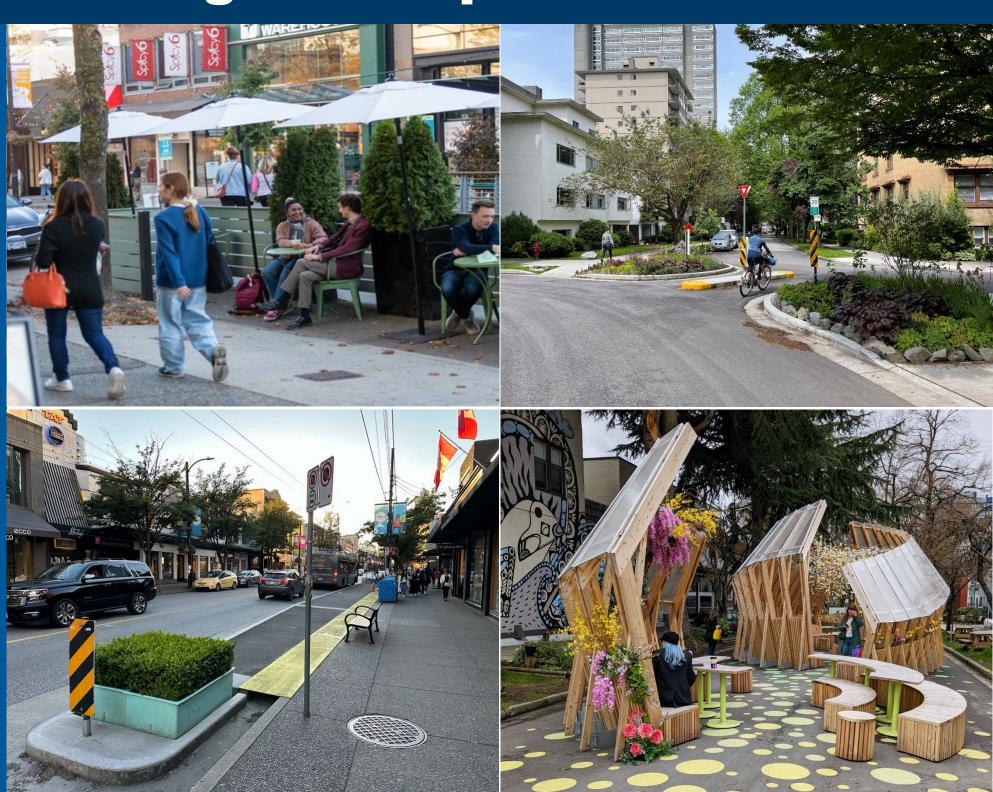


## Nature & rainwater management

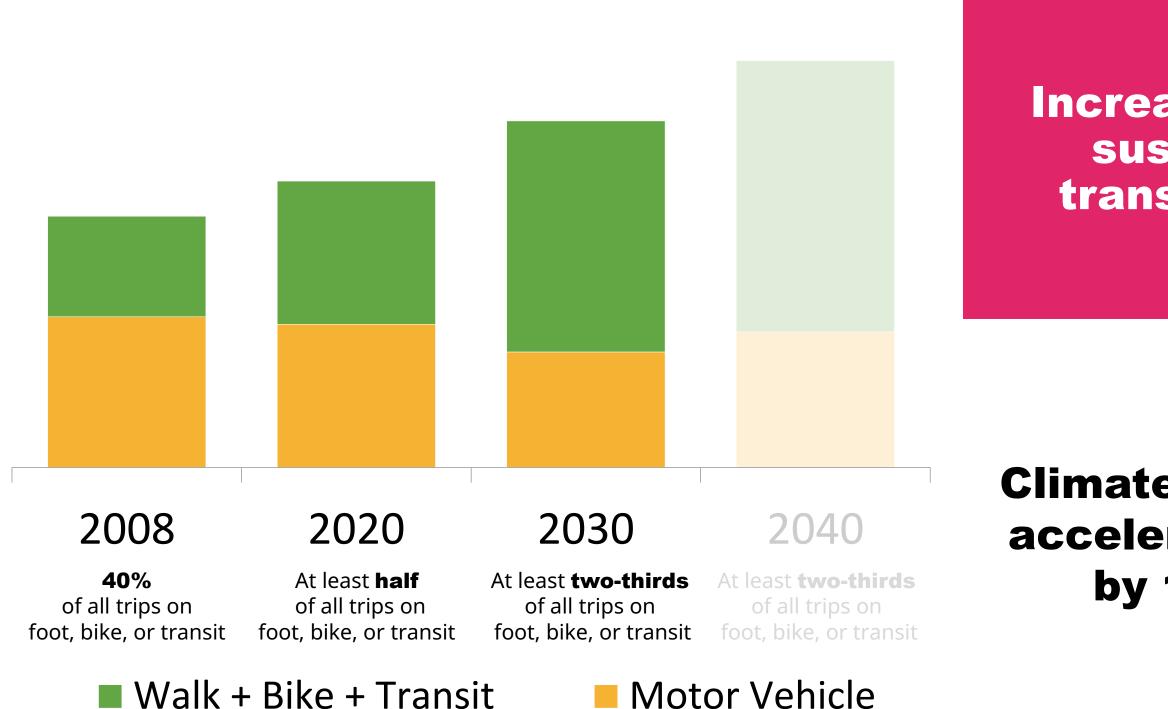
## **Transforming Road Space**



In 2020, we set an **11% road space reallocation target** to support **active transportation, transit, public life, and parks & rainwater management.** 



## **CEAP mode share target**



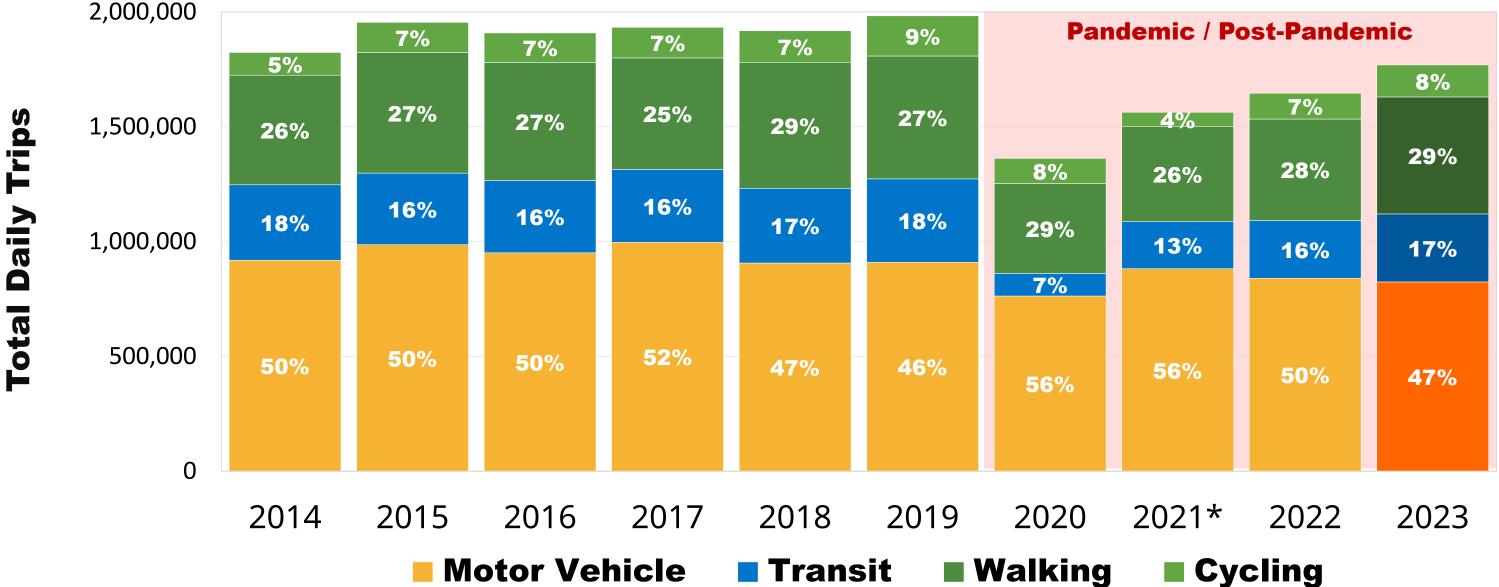
### Increase trips by sustainable transportation

### Climate Emergency accelerated target by 10 years

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## Sustainable mode share growing

#### Trip volumes continue to rebound

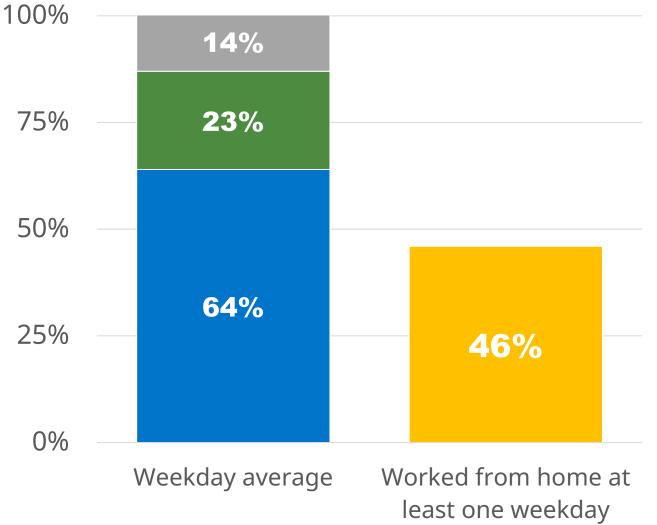


Source: City of Vancouver panel surveys. Note: Significant changes beginning in 2020 due to global pandemic. \*Lower active travel counts in 2021 due to extreme weather conditions / atmospheric river at time of survey.



## Many people are working from home

#### Where did people with a 'regular place of work' actually work?



### **Working from home** has become 'the new normal' for many people.

Four years after the pandemic, almost a quarter of workers with a regular place of work still work from home.

Other people have been able to shift their commuting hours.

- Commuted
- Worked from home
- Didn't work on given day



## Focus: Safety & Accessibility



## Vision Zero – Safety Overview

#### Vision Zero Goal: eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries



Safety is embedded throughout the City's transportation programs Engineering Enforcement

#### **AREAS OF FOCUS** include

- Prioritizing vulnerable road users
- Reducing speeds and addressing safety hotspots
- Advancing a safe active travel network

#### **PROGRAMS** include

- School Active Travel Program | School Slow Zones
- Neighbourhood Traffic Management Program
- Corridor and spot improvement programs

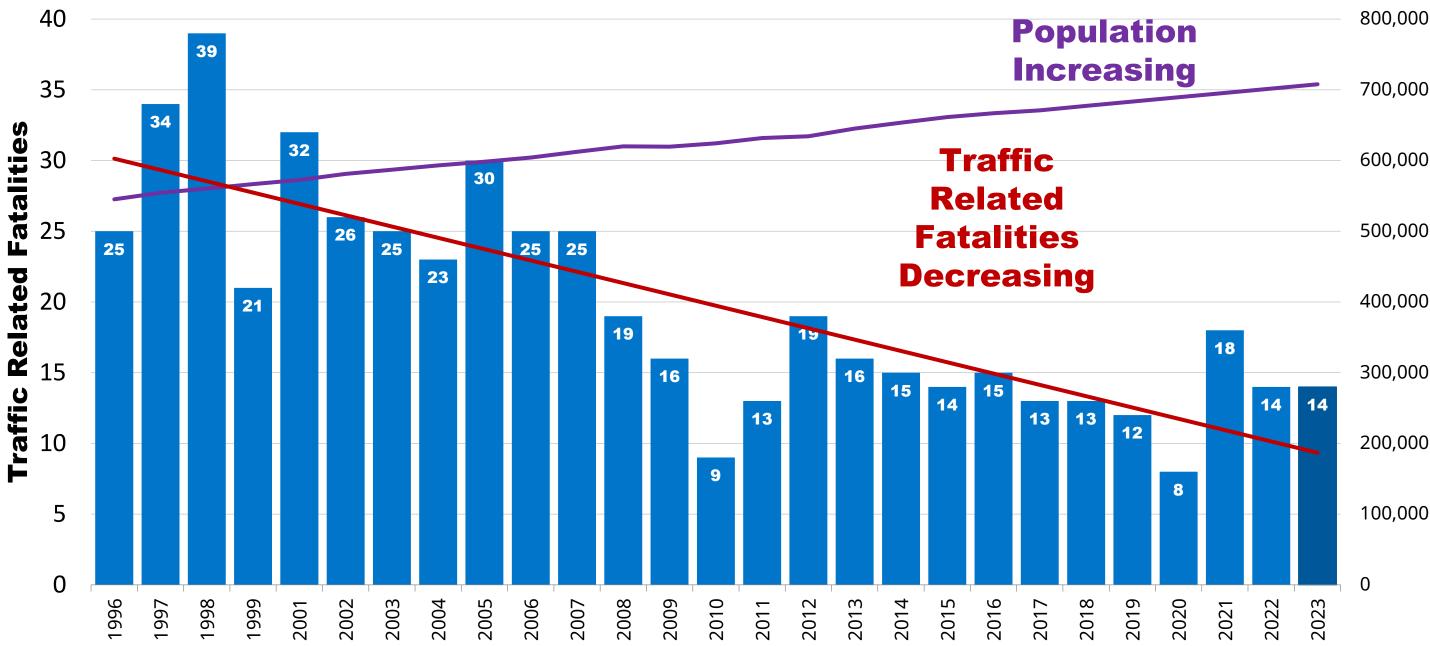


# **Education**





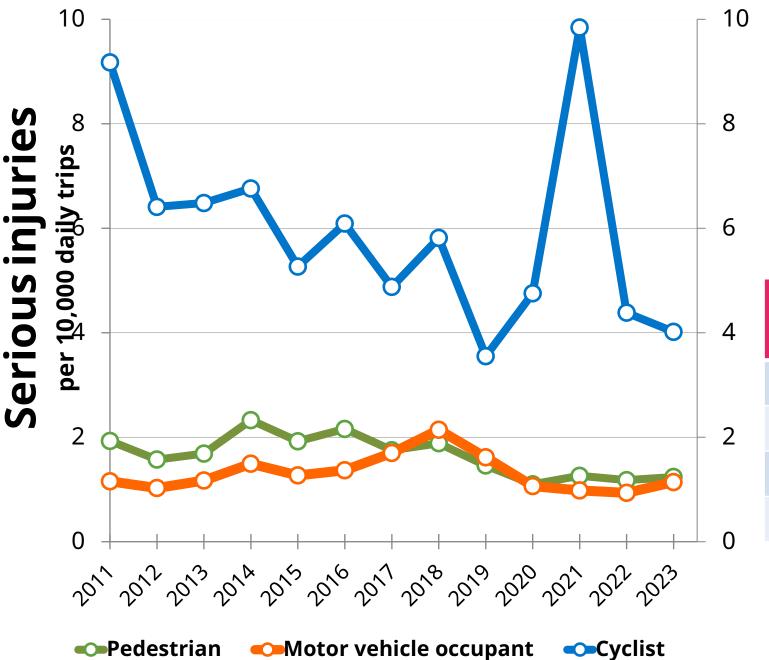
## **Traffic-related fatalities**



Source: VPD traffic fatality data

Population

## **Traffic-related serious injuries**



### **Serious injuries have fallen** over the past 12 years (adjusted for # of trips being taken)

	Serious injuries per 10,000 daily trips				
	2011	2023	change		
Walking	1.9	1.2	-36%		
Cycling	9.2	4.0	-56%		
<b>Motor vehicle</b>	1.5	1.4	-1.3%		

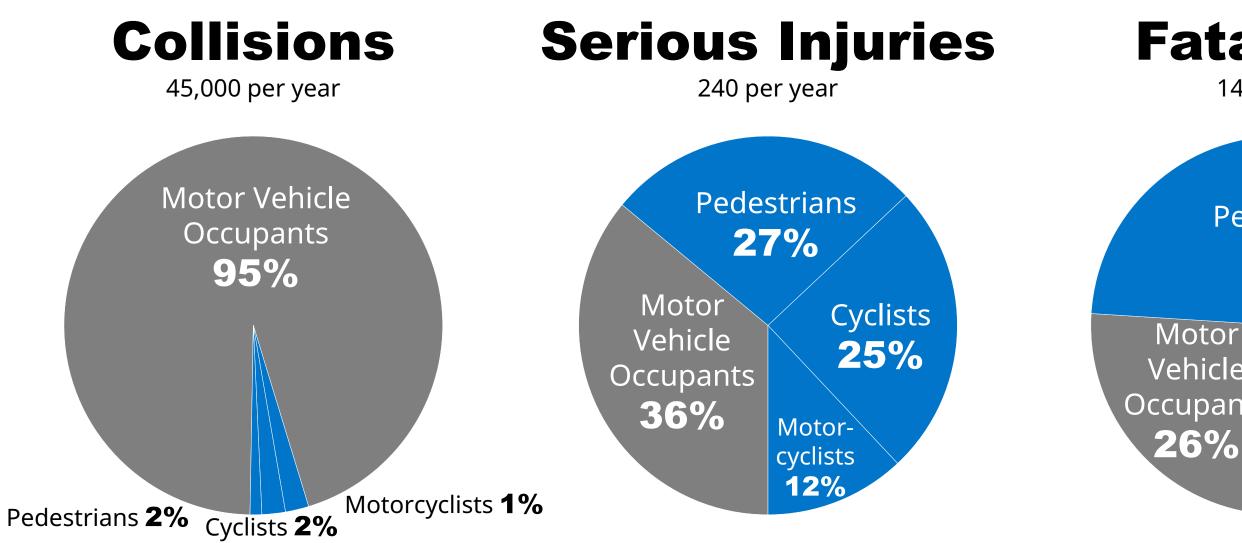
Source: Vancouver General Hospital, Traffic Injury Data (2011-23). City of Vancouver, Panel Survey (2013-23), TransLink Trip Diary (2011)





## People walking and cycling are more vulnerable





Sources: Vancouver Police Department, Traffic Fatality Data (2018-23); Vancouver General Hospital, Traffic Injury Data (2018-23); Insurance Corporation of British Columbia, Collision Data (2018-22)

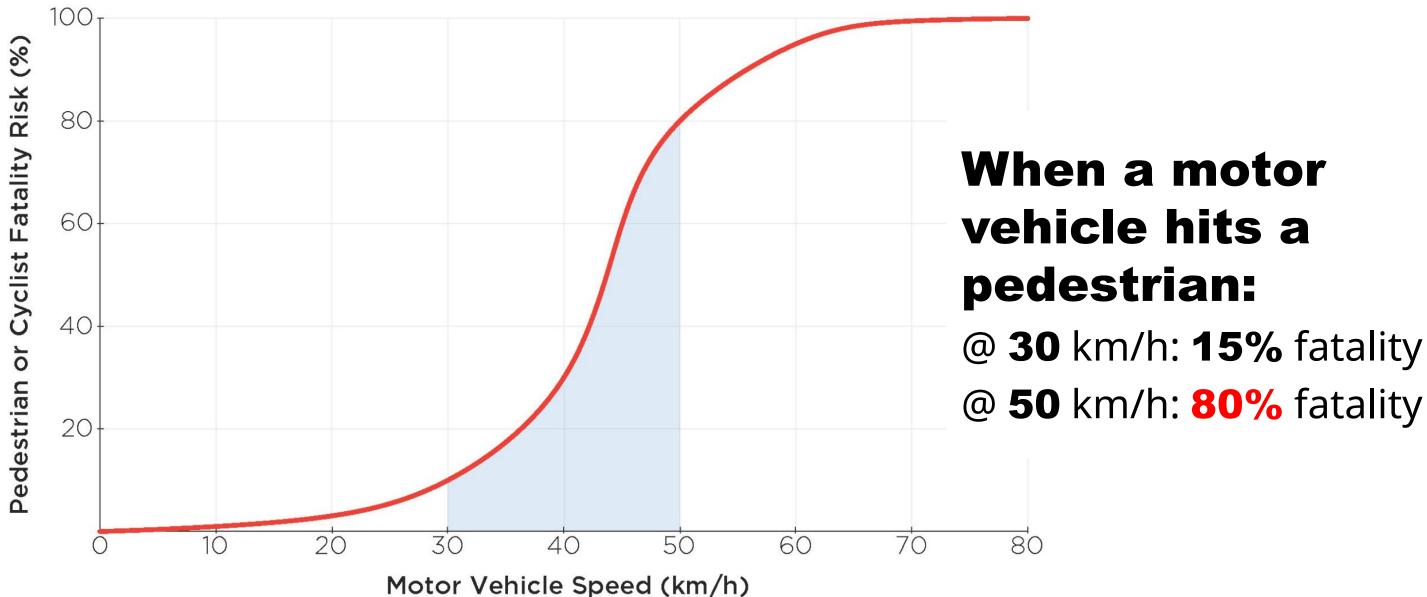
### **Fatalities** 14 per year

#### Pedestrians **60%**

Vehicle Occupants Motorcyclists Cyclists 12% 2%

## **Slower speeds**

### **Higher Speeds = Higher probability of fatality**



Source : Speed Management Manual ,World Health Organization



## **School slow zones**

Successful 2023 pilot is being expanded citywide

### **Reduced speed limits** during school hours

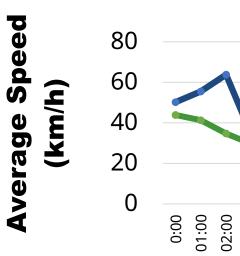
40 km/h non MRN arterials 30 km/h on collectors

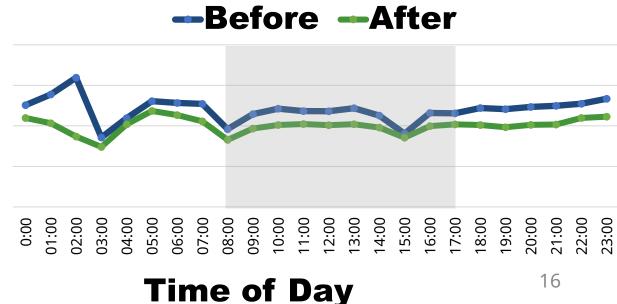
### **2024 program expansion: 15 schools along 10** corridors

+ 10 more corridors per year in 2025 and 2026

### **2023 pilot results (9 schools)** Speeds reduced by 4 to 15% Strong support from parents

- - 92% support changes
  - 70% felt students were safer
  - 50% felt more likely to walk or bike





## **Active transportation network**

Building a network that is safe and comfortable for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds

- 1,500+ km of city streets\* (over 2,800 lane km)
- 2,200+ km of city sidewalks (~80% complete)
- 300+ km of bike network

(~30% all ages and abilities)

Designing for all ages and abilities: no one-size-fits all approach



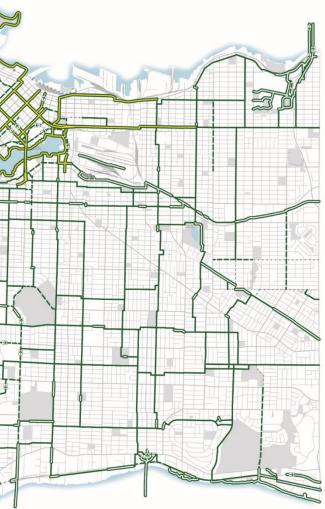
Physical protection on busy streets

Traffic calming on guiet shared streets

**Bike Network** AAA Network Protected Bike Lane Local Street Bikeway Painted Bike Lane Shared Use Lane \* Including 220 km of arterial streets (1024 lane km), 140 km of collector streets (666 lane km), and 1190 km of local streets.

Not including 770 km of laneways or 150 km of Parks/non-City streets.





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## **Neighbourhood Traffic Management**

Quick-build traffic calming to address safety issues like speeding and high vehicle volumes on local streets





#### **Active Projects**



#### **Upcoming Projects**

- 5 Joyce
- 6 Knight Street Bridge
- 7 Kensington-Cedar Cottage North East
- 8 Trout Lake



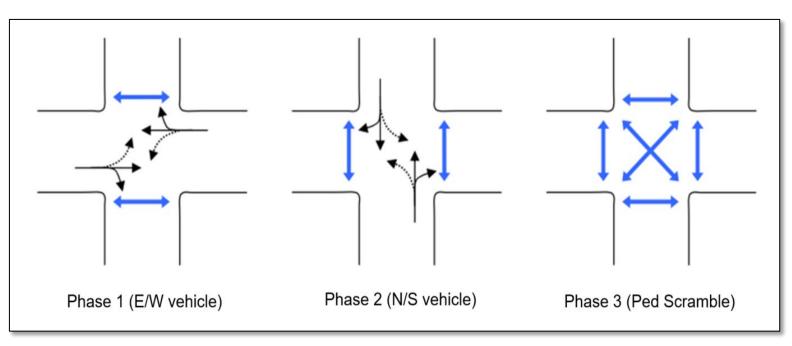
## **Robson-Granville scramble crossing pilot**

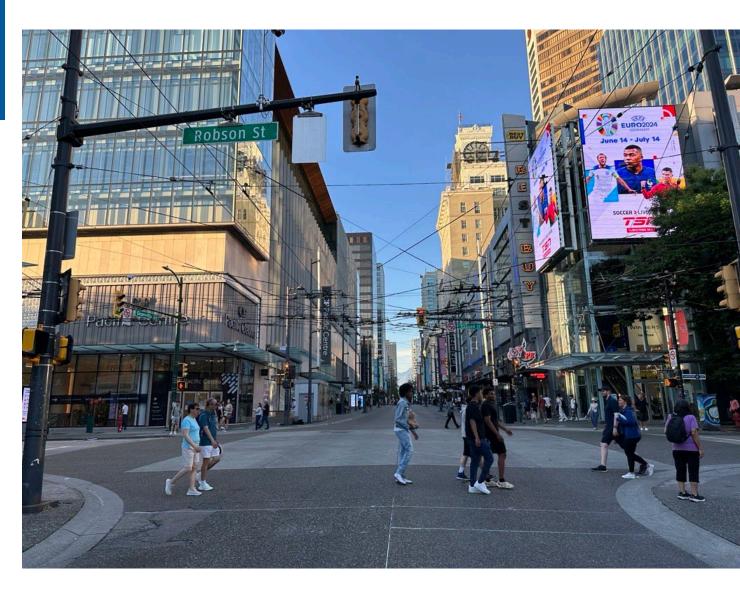
#### Operational this summer

#### Will become permanent if successful

## Intersection treatment to prioritize pedestrians and reduce conflicts with vehicles

- Allow pedestrians to cross during concurrent green phase
- Vehicle turn movements already restricted except buses (westbound right-turn)
- No right turn on red





## Investigating safety hotspots

## We work with partners

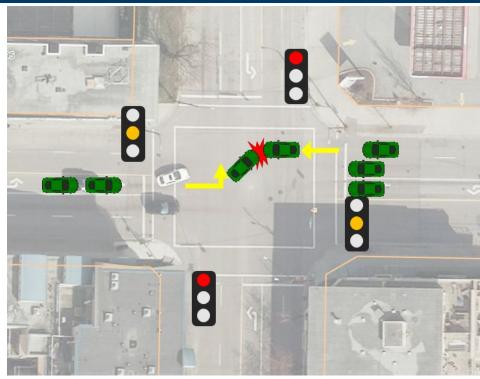
including Vancouver Police, Vancouver Coastal Health & ICBC to better understand collisions

- When • Where Who
- How • Why

## We conduct detailed studies

to determine best safety interventions:

- Site observations
- Collision diagrams
- Automated video conflict analysis







#### Sample collision diagram

#### Sample video conflict analysis (Pacific/Burrard)

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## **Other safety improvements**

Delivering safe, accessible infrastructure

New Infrastructure or Intervention	2021	2022	2023	
<b>Signals</b> (full or pedestrian/cyclist activated)	5	2	3	
Flashing beacons (RRFBs)	9	10	8	No in
Increased crossing time	29	31	22	
Signal accessibility upgrades (e.g. audible)	14	13	14	
Leading pedestrian intervals (LPIs)	12	16	14	

We are updating our safety strategy to help prioritize locations, expand programs, and improve our toolkit.

We will be reporting back this fall on safety-related issues including reduced speed limits, LPIs, road marking maintenance, and more.





## **Motor Vehicle Act updates**

#### Changes by the Province to support safety and accessibility

### New Provincial legislation will improve safety, support new technology, and prioritize people with disabilities



Safe passing

to better protect vulnerable road users

• E-bikes

to allow younger people to use low-power pedal assist devices

- Mobility devices to prioritize people with disabilities
- Autonomous vehicles to prohibit full autonomy unless authorized by Province

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## **Focus: Transit**



## **Transit: 2023 Ridership Snapshot**

#### Vancouver is a transit leader almost half in North America of the region's transit boardings 4<sup>th</sup> highest rapid rail ridership 3<sup>rd</sup> highest bus ridership Vancouver/UBC 22<sup>nd</sup> most populous region Southeast 19% (across USA and Canada) New Westminster 17% Southwest 18% North Shore 6% **Regional ridership increased 20%** from 2022 levels Northeast Sector 4% 89% post-COVID recovery rate Pitt Meadows 1% (among highest in North America)

Annual Boardings

50,000,000

0

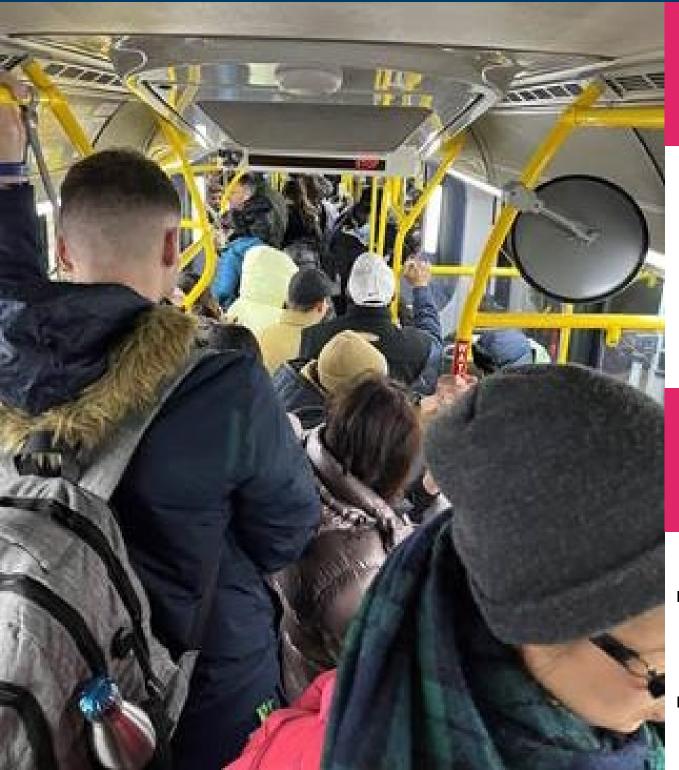


# Vancouver & UBC account for

46%

100,000,000 150,000,000 200,000,000 24

## Addressing overcrowding



**Bus overcrowding** has surpassed pre-pandemic levels

More than 10% of bus trips were overcrowded in 2023

New service is being added this fall to address overcrowding

- Over 30,000 annual service hours allocated to routes in Vancouver/UBC
- Substantial increases to 99, 49, and R4

## **Bus priority**

## Bus delay due to congestion can be reduced.



Adding a peak period bus lane saved 12% travel time (5 min per round trip) on Granville St



### **Transit priority toolkit**

- Bus lanes
- Turn pockets & queue-jumpers
- Signal priority & turn restrictions
- Bus bulbs and bus stop balancing

### umpers estrictions balancing

## **Speeding up buses on key corridors**

GRANVILLE

Three-year priorities include: Hastings, Granville, Kingsway, 49<sup>th</sup> Ave, Marine Drive

### Targeting **10% travel time savings** on 5 high-delay corridors

TransLink expects to save **\$2M** in operating costs each year, to reinvest in more transit service



## New and extended bus lane hours

#### Rapid delivery in 3 years



### **Bus lane kilometres** Total length of bus lanes (km)

66 km in 2024

### **Bus lane kilometre-hours** Total length of bus lanes (km) x duration (hours / weekday)

525 km in 2024



## + 28 km by 2027

### + up to 480 km by 2027

28

## **Other bus improvements**

### Longer buses to increase transit capacity

Articulated buses on routes 2 & 25 since early 2024 Standard buses on route 23 in early 2025





Over 150 bus stops extended for accessibility

## **Broadway Subway Update**

#### Opening in Fall 2027



### **Construction updates**

- Tunnel boring complete April 2024
- Traffic decking at station areas completed
- Elevated guideway begun rail installation

### We are continuing to support the province on a potential **UBC Extension**



### **lates** 2024 completed nstallation

## **Burrard Peninsula Area Transport Plan**

Public engagement in early 2025





### TransLink-led multi-modal plan for the **Burrard Peninsula**

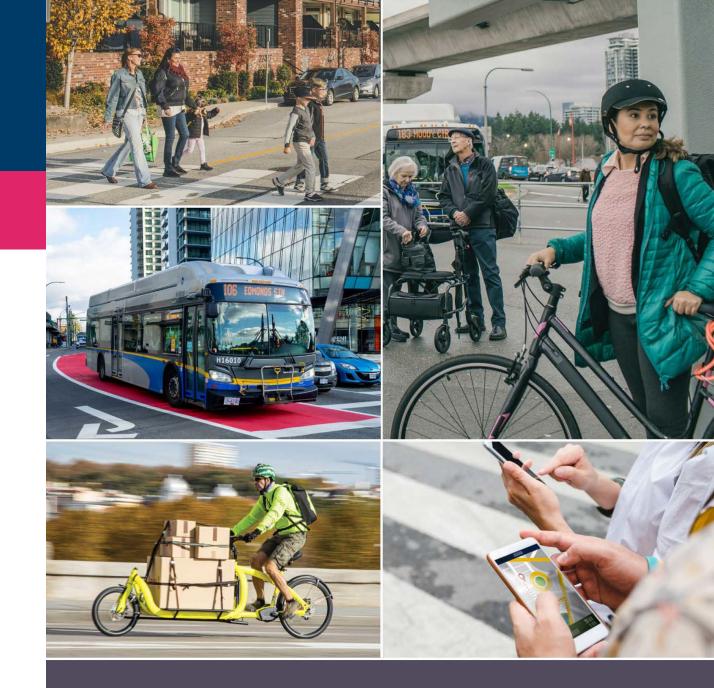
- 15 year time horizon
- Anticipated completion Fall 2025
- Will consider network changes and new routes

## Access for Everyone 10-year regional priorities

The City continues to work closely with TransLink and other partners

### Significant new funding is required to deliver on our regional priorities

- \$24B required over next decade
- New revenue sources needed
- Regional mayors have asked for support from Province and Federal government



Transport 2050: 1 for TransLink

#### **Transport 2050: 10-Year Priorities**



## **Project Highlights**

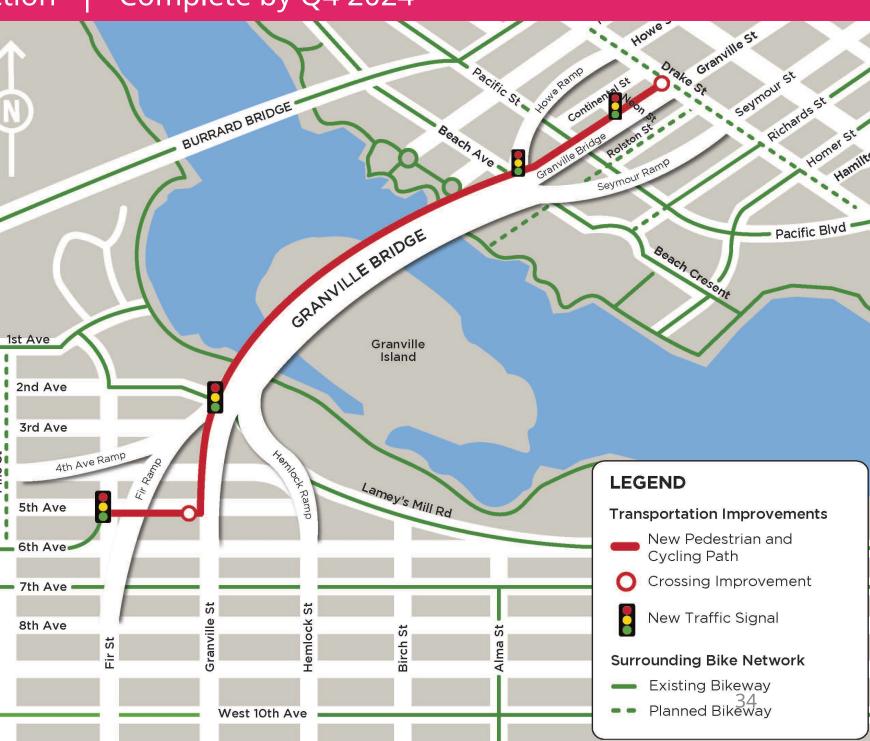


## **Granville** Connector

Under construction Complete by Q4 2024

## A safe, comfortable walking & cycling connection for all ages and abilities

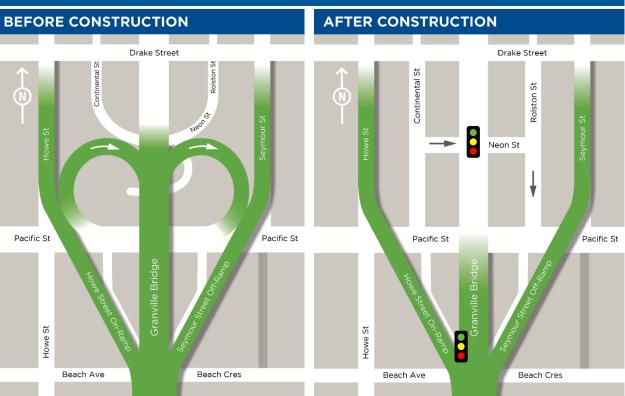




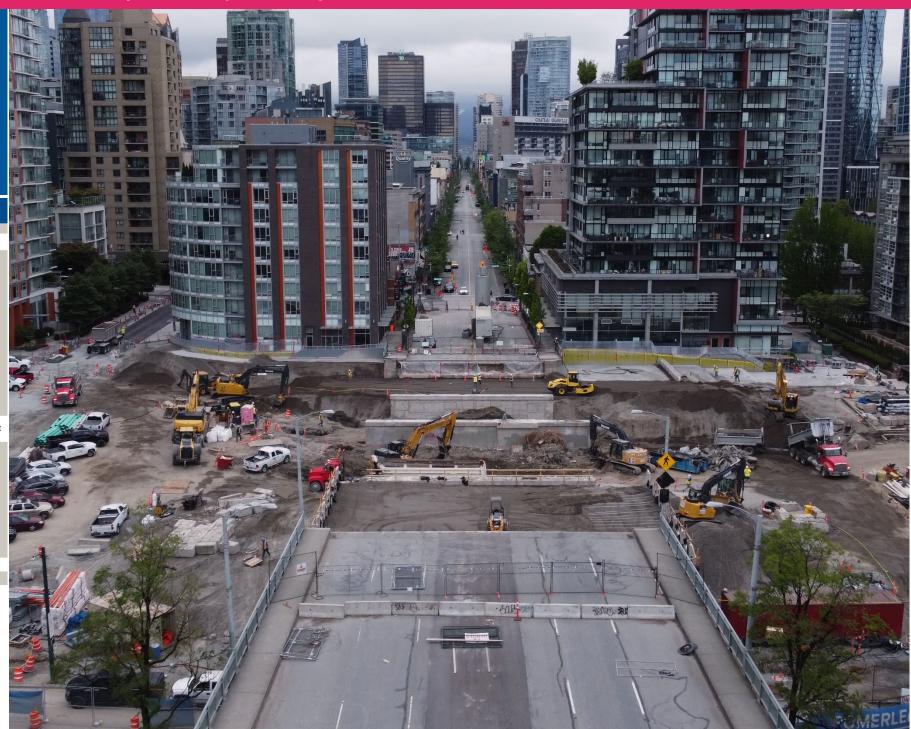
## **Granville Loops replacement**

Complete by Q4 2024 Under construction

## Highway-style loops replaced with safe, vibrant urban street grid



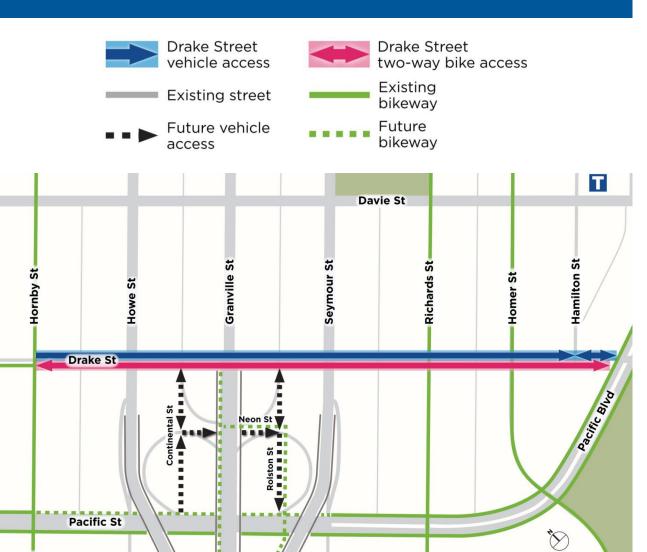
- Comfortable walking & biking
- Unlocks development opportunities



## **Drake Complete Street**

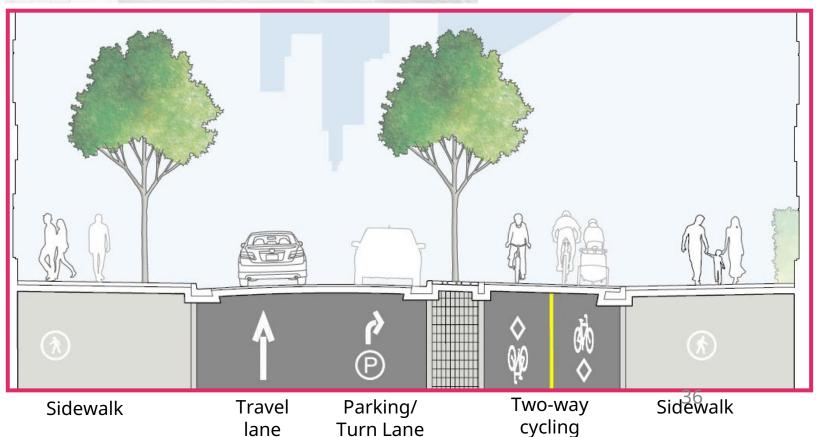
Construction coordinated with Granville Connector Complete 2025

### A complete street between Hornby St. and Pacific Blvd.





Design similar to Richards Street



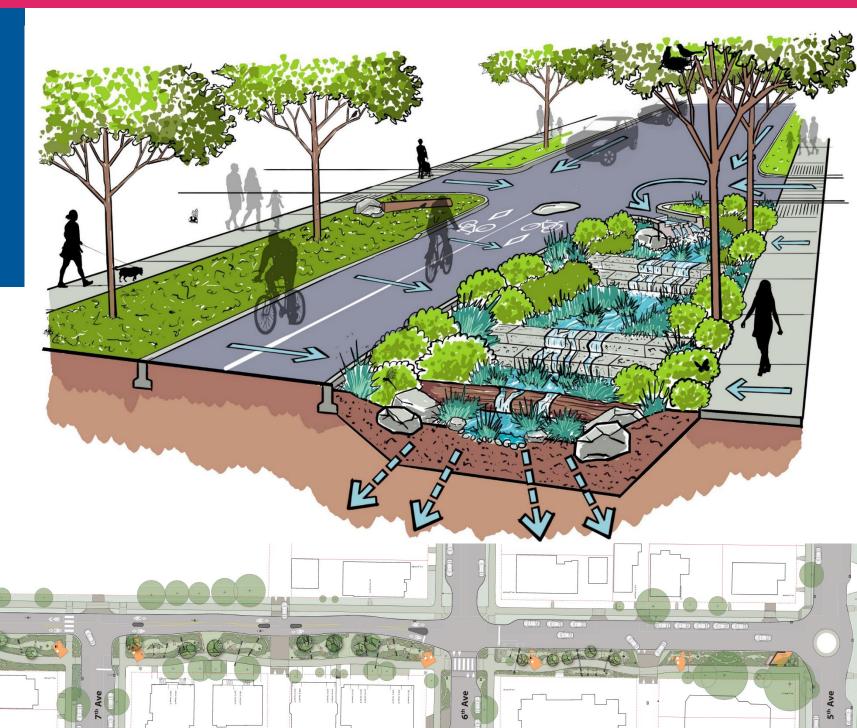
#### Links Granville **Connector** with downtown **AAA network**

## **St. George Rainway**

### Phase 1 (north of Broadway) under construction

Re-imagining the street to support nature, mobility, comunity and learning

- Improved rainwater management, new public spaces, and safe active transportation
- Car-free spaces at Broadway and between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenues



## **Other underway/upcoming improvements**

### Making active travel safer across the city



Arbutus Greenway improvements at King Edward Ave are currently under construction

## Improvements are taking place throughout the city **Recent and upcoming highlights include:**

## Arbutus Greenway @ King Edward (2024)

- Arbutus Greenway @ 41<sup>st</sup> (2025)
- Ontario Greenway Walter Hardwick to 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave (2025)
- King Edward bikeway extension Dunbar to Quesnel (2024)
- Eastside Crosscut Greenway (Fall 2025)
- Seaside Greenway at Kits Beach (2024/25)
- Beatty St upgrades Smithe to Georgia (2025)
- Kent Ave (2025-2026)
- Melville Complete Street (2025-2026)
- Portside Greenway (starting 2026)

#### ... plus other spot safety improvements and extensions coordinated through development and street restoration





## Focus: Vibrant Streets



## **Gastown Public Space Plan**

#### Towards a great plan for Gastown streets & spaces



2023

2024

2025





## Water Street Pedestrian Zone

#### Street Use, Programming and Sanitation



Working with the local Nations, BIA, local businesses and other community organizations to activate the street.

Creating a welcoming space by providing additional seating, planters, storytelling features, enhanced cleaning approach and peer ambassador program.

Supporting business and community groups to help activate the street with streamlined permit processes and relaxed program guidelines.





## **Granville Street**

A new vision for Granville Street: An eclectic and electric destination public space to support a safe and welcoming 24/7 entertainment district

> Subject to Council direction, near-term street improvements and pilots to activate Granville Street will be delivered in 2025



## **Davie Village: Space for People**

Part of West End Commercial Streets Plan

## Investing in **transportation** & public space improvements on Davie Street

## **Construction in 2025-26**

## **Benefits include:**

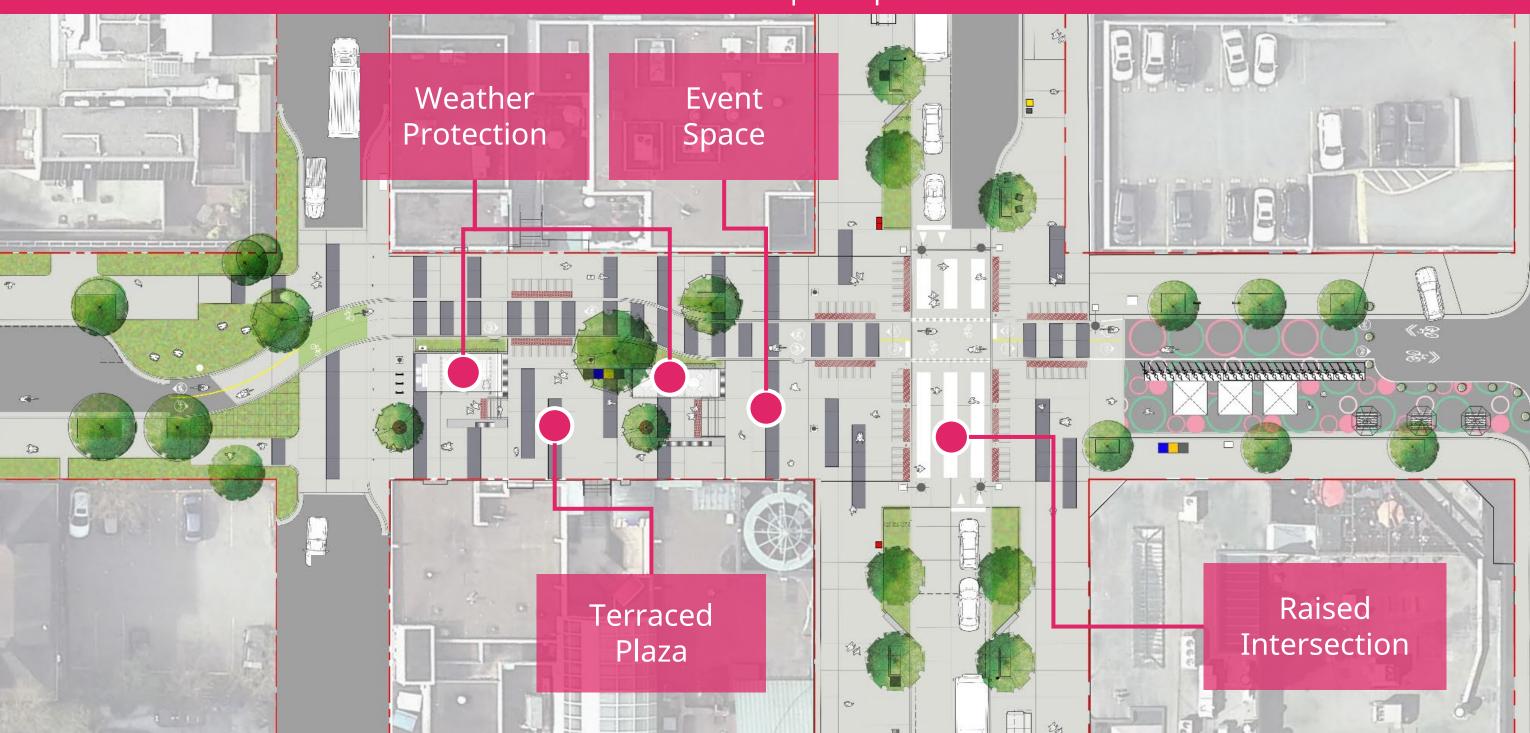
- Wider sidewalks
- More space for patios
- More places to stop & rest
- More trees





## **Bute-Robson Plaza**

### Under Construction | Complete 2025



## **Four Permanent Plazas**

#### Upgrades to four successful temporary plazas







Integrated Landscaping & Seating



Utility

Upgrades

Decorative Lighting Support Support Shared

Support Shared Micromobility





Cambie & 18<sup>th</sup>



Kamloops & Hastings





#### Increased Tree Canopy



## Event Space & Flexible Use

## Granville 45 & 14<sup>th</sup>

## **Partner-led Improvements & Upgrades**



### Punjabi Public Realm Improvements



### **Social Service Parklets**

### **Weather Protection**



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### **Chinatown Banners**

## **2023 Community Programs**

### **Placemaking**

### **Green Streets**

### 60+ placemaking projects

700+ Gardeners





### **Murals + Street Art**

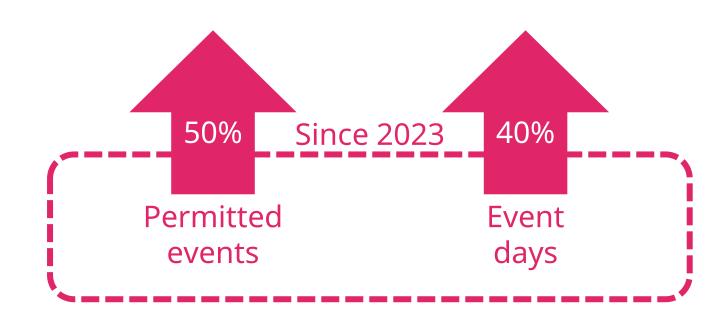
### 30+ Murals

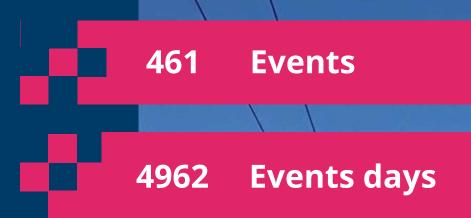
## **Public Events in 2023**

Making outdoor events and festival easier to hold

Newly implemented:

- Special Events Advisory Task Force
- Traffic Management Plan Library
- Plaza Event Guide for Organizers
- Open Streets Permitting







## **Patio Program**

## **Supporting local businesses:**

- More flexible design options
- Simplified permit process
- Updated design guidelines and tools for applicants
- City-delivered traffic safety measures

Patio Program Review: Council will hear proposed Patio Program updates in late 2024



## Successful 2024 Program Rollout



## Focus: Manage and enable use of streets & public space



## **Street Horticulture**

### 2023 budget increase supported higher service levels for horticulture maintenance:

- 171 median gardens vs. 113 in 2022
- Transition to 'natural management' approach for meadows project (~4,000 m<sup>2</sup>)

**2,000+** assets **700+ volunteers Improved maintenance** 

Photo Credit: Shannon Mendes

## **Plaza & Parklet Management**

### **Upgraded Service for 2024**

#### **Regular Microcleaning**

- 26 plazas & 9 social service parklets
- Daily in high season (May Nov)
- 3x a week in low season (Dec Apr)



#### **Seasonal response**

Leaf Pickup & Removal: 2x a month at plazas (Oct – Jan)

#### **Power Washing**:

- 22 plazas, 12 social service parklets and 6 public parklets
- 4x year



**Partner support**  Planter watering Umbrella care Day-to-day tidying Monitoring & reporting Programming & Activations

## **Public Realm Partnerships & Peers**

Some plazas need additional support to keep them feeling safe & inclusive

**Peers with lived experience** offer services, care, light outreach and de-escalation in some of our most frequented public spaces

**Peer ambassador programs** in public gathering spaces including:

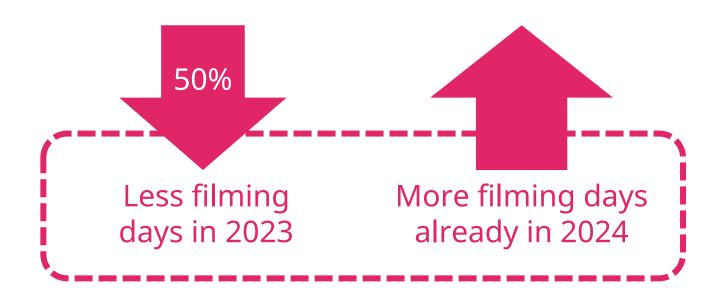
- 6 social service parklets
- Jim Deva & Kamloops Hastings Plaza (2023)
- Water Street



## **Support Local Filming**

## 2023 was a difficult year and many productions were affected

- International labour disputes significantly impacted Canadian film industry for +6 months
- Electrification (PREP): 27% of productions replaced at least one diesel generator and qualified for the clean energy incentive.



Home > Events and Entertainment

## Photos + Video: A peek at the 'Tron: Ares' film shoot on Vancouver's Cambie Bridge

The third installment of the Disney action-adventure series is using the bridge to film a "simulated vehicle accident"



indsay William-Ross Mar 15, 2024 7:51 AM Updated Mar 15, 2024 8:20 AM





Tron: Ares" from Friday, March 15 at 7 p.m. to Saturday, March 16 at 6 a.m. | Brendan Kergin/V.I.A

## **Pay Parking Improvements**

## Ongoing

### **Adding stations**

4,000 aging meters replaced by pay stations by 2026. Stations will accept coins, credit, debit and e-wallets.



### **Adding bike racks**

700+ meters repurposed into secure bike racks



## **Rolling Out**

### **Pay Parking Expansion - 2024**

- Mount Pleasant Industrial Area
- Spanish Banks
- Victoria Drive



### **More Payment Options - 2025**

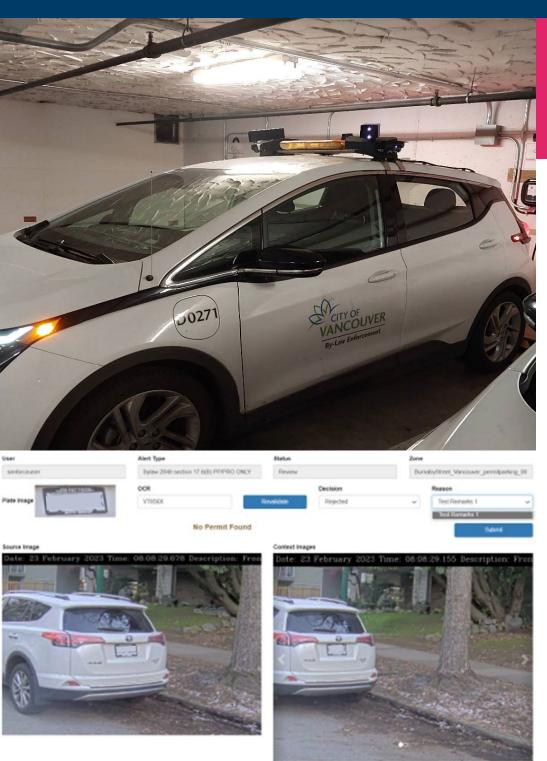
Provide choice for customers and explore new functions, like managing parking permits.







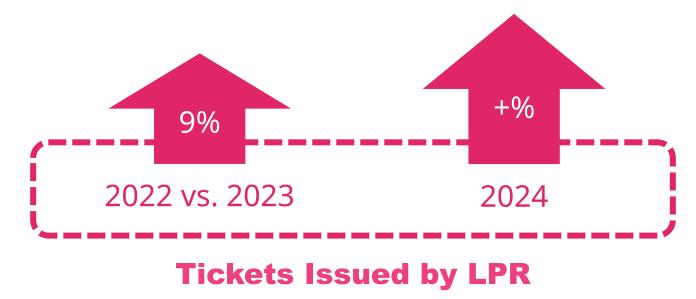
## **Parking Enforcement Improvements**



## Working towards safer and more effective curbside management

So far:

- Deployed License Plate Recognition (LPR) system
- LPR enforcing 30% of residential permit parking & time-limited parking
- LPR and pay station upgrade timing linked
- A safer enforcement tool for staff



## **Shared Micromobility: Public Bikeshare**

Mobi by Rogers public bikeshare system has had +6 million rides since 2018.

- 2023: First year with +1 Million Rides
- 2024: Aiming to beat 2023 records
- E-bikes are driving ridership growth
- Expansion to Point Grey & UBC
- New community passes for Persons with Disabilities and Youth enabling new riders
- 18 PBS locations electrified on street right of way by 2024 end





mobi

**OROGERS** 

## **Building on Shared Micromobility Experience**



Lime Shared E-Scooters System: Launching late summer 2024



## **Expanding Shared Micromobility**

**Building a shared mobility** ecosystem to offer more sustainable, accessible and flexible transportation options

- Vancouver leading shared micromobility ecosystem growth
- Recent bylaw changes to enable streets
- Launching e-mobility education and educate around considerate behaviours

E-scooters and ebikes are exciting ways to get around in the city.

WHEELS

noment to walk

oter or bike

**SLOW YOUR RC** 

ou care.

# e-devices on the Seawall and major

campaign to encourage ridership

