



Transport 2050

Shape the future of how we move. And live.

PHASE 1:
DISCUSSION GUIDE

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TOWARDS A NEW VISION FOR THE REGION

TransLink is leading the development of a new Regional Transportation Strategy called, “Transport 2050.” At the same time, Metro Vancouver is updating Metro 2040, the Regional Growth Strategy. Together, these two strategies will help our region navigate an uncertain future as we work towards achieving our shared vision and goals.

We want to hear from you about what you value about where you live, and your ideas for the future of our region. Your feedback will inform our strategies for managing growth and transportation in the region, which will be strongly aligned. Later this year, TransLink and Metro Vancouver will let you know how your input has shaped a renewed vision for the region.

Now it’s time once again to think about the future, and to imagine how we’ll want to move and live between now and 2050.

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WHERE DID WE COME FROM?

MUCH HAS CHANGED OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS.

Today, Metro Vancouver's urban shape and transportation system looks a lot different than three decades ago.



PHOTO CREDIT: CITY OF VANCOUVER ARCHIVES

No matter where you live, work, or play, and no matter how you get around in Metro Vancouver – your quality of life in this beautiful corner of British Columbia has been shaped by the many land-use and transportation decisions made in decades past. Previous decisions to protect agricultural and park lands, build rapid transit, and to focus growth into compact, walkable neighbourhoods have helped define our communities and make life better for residents. These decisions have affected the range of transportation choices available to you today, supporting the growth of a vibrant and prosperous regional economy, while reducing our carbon emissions.

Whether you take a bus to work, drive your kids to school, or bike to the grocery store, the region's transportation system has an important influence on your time, your household budget, your health, and our environment.

Founded in 1999, TransLink is responsible for providing a regional transportation system that moves people and goods, including walking, cycling, transit, and major roads. It partners with all levels of government to deliver a transportation system that works for you.

Over the past decades, the region's vision for managing growth and transportation has been very consistent, which has been a direct contributor to Metro Vancouver's success. Once the final phase of the Mayors' Council's 10-year Vision is complete, we will have built out nearly the entire road and transit system that was envisioned three decades ago in Transport 2021 – the region's first comprehensive long-range transportation strategy, adopted in 1993.

Across North America, our frequent transit network and the compact, walkable communities that have developed around it, are widely regarded as something to aspire to.

LOOKING BACK: DELIVERING ON TRANSPORT 2021 AND MORE



EXPO LINE SURREY EXTENSION
OPENS



WEST COAST EXPRESS
OPENS



TRANSLINK
CREATED



MILLENNIUM LINE
OPENS



GOLDEN EARS BRIDGE
OPENS



CANADA LINE
OPENS



NEW PORT MANN BRIDGE /
HIGHWAY 1 OPENS



EVERGREEN EXTENSION
OPENS



ROLL-OUT OF 10 YEAR VISION
BEGINS

Over the past 30 years, improvements to transit, roads, and walking and cycling have supported the efficient and sustainable movement of people and goods.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

Our region has some unique qualities, including beautiful vistas and vibrant neighbourhoods. At the same time — like most regions — we also have some challenges, which each municipality experiences differently. As we continue to tackle these pressing issues, we also need to consider the new challenges and opportunities that the future might bring.

Metro Vancouver today:

Our economy is booming, and that means we are welcoming more and more people to our region each year — increasing demand for services and infrastructure.

35,000: New people added every year, about the size of Port Moody.

Housing affordability is a top issue in Metro Vancouver — most of us spend a large share of our income on housing.

22%: Share of renters who spend more than half their income on rent.¹

Our communities are becoming more compact, walkable and transit-oriented. But many people live and work in locations where transit, walking, and cycling are still not viable options.

47%: Share of the population without access to frequent transit.

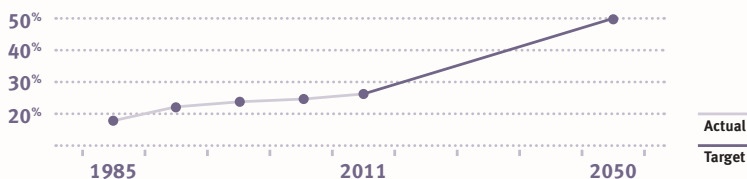
Transit ridership is growing at record rates, but this is leading to overcrowding on buses and trains across the region.

50%: Transit ridership increase over past decade.

Our reliance on car trips remains high, contributing to growing road congestion, which makes it difficult to predict how long a trip to work, home, or school will take.

\$500 million to \$1.4 billion: Annual cost of road congestion.²

SHIFTING HOW WE MOVE: SHARE OF TRIPS BY WALK/BIKE/TRANSIT



In 2008, the region set a goal that half of all trips should be made by walking, cycling, or transit by 2040, which are more affordable and sustainable ways of getting around. We also set a target to reduce the distance people drive by one-third. While we've made progress in shifting how we move, we're not on target to meet our goal.

¹ BC Non-Profit Housing Association

² C.D. Howe Institute, Canada's Ecofiscal Commission

WHAT MIGHT THE FUTURE BRING?

This is an important moment in Metro Vancouver's history. On the cusp of major change, we have a once in a generation opportunity to shape what the region will look like over the next 30 years.

To help us envision the region we want, we need to first consider how the world and Metro Vancouver might change over the next 30 years. We know that more climate change impacts are coming. We know that changes in the global economy and trade will have important and uncertain effects on our region. And we know that developments in technology will touch every sector of the economy in ways that we can't easily predict.



Climate change: We are already experiencing climate change, by 2050 we will see more rain in the winter, drought and forest fires in the summer, and sea level rise. Will more frequent and intense rain impact the way you move?

Global economy and trade: With Canada's largest port, Metro Vancouver is a transport hub that is important for the economy. Imagine the region if trade picks up. Imagine the region with a less global, more locally-focused economy.



Technology: New advances in robotics could change the kind of jobs humans do in the future. Virtual reality could make tele-commuting commonplace. What will the nature of work look like by 2050? Will you even need to commute?

To help the region better prepare for this uncertainty, TransLink and Metro Vancouver have worked together to develop four plausible future scenarios describing what the region might look like by 2050. We can use these "what-if" scenarios to help us think about the future and to identify strategies that will be effective for whatever the future may bring.

Trend Forward

Current economic, growth and development trends continue steadily forward.

Automation-Driven Decline

Automation-driven job losses and outmigration set the region's economy in decline.

Self-Sufficiency

Barriers to global trade spur a more self-sufficiency-focused local economy.

Automation-Drive Boom

Automation drives a new economic boom led by new creative & knowledge sectors.

Want to learn more? Visit transport2050.ca to see the detailed scenarios report

Each of these four scenarios will bring different challenges and opportunities for our region, economy, and transportation system. When you are giving us your ideas, think about how well they would work in these different futures.

HOW IS TECHNOLOGY CHANGING HOW WE MOVE?

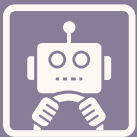
Transportation technology is evolving rapidly and how we move around in the future might be quite different than today. Already, in cities around the world, people can use a smartphone and, with the click of a button, order and pay for a ride to that will appear within minutes. In many places, people can hop from place to place by using shared scooters, bikes, or cars.

Soon, businesses will be able to ship goods directly to their customers using drones or delivery robots. In the future, automated vehicles could make it possible for more people to get around conveniently without needing to drive themselves.

These changes will dramatically impact how we move in the future. We will need to give careful consideration to how they will affect everyone including small businesses, people with mobility challenges, skilled tradespeople, students, and visitors to the region.

Four Trends Reshaping Transportation

Many believe the future of transportation will be:



Automated:

Advances in computing and sensors are increasingly putting robots in the driver's seat.



Electrified:

Driven by government policy and advances in battery storage, electric vehicles are taking off.



Connected:

Vehicles of all types will soon be able to communicate with each other.



Shared:

From scooters to bikes to cars, people are moving from owning to sharing.

WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

TRANSPORT 2050: THE TIME TO THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE IS NOW.

It's time to create Metro Vancouver's new long-range transportation strategy, and to think about what the region needs to build, do, and provide to meet our needs from now to 2050.

As the region's transportation authority, TransLink is leading this process under the leadership of the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation. However, we can't do it alone. To be successful, Transport 2050 needs to be shaped by and belong to all residents, businesses, community organizations, municipalities, and First Nations across Metro Vancouver.

Join the regional conversation. Share your vision, concerns, and ideas.

We know there are tough choices ahead. The region is facing real challenges today, like rising unaffordability, congestion, and climate change. At the same time, we need to prepare for the challenges and opportunities that the future may bring. Given the rapid pace of change we're likely to see in the years ahead, we want to know what's important to you and how transportation can support the life you want to live. We want to hear about your bold and creative ideas for the future of transportation – including those enabled by technology that is just emerging or maybe doesn't exist yet.

HOW DO YOU WANT TO MOVE AND LIVE IN METRO VANCOUVER?

Transport 2050 starts with a vision for the region shaped by the people who live, work, study, and play here. Your input will be used to help develop a renewed vision and goals for the region, which will then be used to help us evaluate the ideas you've shared with us. Later on, we'll ask you to help us consider and weigh trade-offs between all the different ideas. Finally, we'll deliver the new Regional Transportation Strategy, which will help guide decisions for decades to come.

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Transport 2050: Join us for the ride

PHASE 1: Develop Values, Vision, and Ideas | May – September 2019

PHASE 2: Consider Ideas and Trade-offs | Early 2020

PHASE 3: Draft the new Regional Transportation Strategy | Late 2020