

# Are Streetcars a Missing Link in Metro Vancouver?

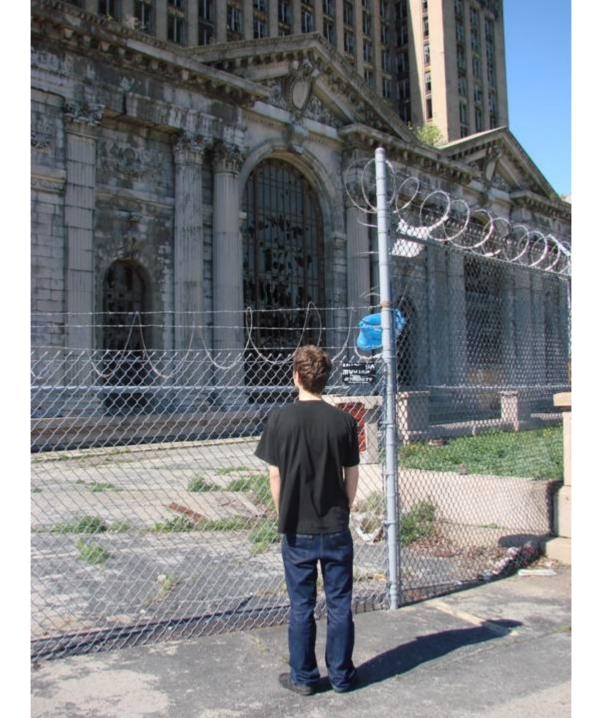
Exploring the Question from a Place-making and Regional Planning Perspective

**Christina DeMarco Metro Vancouver** 

**September 29, 2010** 



























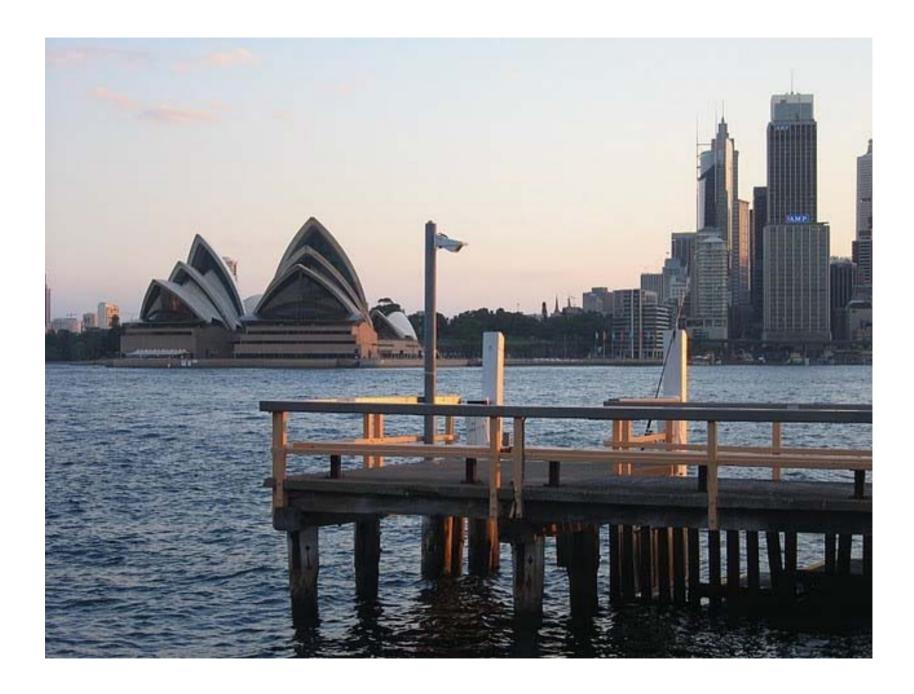










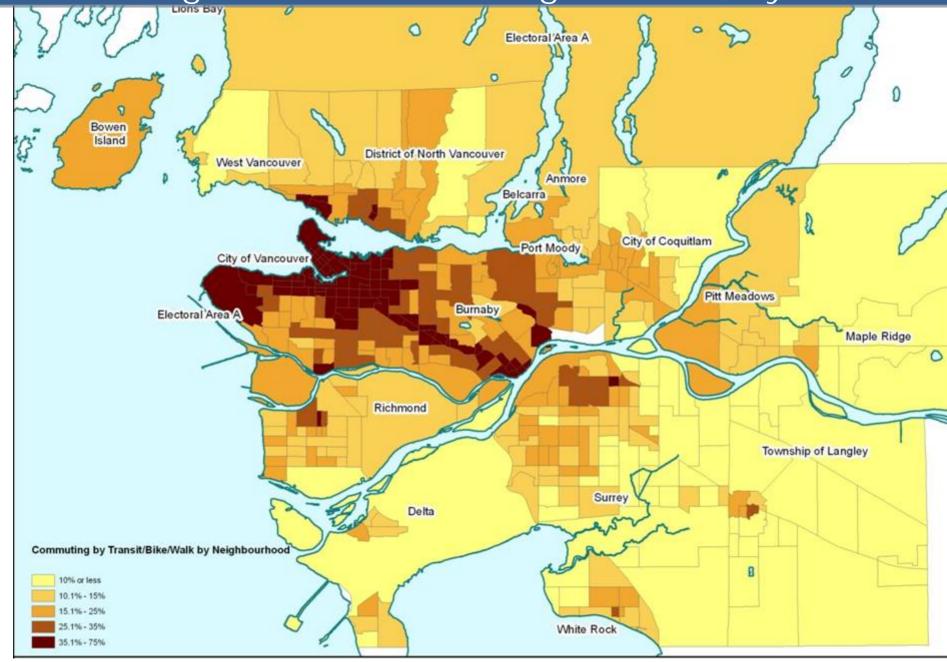




#### 3 Key Questions...

- 1. What problem are we trying to solve?
- 2. What urban land use patterns are in place now, what transportation system serves it, and how do they relate to future land use patterns.
- 3. How the costs and benefits of alternatives evaluated?

#### How we get to work in the region: Walk, Cycle, Trans



## City of Vancouver Transportation Plan (1997)

..Council policies are focusing on transportation as a means to a better city, rather than as a goal in itself. Council and residents are becoming as concerned with the needs to protect neighbourhoods from the impacts of traffic, as they are to achieving a high level of mobility"

- -Solutions will be most often a combination of transit supply, land use, urban and public realm design, demand management, including pricing.
- -What importance do we place on shorter trips versus longer trips? How do we accommodate both?

#### **U-Pass Example**

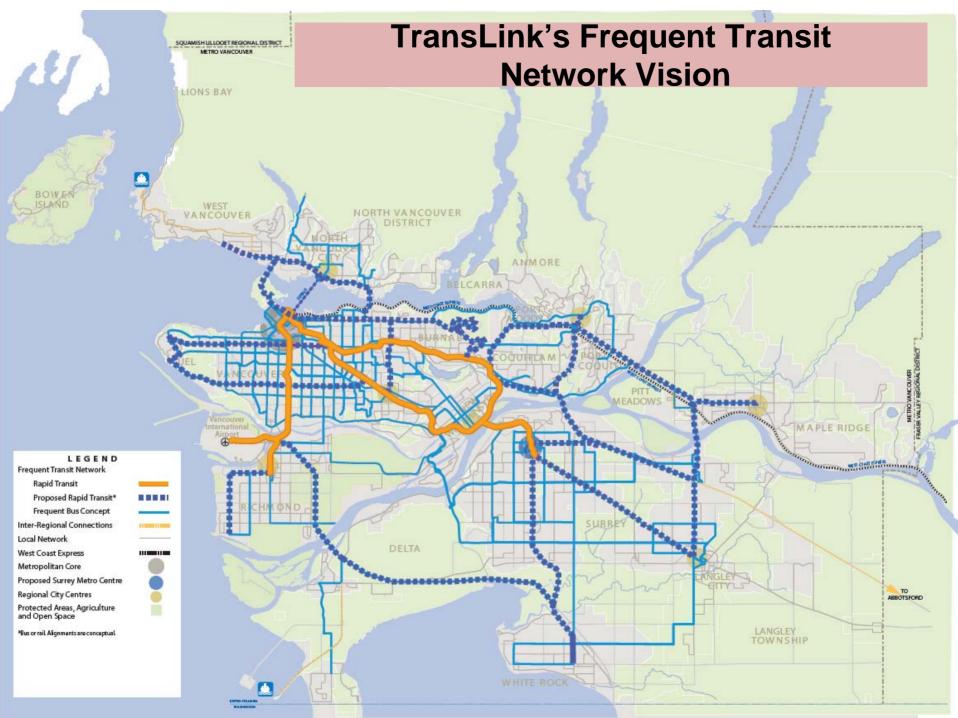
- UBC wanted to build a new community
- Vancouver residents were concerned with traffic impacts of growth
- Students said better transit services were needed
- Modelled program on successful examples elsewhere (in this case U of W)
- The result was extraordinarily successful in shifting students to transit through a combination of pricing, better service, reduction in parking supply and increase in parking prices

### 3 Key Questions...

2. What urban land use patterns are in place now, what transportation system serves it, and how do they relate to aspirations for future land use patterns.











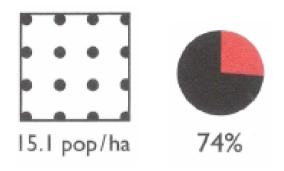


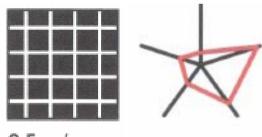


#### Southern Cross Station

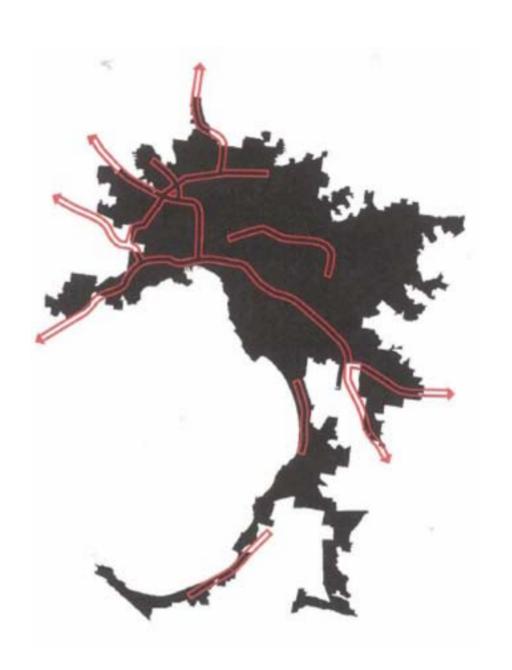


#### M E L B O U R N E pop 3 132 806 area 208 135

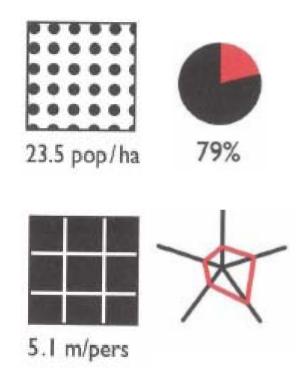


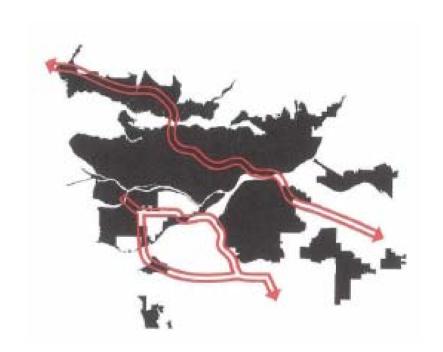


9.5 m/pers

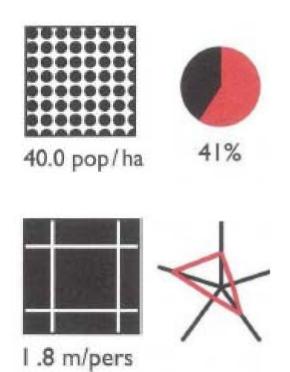


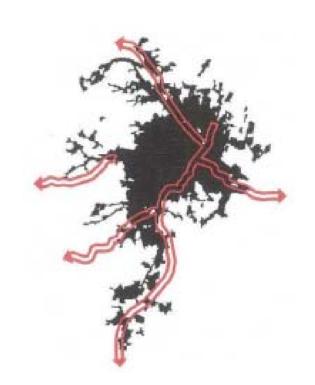
#### V A N C O U V E R pop 1817 681 area 77 220 ha

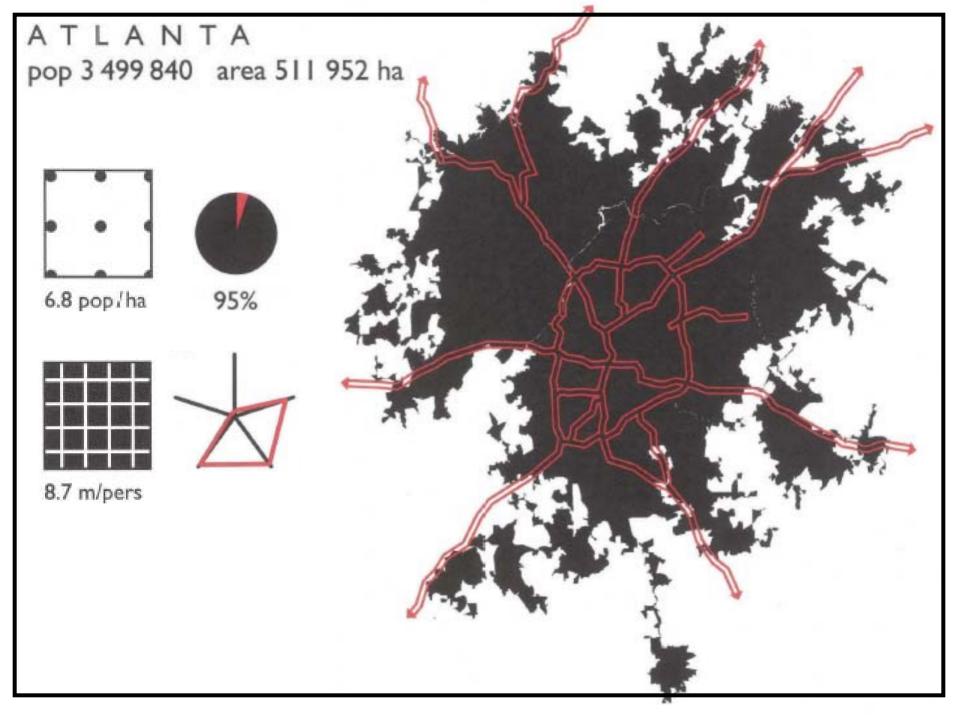


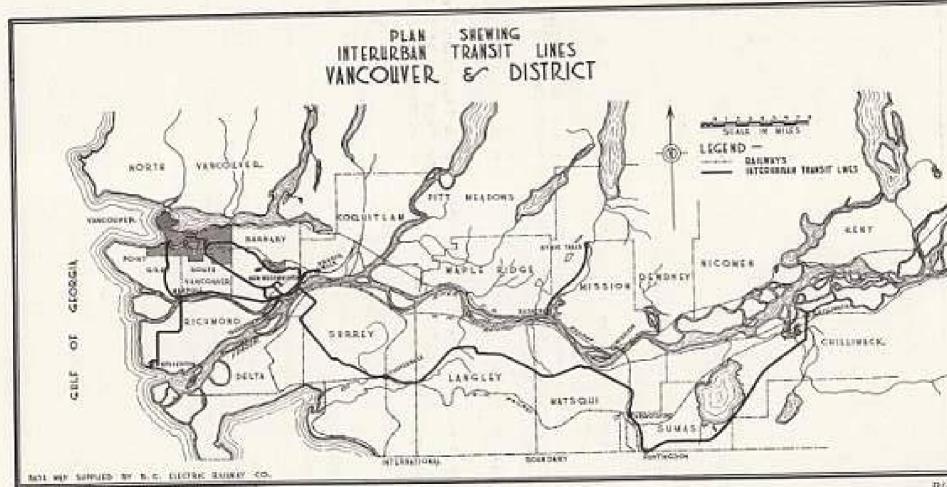


#### V I E N N A pop 1763 295 area 44 044 ha





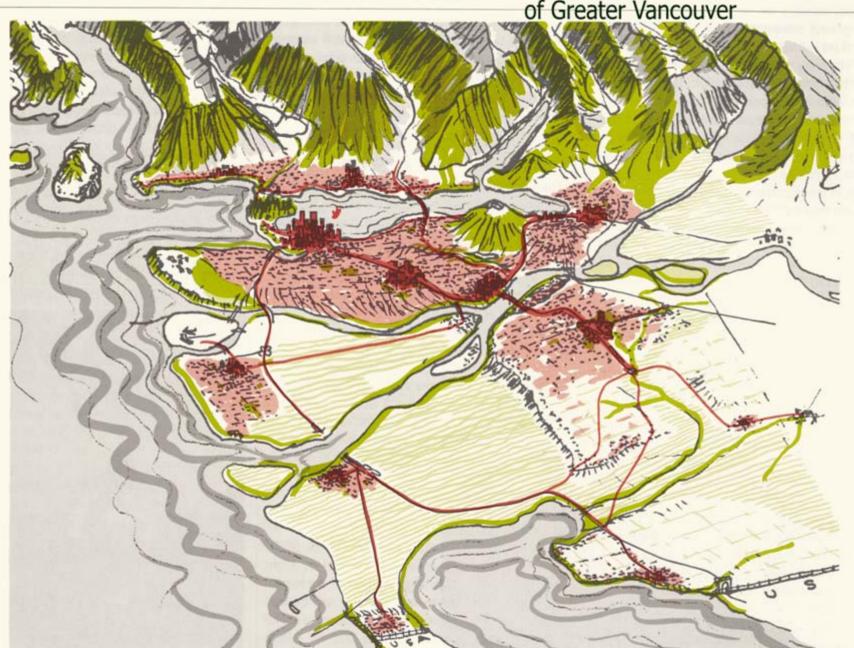




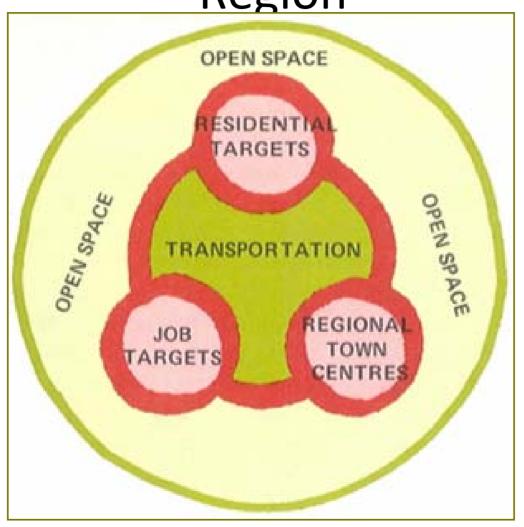
Page 130

#### THE REGIONAL PICTURE IN 1986

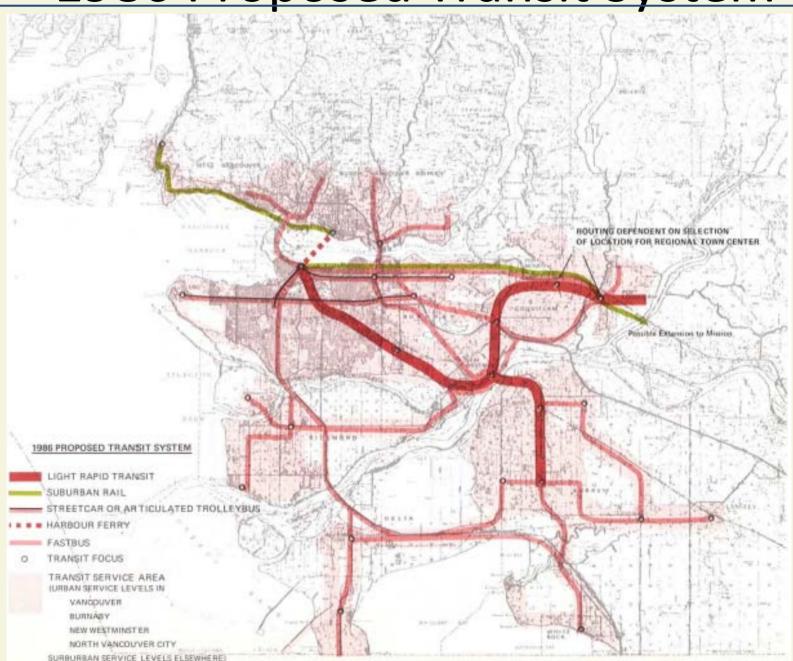
\* Source: The Livable Region 1976/198 Proposals to Manage the Growth of Greater Vancouver



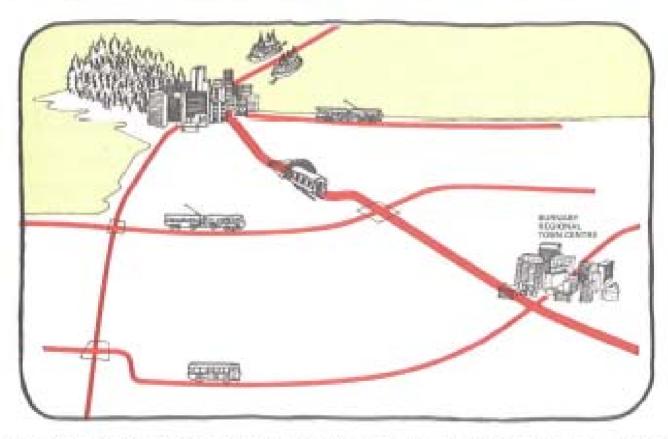
Strategy for Managing Growth in this Region



# 1986 Proposed Transit System



# TO AND FROM DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER AND REGIONAL TOWN CENTRES

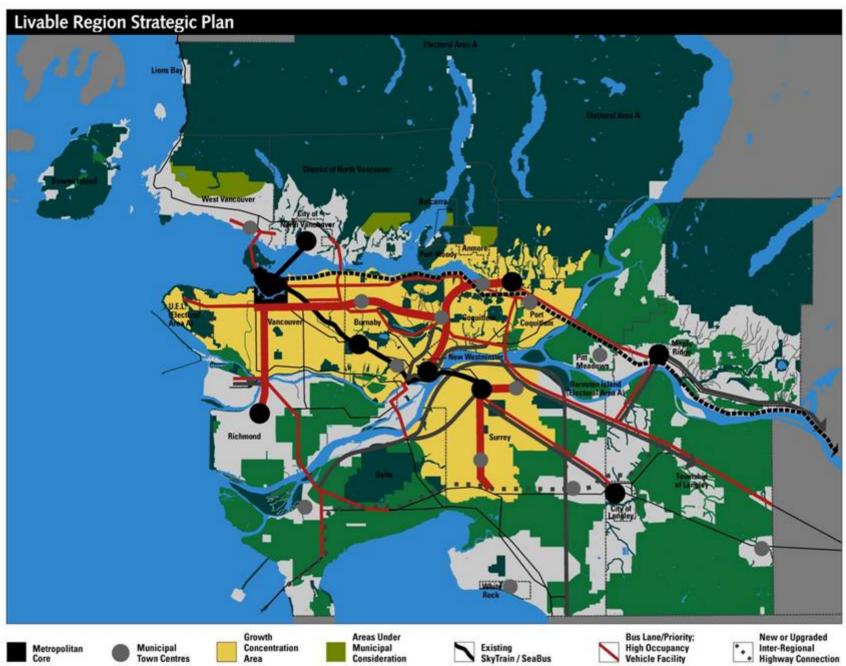


A trip might start with a Local Bus to a station on the Light Rapid Transit (LRT) line, then continue on LRT to a Regional Town Centre or downtown LRT subway station. Many trips downtown would be entirely by Local Bus or Fastbus as at present, but be faster because of traffic measures designed to give buses priority.



# Livable Region Strategy

A good transit system is the backbone of regional development. It will help make Regional Town Centres viable and in turn transit-oriented Regional Town Centres will help make high quality transit service economically possible.









Area



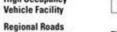


Intermediate Capacity Transit System (Light Rail/Busway)



Connections and

**Goods Movement** 



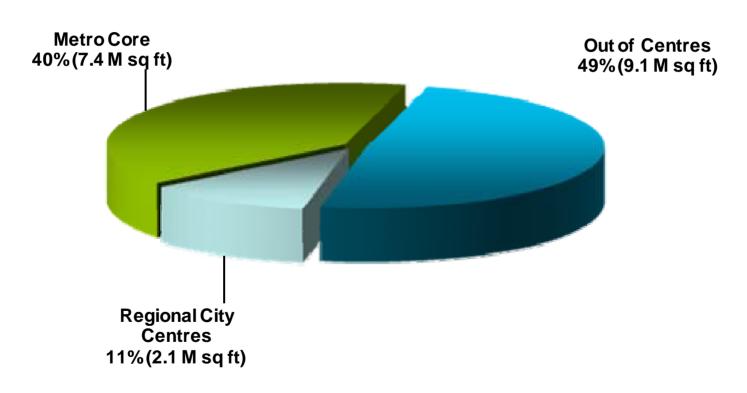




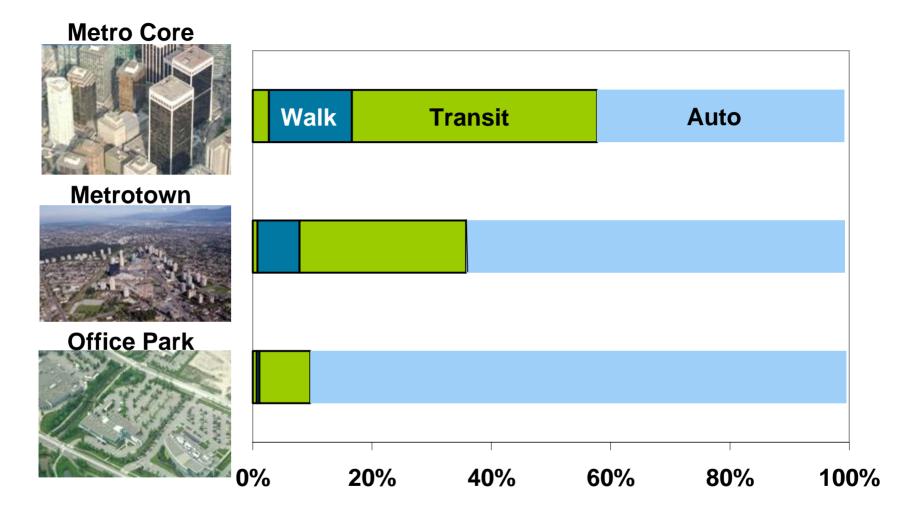
Commuter Rail

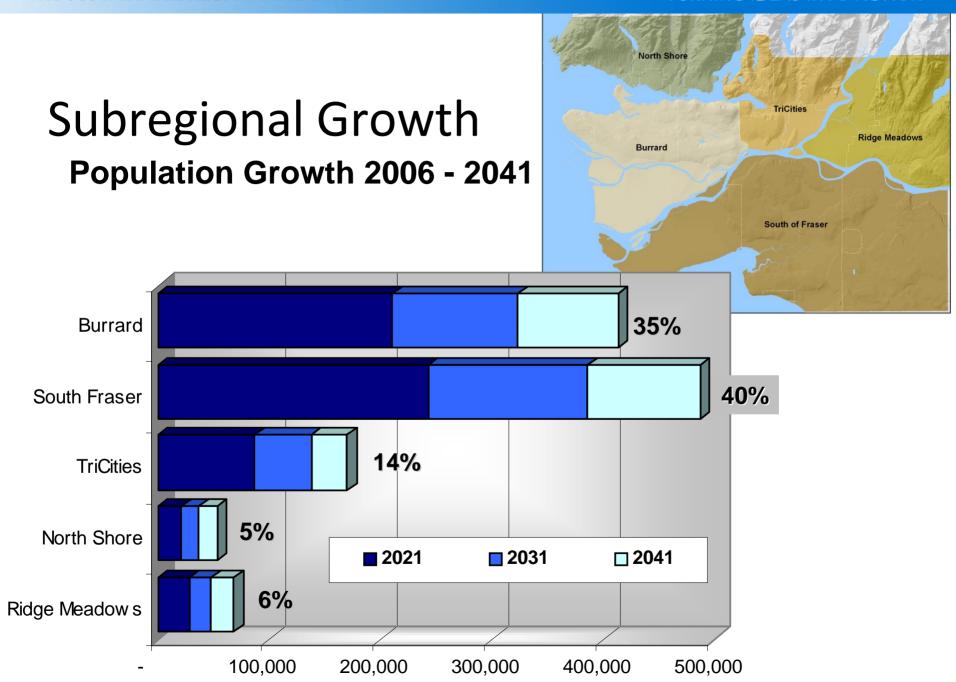
#### Getting Office Jobs in the Right Locations

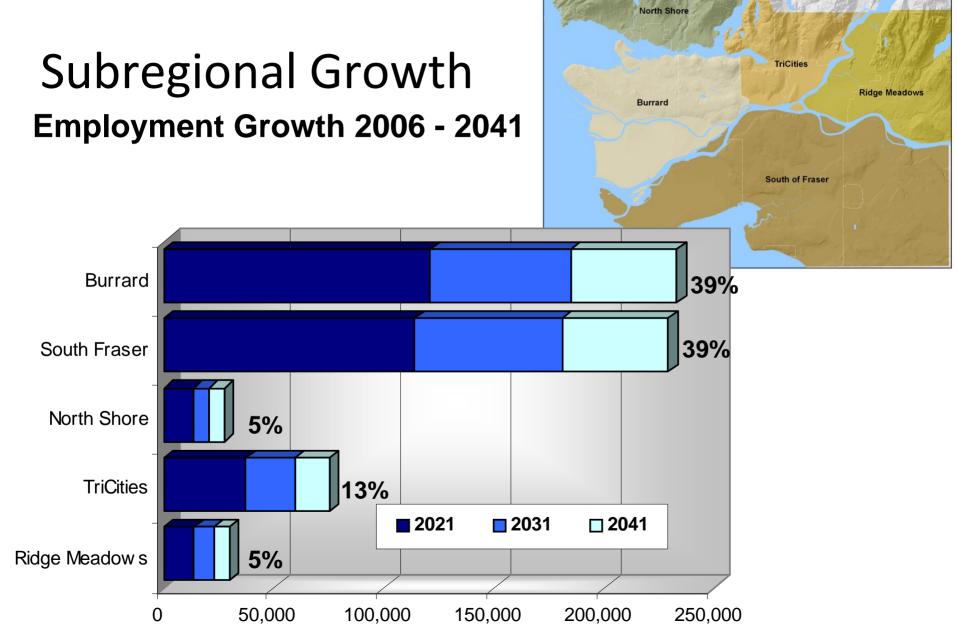
Distribution of Office Floorspace Growth in Metro Vancouver (1990-2006)

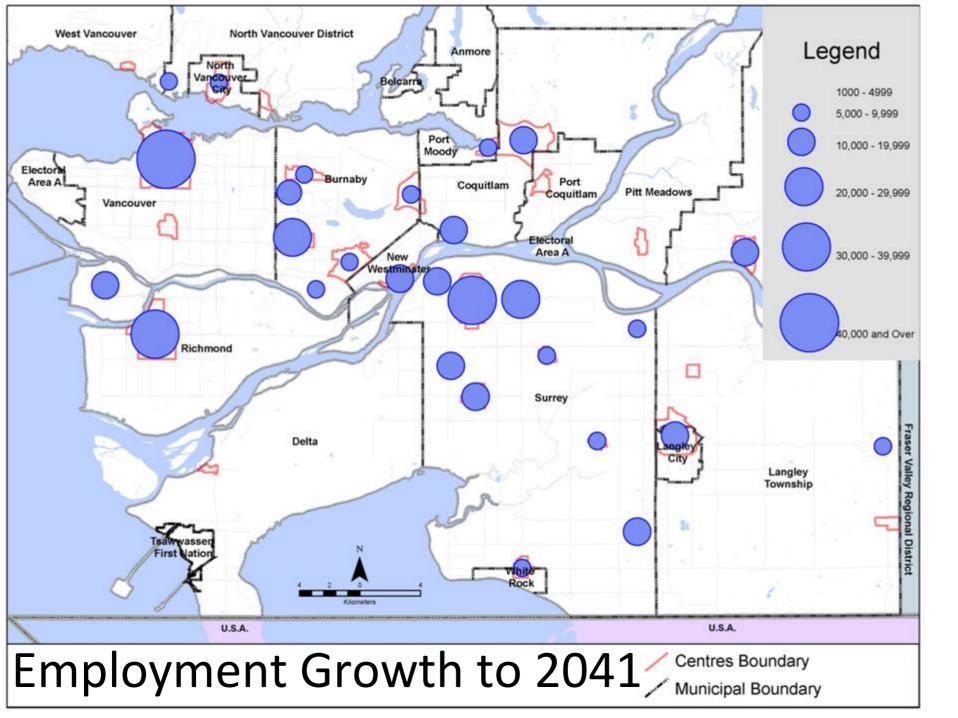


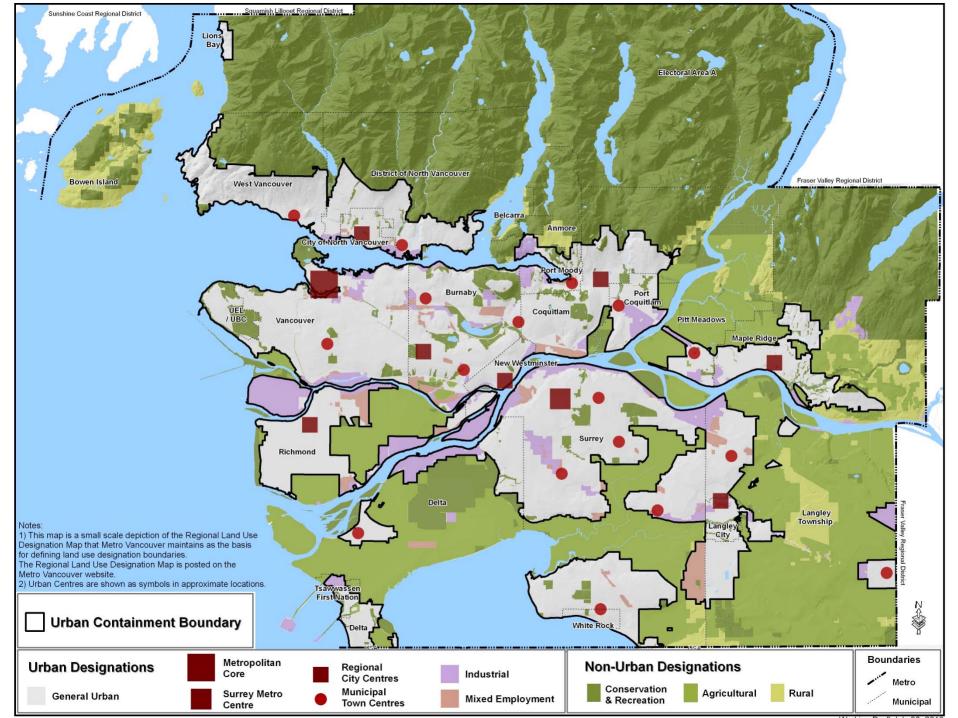
## How workers get to work











## **Evaluating Costs and Benefits**

- Systematic and transparent as possible on social, economic, and environmental costs and benefits
- What makes the short list and why or why not?
- Who benefits and who loses?
- Capital and operating costs
- Cost per new rider
- Reduction in Greenhouse gas emissions

# **Evaluating Costs and Benefits**

- Catalyst for development?
- Studies are always a combination of technical work and value judgments

 "Your heart has its reasons, your mind doesn't know."

