Vancouver: Significant Achievements; Significant Opportunities to Be Even Better

A Talk by
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Introduction

- Vancouver began as int'l city
- Century later in we hit global stage via
 - •EXPO '86 our 100th birthday party
 - Asia Pacific Inititiative 1987 Genesis of YVR "privatization"
- Vancouver's successes and opportunities foci here



Overview of discussion

- Presentation examines
 - Vancouver's successes
 - Current and future opportunities
 - Chief among these are
 - Being economically competitive
 - Integrating economic and land use strategies
 - Integrating transportation and land use
 - Enhancing experience/enjoyment of the city





Some natural assets

- We're beautiful super place to live
- Diverse multi-cultural society
- Time zone between Europe and Asia
- On great circle route from West Coast to Asia
- Relatively mild climate w/great summers
- Abundant high quality diverse natural capital and resources





Some developed assets

- Gateway efforts tie us globally
 - -YVR best airport on continent 5 years running
 - -Port Metro Vancouver biggest in Canada, 4th on continent
- Universities/educational system very strong
- Parks, recreation, cultural resources first rate
- Tourism, culture, architecture/engineering global
- New media, IT and biotech sectors vibrant
- Populating downtown and opening 3 waterfronts
- \$9+ billion investment in 4 rapid transit lines





Current challenges

- Balkanized regional bodies
- Growing congestion, pollution and travel times
- No regional economic strategy
- Poor integration of transit and land use
- Restrictive rent-seeking land use policies
- Often sluggish-rigid planning responses
 - 2-3+ year rezoning period
 - Planning and market dynamics disjointed
 - i.e., Banning condos in CBD core
 - Zoning tied tightly specific sectors (failed I-3 zoning)





Seizing Opportunities to Excel

- Integrating transport and land use effectively
- Integrating land use and economic strategies
- Making the urban realm more enjoyable





Integrating Transportation and Land Use

- Transportation and land use complements
- Different sides of same coin
- In competitive global city must be tightly integrated
- Efficient urban form excellent access critical
 - Hong Kong versus Bangkok
- Integrated T/LU systems a must



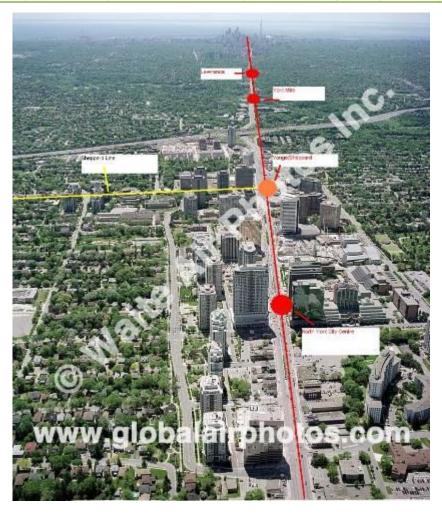


...Two Good Examples





Toronto's North York Station Area







Planned Oakridge Redevelopment







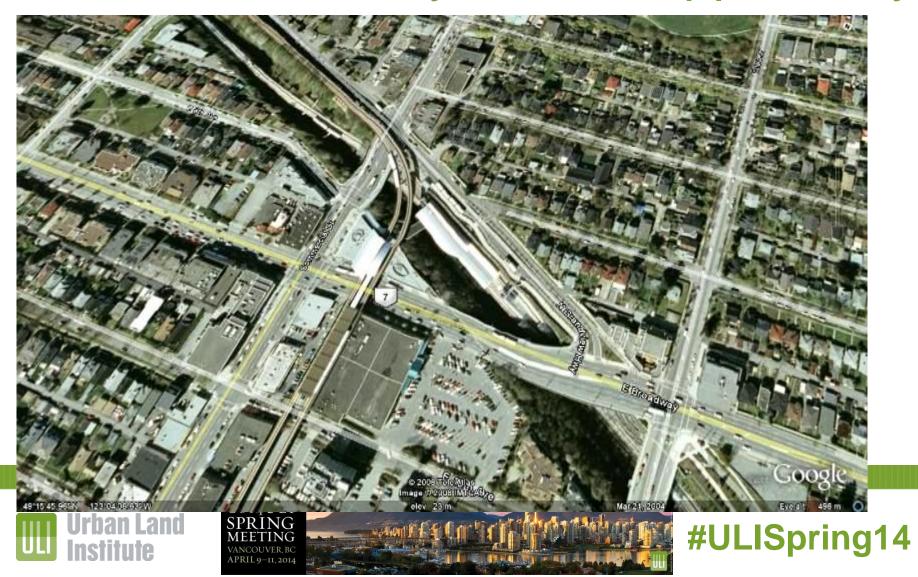
...A Bad Example from Vancouver (in process of changing very soon)





Broadway and Commercial Driver

Intersection: A badly missed opportunity



Elements of an Economic Strategy

- Position region to compete globally
- Ensure excellent mobility efficient urban form
- Build exports services AND resources
 - Architectural, engineering and IT design services
 - Travel, tourism and culture
 - Education and health care
 - Biotech, new media and IT
- High value manufacturing niches
- Attract/retain people, talent, jobs and investment
- Livability helps, just a start





Integrating land use w/economic strategies

- Economy diverse and unknowable
- Land use must be flexible
- Housing is "wired" workplace and home
- Can't tie land use to sectors
- Industrial-retail-office-residential blurring → more flexibility
- Land use must accommodate future economic sectors



Improving the Urban Experience: Urban Design and Infrastructure Opportunities to Enhance Livability AND Competitiveness





Pedestrian Zones - Walking Cities

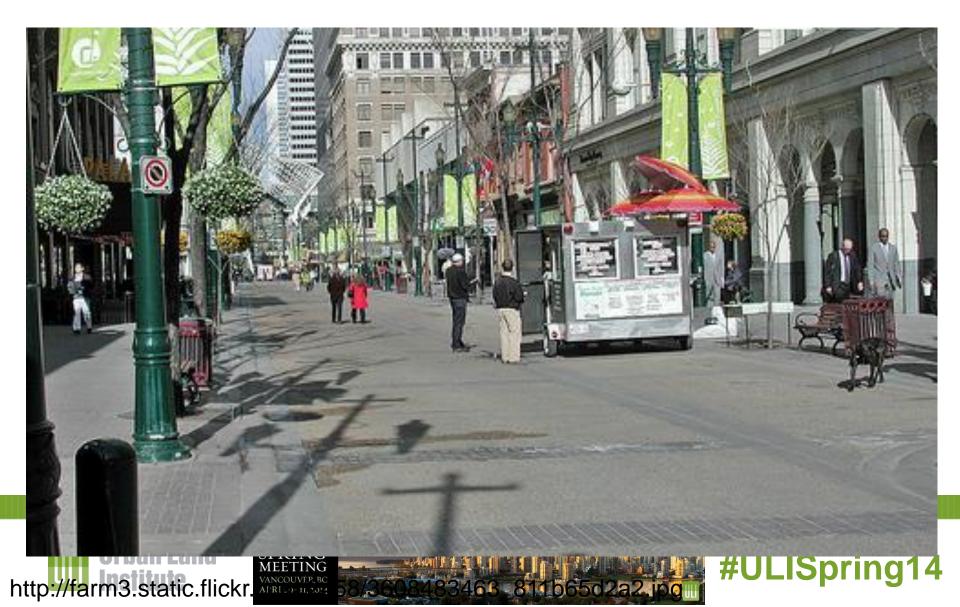




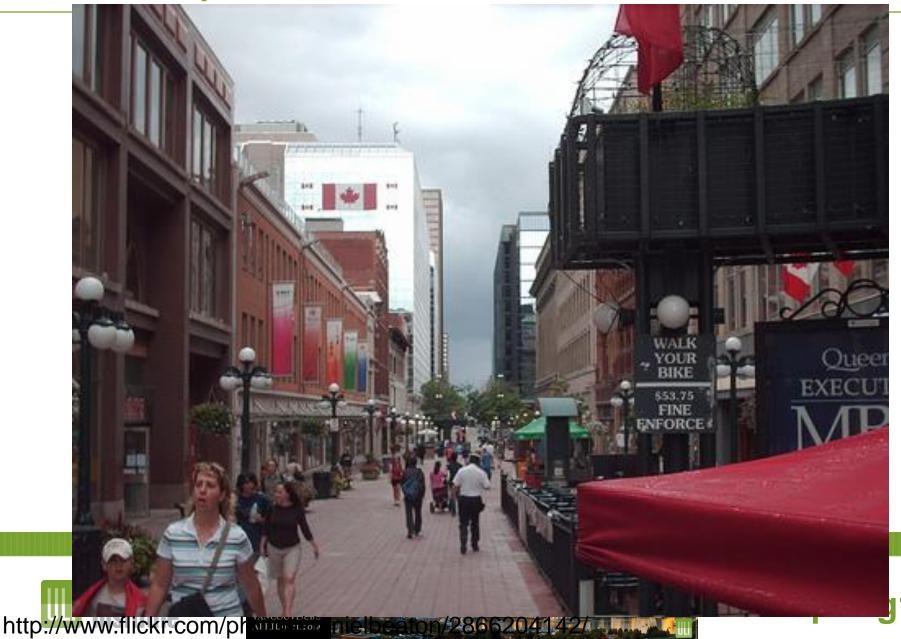
Copenhagen's Strøget –a half century



Calgary Downtown Pedestrian Zone



Sparks Street Mall Ottawa



Whistler's Town Centre Walking Zone



Outdoor dining and sidewalk cafes





Shepherd Market London



A Small Square and Bistros in Paris





Sidewalk Cafes, Recoleta, Buenos Aires

http://lh3.ggpht.com/_T6O5wl APRIL9-0,2C14

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Waterfront Dining





Riverwalk San Antonio and Tour Boats © Ron Niebrugge

http://www.wildnatureimages.

Boat Quay Singapore



Thames River Walk



Mid-block walks and arcades





Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II Central Milan:



Piccadilly Arcade London – 1816



http://www.timeout.com APRILU-D. 1011 100 Viewenoho? Id=1842&image=14871&type=4

Burlington Arcade London - 1819



Royal Arcade Melbourne – Built 1859, Renovated 2002-04







Street fairs and markets





Portebello market london..jpg http://www.europeupclose.cor

Orchard Street Market NYC



Rue Mouffetard Street Market Paris





Urban waterway pedestrian bridges





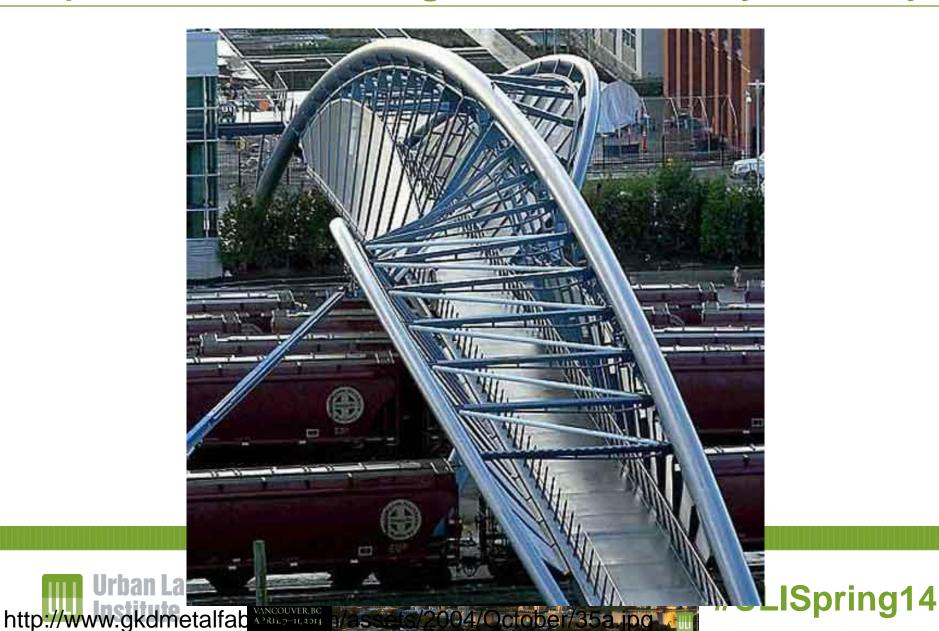
Pedestrian bridge in Calgary



Pedestrian bridge in Melbourne



A pedestrian bridge over Biscayne Bay



Millennium Bridge London

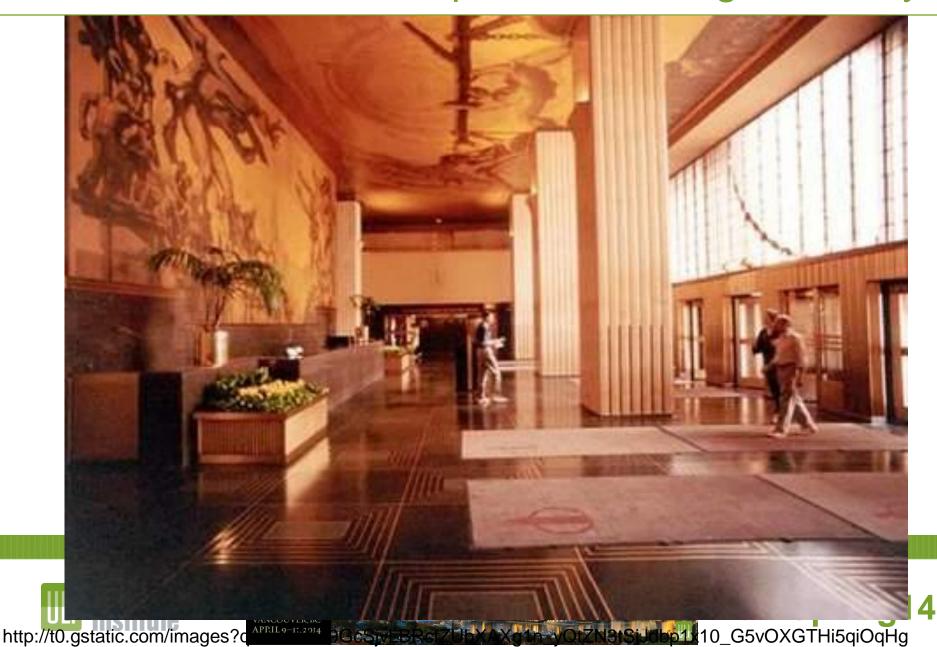


Weather protected pedestrian paths





Rockefeller Center – A pioneer underground city



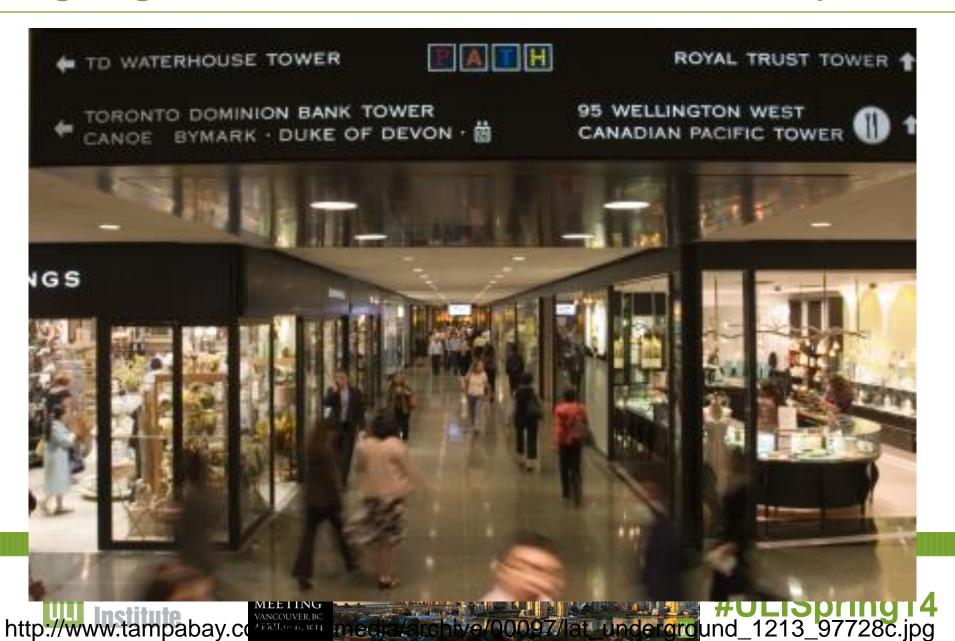
Calgary +15 System and Transit Mall







Signage-Directions in Toronto PATH System



Underground City Montreal



Closing

- Region to grow by 1 million by 2040
- Compete globally for people and investment
- Opportunities noted here can help City and Metro region do all this and more
- Have achieved great things as city/region
- Can do even better
- One thing we can't do is sit on our laurels



