

@ Vancouver-British Columbia Translink • Vancouver, British Columbia Canada

Project in Brief

Customer:

Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority Translink

Location:

Vancouver, British Columbia Canada

Installed lockers currently in use:

394 CYCLE-SAFE PROPark Series Lockers

Lockers purchased:

1988, 1994, 2002, 2003, 2004



Most users of the Cycle-Safe bike lockers in and around Vancouver are commuters ages 30-50 years old who appreciate the convenience and safety of the lockers before hopping on a train to work. One of those commuters is Reena Meijer-Drees, a cycling advocate who combines light rail and cycling in her daily commute from between New Westminister and North Vancouver to her engineering/technician job. Two Cycle-Safe bike lockers save Meijer-Drees from having to ride the bus to get to work and give her a daily workout through bicycling.

The lockers were installed at the new light rail station close to Meijer-Drees' home and she jumped at the chance for a place to stash her bikes. She rents two lockers for a fee of \$20 per month each. She cycles a quick two miles downhill to the light rail station and rides the train to another stop where she has another bike in a Cycle-Safe locker. From there it's a 20-minute trip by bike to her workplace that has bike parking and showers.



"I can't afford three sessions a week at a gym, time wise or money wise," Meijer-Drees said. With the bike lockers she can get in a daily workout and enjoy being outdoors in Vancouver's temperate climate.

Meijer-Drees likes the bike lockers because they're safe, maintenance-free and it's hard to tell what's inside of them. She noted that most bike parking she's seen in Europe and other places are open, whereas with a Cycle-Safe locker she doesn't have to lock the bike — just load it in the locker.

Light rail – Cycle-Safe bike lockers in Vancouver

Vancouver, British Columbia is one of a growing number of cities with light rail. Cycle-Safe bike lockers have been a part of the Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority's Translink light rail system for more than 10 years, offering great options for regular commuters.

A majority of the lockers are located at 32 SkyTrain Millennium Line light rail locations involving 22 municipalities and a couple of Park & Ride locations, according to Michael Grant, Translink junior transportation analyst. Since 1999 Translink has approved \$1 million for the installation of bike racks and bike lockers

In 2005 Translink had 344 lockers available for rent for \$30 for a minimum of three months. An additional 50 Cycle-Safe lockers are part of the West Coast Express.

Translink is planning on contracting out the administration and maintenance of the lockers and once the new contractor is in place, additional Cycle-Safe lockers will be purchased.

Although Translink does have some problems with graffiti on the lockers at certain locations, there is very little other maintenance needed of the lockers as they're virtually indestructible. Most of the lockers are beige/taupe in color with some older green ones.

Specially designed end panels on the bike lockers provide a flat surface for promotional space. Translink has contracted C-Media Outdoor.com an advertising placement company to coordinate the program to support and promote local business.

Push for more cyclists

The city of Vancouver is working hard to encourage more people to cycle. Meijer-Drees said although Vancouver is still auto-oriented, city officials are strong proponents of cycling and there are a lot of cyclists in the downtown core area. More bicyclists mean less congestion and less need for new parking for this metropolitan area of more than 2 million people, less spread out and slightly smaller than the Seattle metropolitan area.

Translink is investing \$4 million in partnerships with municipalities to fund and build new cycling infrastructure. By 2008 Translink will invest \$15 million in cycling including improved access to transit services. Grant said Translink will increase marketing efforts for the Cycle-Safe lockers to boost occupancy rates.



RESOURCE INFORMATION	WEB SITE ADDRESSES
<i>TransLink Services - Cycling Information</i>	www.translink.bc.ca/Transportation_Services/Bikes/
<i>Other Light Rail Systems using Cycle-Safe PROPark Lockers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minneapolis Hiawatha Light Rail www.metrotransit.org/serviceinfo/bikelockers.asp • Kind County Sound Transit http://transit.metrokc.gov/tops/bike/lockers.html • Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (BEST) www.best.bc.ca/programsAndServices • Maryland Mass Transit Administration www.mtamaryland.com/resources/bikesonmta/MTA_Bike_Brochure.pdf

Visit these Bicycle Advocacy Sites on the World Wide Web

Assoc. of Pedestrian & Bike Professionals	www.apbp.org	National Bicycling and Walking Clearinghouse.	www.bicyclinginfo.org
Bikes Belong Coalition	www.bikesbelong.org	Bike Alliance of Washington	www.bicyclealliance.org
League of American Bicyclists	www.bikeleague.org	Millennium Trails	www.dot.gov/mtp
Bicycling Life	www.bicyclinglife.com	National Trans. Enhancements Clearinghouse	www.enhancements.org
Bike Map	www.bikemap.com		

For more bicycle planning links visit <http://www.cyclesafe.com/Links>



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