

Comox Valley Cycling Coalition

2011 Traffic Counts on Courtenay Arterial Roads

Data assembled by Wilf Dreher

The following are charts of the counts taken on Courtenay arterial roads on Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Counting Locations

The following locations were counted from 7 to 9 am and 3 to 6 pm except otherwise noted:

1. Ryan Road near RCMP
2. Headquarters Road north of intersection with Highway 19A
3. 5th Street Bridge
4. Cumberland Road south of intersection with Willemar (7 – 9 am only)
5. 17th Street Bridge
6. Fitzgerald Ave. north of intersection with 17th St.
7. Comox Road (Dyke Road) east of 17th St
8. Courtenay Riverway (7 – 9 am only)

Weather:

Rain in the morning, cloudy periods in afternoon

Morning temperature 7⁰ C

Afternoon temperature 14⁰ C

Results:

The following charts show morning inbound and afternoon outbound traffic count data.

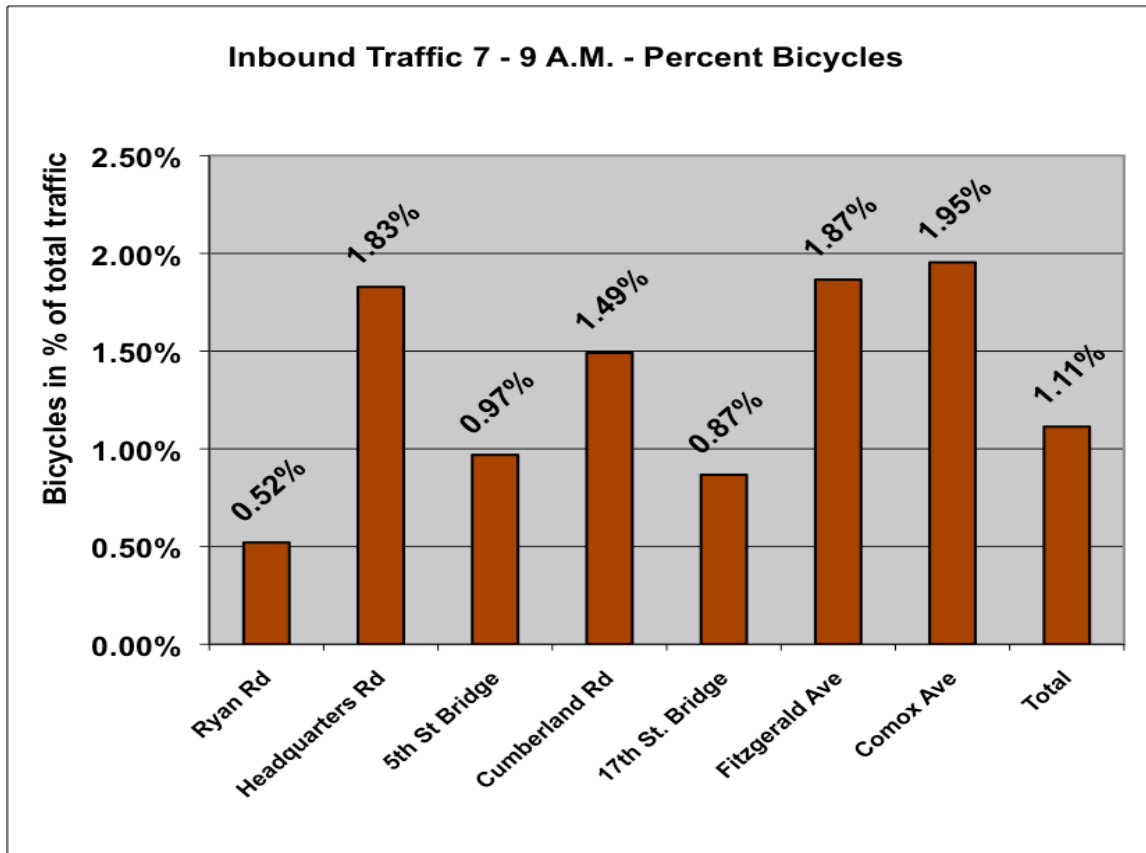
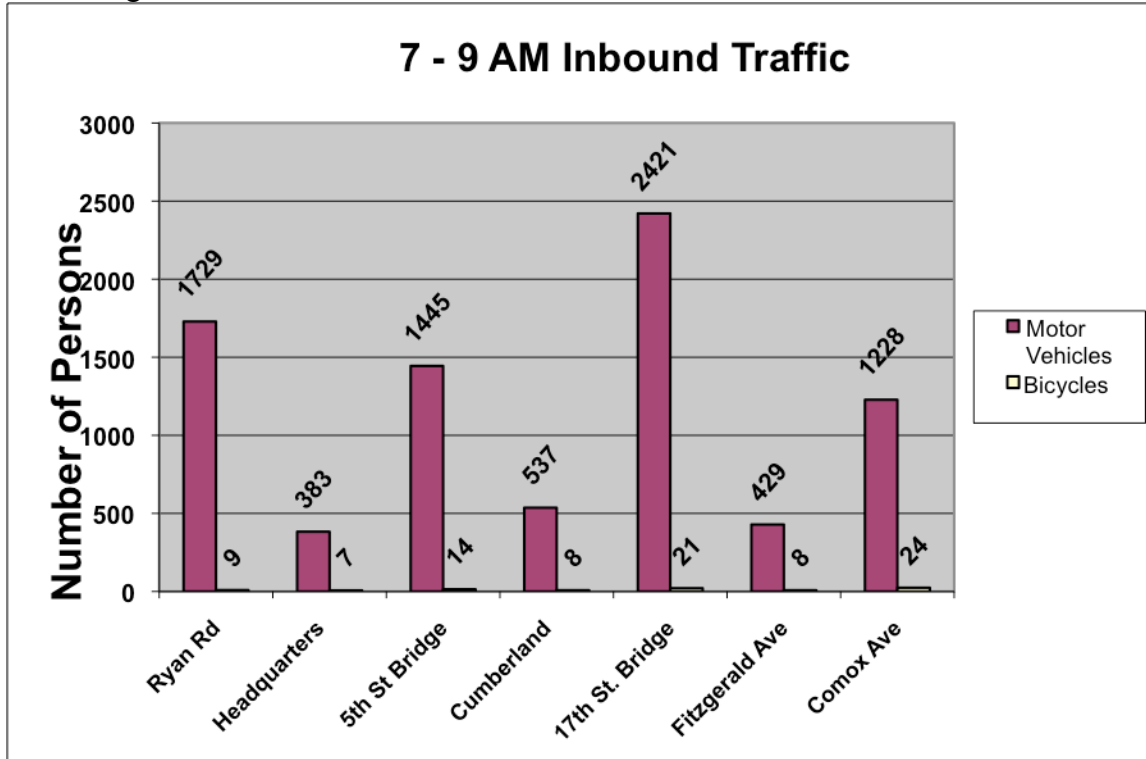
A note on peak hour traffic: The highest hourly count data occurs mostly in the afternoon hours, even for inbound traffic. The charts below show morning in bound and afternoon outbound traffic even if the morning inbound numbers were lower than in the afternoon. This is for the purpose to distinguish between the two daytime periods, the morning hours tend to be solely commuters, whereas in the afternoon, there is a mix of trip purposes.

The overall traffic is considerably heavier in the afternoon, but the percentage of cyclists stays about the same in both periods.

NOTE:

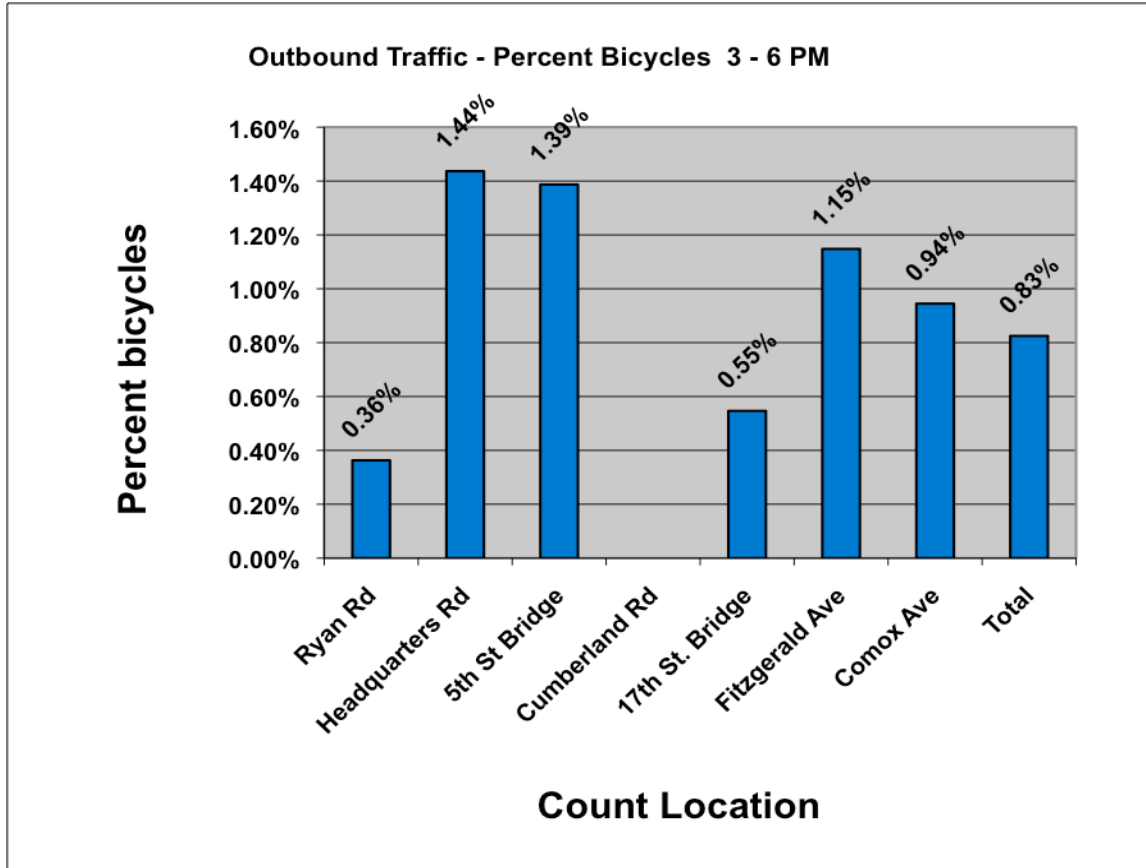
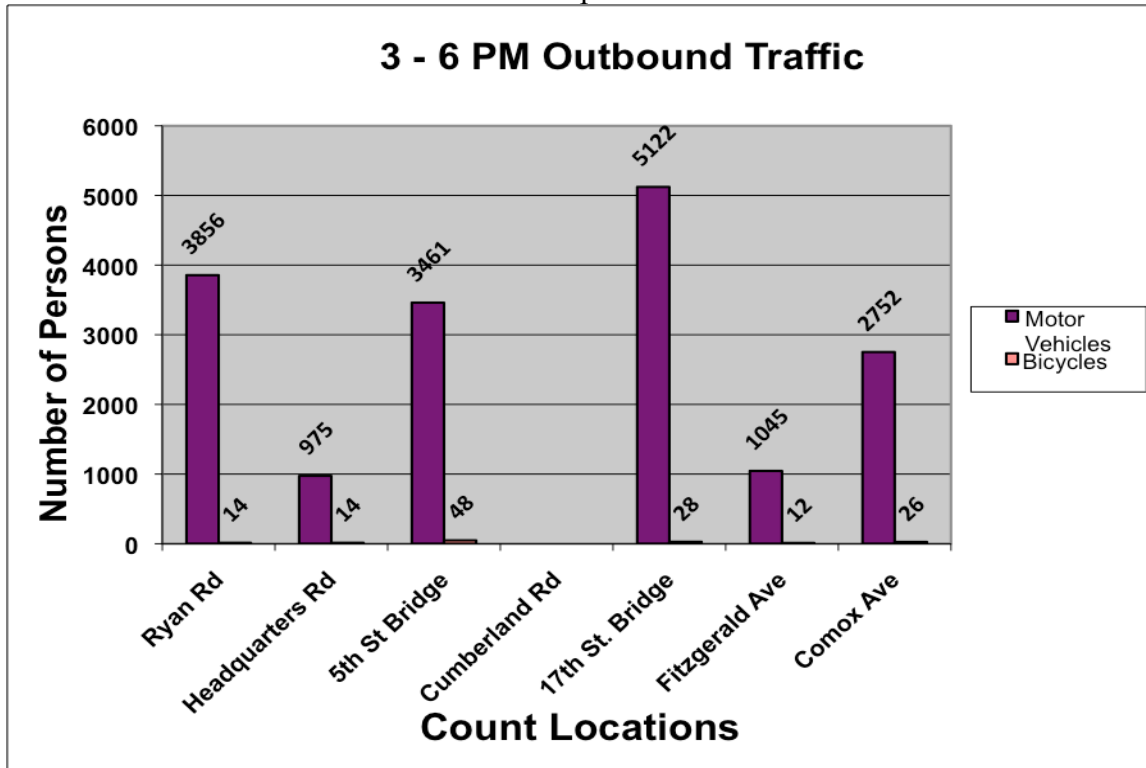
The values in the following charts show the number of people transported in motor vehicles vs. riding bicycles. Vehicle counts distinguished between single occupant and multi – occupant vehicles, as well as commercial vehicles. People in commercial vehicles are not included in the charts. Multi-occupant vehicles were counted as a flat 2.2 persons per vehicle, this is an educated guess as most of these vehicles contained 2 people, occasionally more.

1 Morning Traffic:

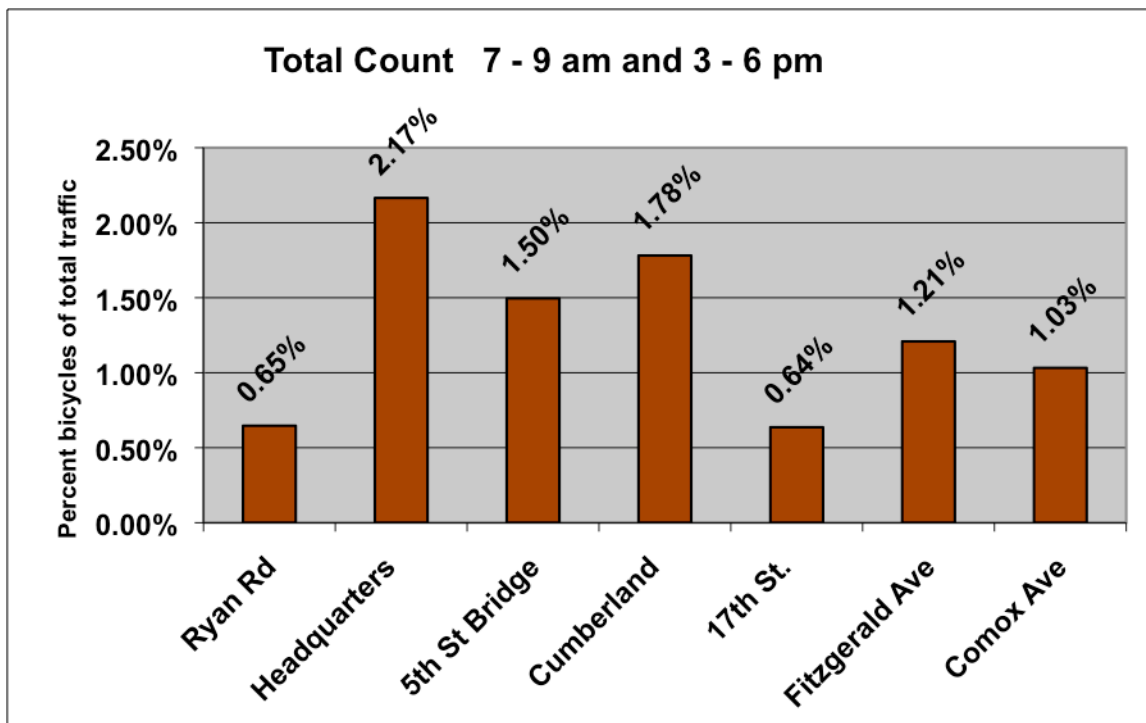
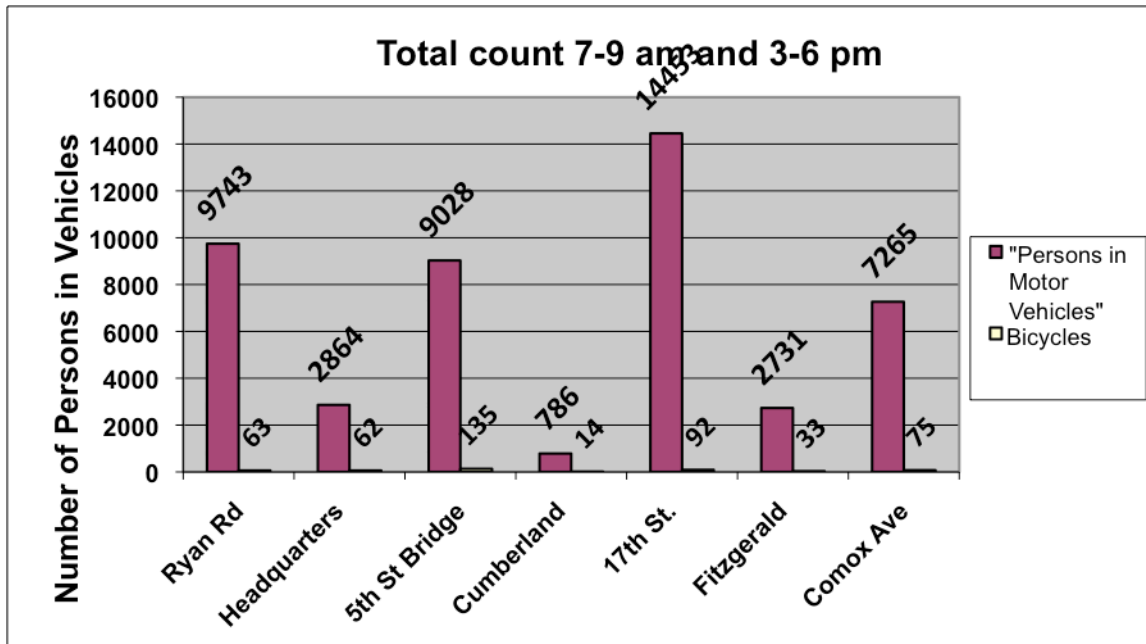


2. Afternoon Traffic:

Note: Cumberland Road not counted in this period.



3. Overall Traffic



Comparison with 2009 and 2010

2009 count on September 24, 2009

2010 count on September 28, 2010

2011 count on October 5, 2011

The following charts show the data from all 3 counts. The data has been selected to only include locations and times that were counted in all three years.

In general, vehicle traffic is increasing and bicycle traffic has been decreasing. With only 3 years of data it is difficult to say whether the decreasing bicycle trips are a general trend or a function of the weather and the later dates of the traffic counts in 2010 and 2011. It is proposed to continue the count in future years.

