



SMART

SOUTH METRO AREA  REGIONAL TRANSIT

September 2022 Report

"Water seeks its own level." A theory first articulated by Greek philosopher Aristotle. At the time, most believed it to be a metaphor for how things equalize in society. However, like author Lyndia Grant, I theorize that "water seeks its own level" can also mean that people of good character seek out and find other people of good character. If this is true, then the contrary would also be true - people of bad character feel an affinity towards those of similar character. Perhaps *"birds of a feather do indeed flock together."*

Dwight Brashear
Transit Director



Fleet Services – Scott Simonton Fleet Services Manager

We recently suffered three instances of vandalism at SMART bus stop shelters, in the form of broken glass panels. The newer bus shelters we have installed feature several smaller glass panels, rather than the 4'x6' panels in the previous model of shelter.

While this change was made primarily for aesthetic reasons, an added benefit is lower cost for glass replacement. The cost for a replacement panel for the new shelters is currently \$152, as compared to roughly \$900 per panel for the older style shelters.

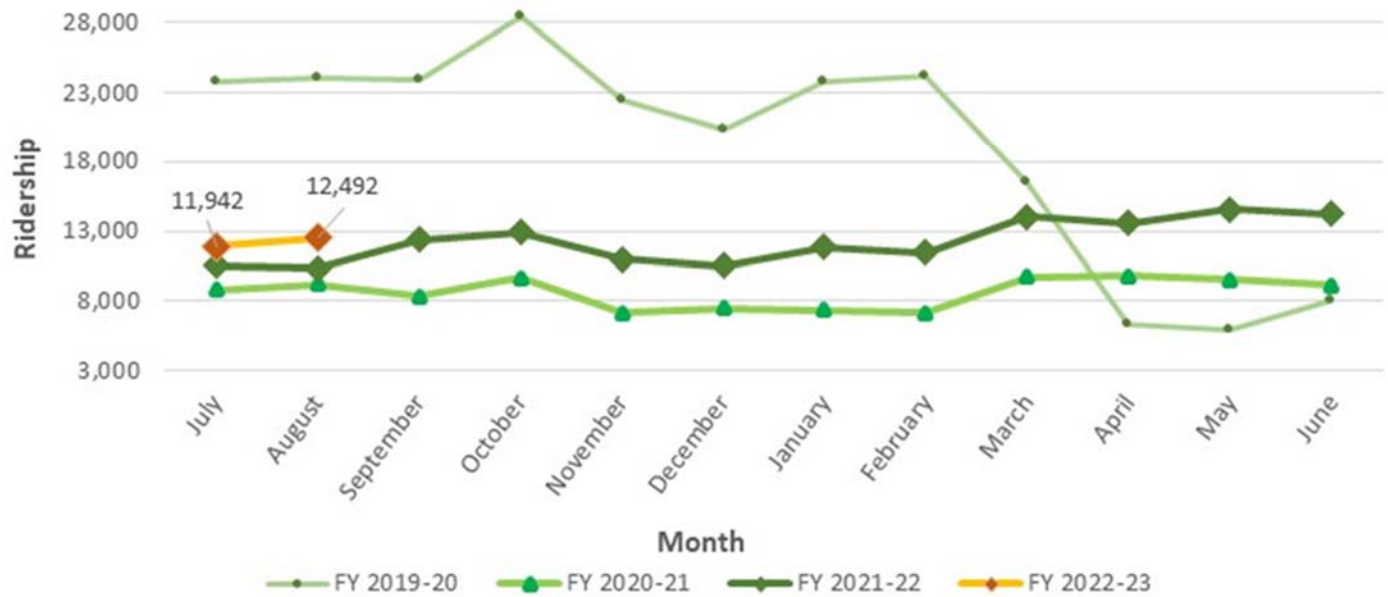
Glass replacement work is handled in house, which allows for very prompt repairs.



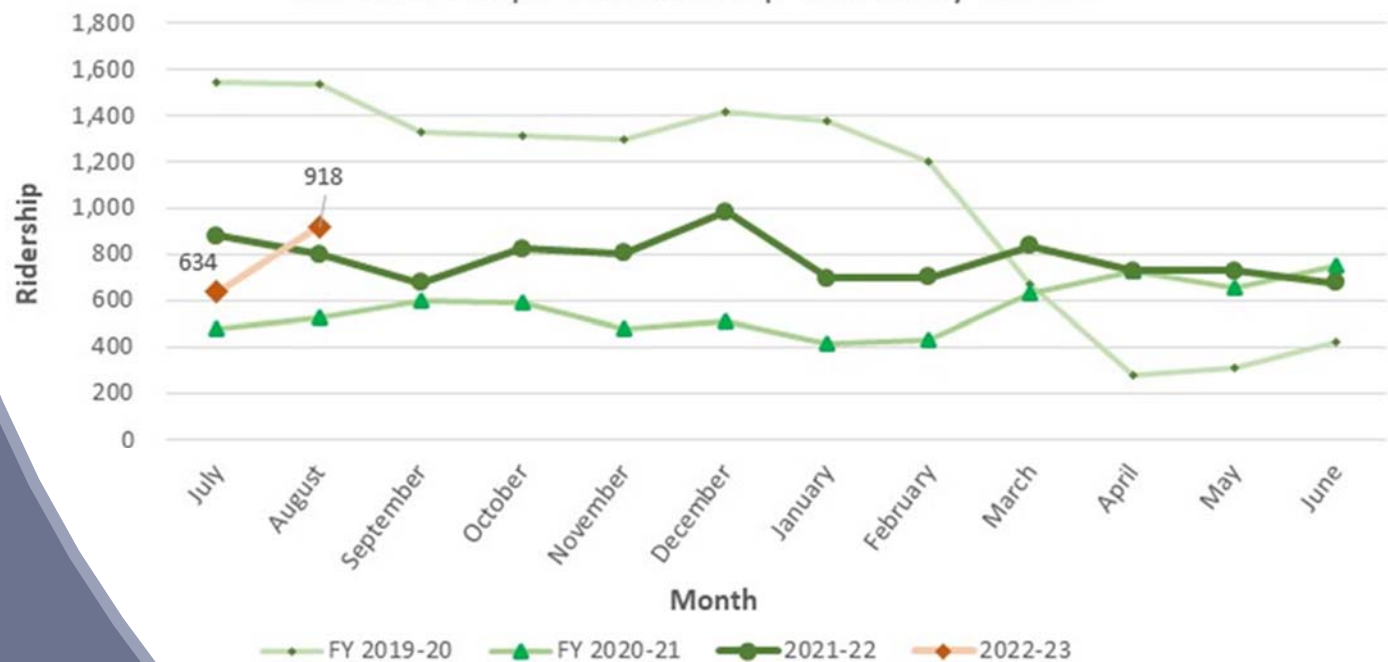
City of Wilsonville employees replace glass panel

Operations - Eric Loomis Operations Manager

Fixed Route Ridership Trends by Month



Demand Response Ridership Trends by Month



Operations - **Eric Loomis** Operations Manager

In September, SMART welcomed several new drivers to the team. Our 4-6 week driver training program is well under way and we anticipate them getting into the driver's seat by the end of October. Many of the new employees came to us with great transit experience and a commercial driver's license, which shortens their training experience and get them safely on the road even sooner.

As we continue to fill positions, we are able to restore all of the services that were put on pause last quarter. These services were limited to a few commuter routes and were supplemented by our Dial-a-Ride while we worked to fill open vacancies. Now, beginning October 10, these services will be fully restored and operating as normal.



Grants & Program Manager - **Kelsey Lewis**

Community outreach for the Transit Master Plan continued in September. The City Council received a review of the project at the September 8 city council meeting. The community was invited to attend the master plan workshop on September 20. Staff and the consultant team are now preparing a summary of the outreach, including a summer tabling event, survey, and stakeholder workshop. We'll use this engagement with the community to develop service enhancements.

Meanwhile, we are preparing letters of interest for the next round of Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) discretionary funds in the 2023-2025 grant cycle. We plan to submit two

projects to further our continued efforts to transition to alternative fuels.



Participants configure bus routes

Transportation Options - **Michelle Marston** Program Coordinator

SMART hosted two days of vanpool information meetings at OptiMIM, a local business, in September. Each day had four sessions. We also hosted a Wilsonville Chamber morning zoom session for employers and employees to learn more about SMART vanpool.

Information was well received and we will know more as folks begin to sign up for formation groups.

SMART **COMMUTE**
SOUTH METRO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT with enterprise
Van Pooling Kickoff
September 14, 2022
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM
on Zoom
WILSONVILLE
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Van Pool Ride Share Event on 9/14

This event is a formal public kickoff of this great new vanpooling program. We will have experts from SMART and Commute with Enterprise.

Wilsonville Chamber announcement for vanpool session



Vanpool information session at OptiMIM

Transportation Options - **Patty Tiburcio** Mobility Technician



September marks the beginning of a new school year and with it comes Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) meetings and Curriculum Nights.

SMART met with Wilsonville school administrators and attended PTA meetings to share information about Walk+Roll events for the school year. Walk+Roll to School Days are global events that involves communities from more than 40 countries walking and rolling to school. Whether addressing the need to make routes to school safer for active trips or encouraging children to be more active,

these events can be powerful tools to inspire lasting change.

SMART staff also discussed the services we can offer schools such as Learn to Ride Bike Clinics, Pedestrian Safety lessons for younger kids and Bicycle Safety lessons for older kids.

SMART will be providing support for Lowrie Primary School's Wheel-A-Thon on October 7, 2022.



Patty Tiburcio with WHS Principle Kelly Schmidt