



# SMART

SOUTH METRO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT

March

**2026 REPORT**  
Transit/Fleet

Recent events have been a stark reminder to me that life isn't always going to be easy. There are waves of trials that seem to persistently beat down upon me. There have been days when the sun just refused to shine. Days when darkness reigned supreme. But no matter the number of dark clouds that gather in my mental sky, I'm reminded of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's epic poem *The Rainy Day*, wherein the final stanza, Longfellow offers something I believe to be the perfect analogy to life –

“Be still, sad heart and cease repining;  
Behind the clouds is the sun still shining;  
Thy fate is the common fate of all,  
Into each life some rain must fall,  
Some days must be dark and dreary.”

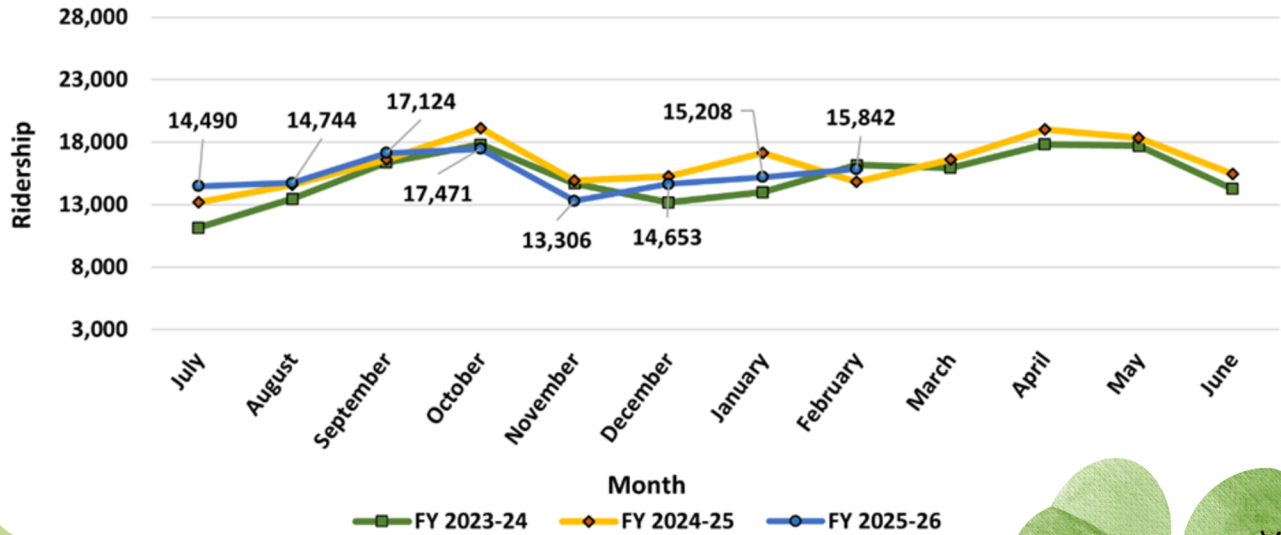
Dwight Brashear  
Transit Director



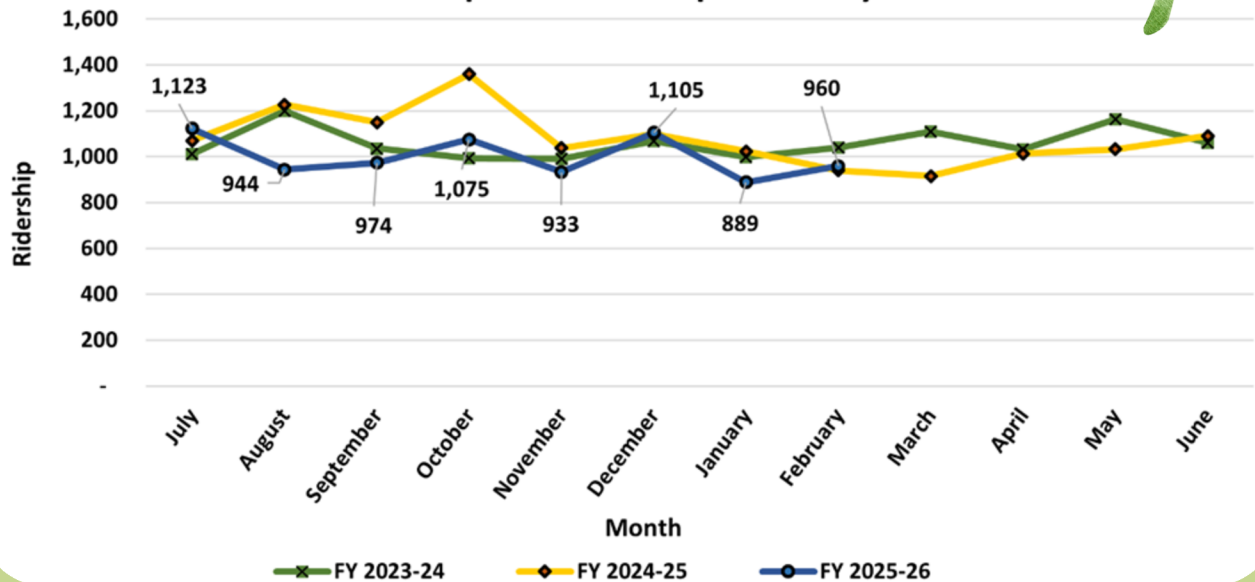
# RIDERSHIP TRENDS

Anne MacCracken

### Fixed Route Ridership Trends by Month



### Demand Response Ridership Trends by Month



# OPERATIONS

*Diana Kotler*

The Wilsonville Transit Center has returned to full pre-construction operations. All bus bays are now open and ready to welcome customers. The newly installed transit center map provides clear visual guidance to amenities and services available on-site, making navigation easier for riders.

The final phase of improvements includes the opening of the Transit Welcome Center. Work is underway to open the SMART Welcome Center doors in mid-May. All building improvements have been completed, and furniture has been delivered and assembled. Real-time passenger information monitors, along with communication and information systems, will be finalized during the week of March 30. Customer service staff training is scheduled to begin on April 6. Progress is moving quickly toward opening the Transit Welcome Center for transit riders and Wilsonville residents.

Beginning on May 4, SMART's Saturday service will be extended to the Wilsonville Transit Center. This expansion aims to provide greater transportation access for Vuela residents, helping connect them to our library, parks, community programs, and local events.

The Wilsonville Transit Center will serve as both a literal and figurative hub - bringing our community together and strengthening connections across our city.



# FLEET SERVICES

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*Scott Simonton*

Each year, a handful of City vehicles and equipment are scheduled for replacement based on age and condition. For the past few years, we have found it difficult to complete all these purchases within one budget cycle, due to availability and long lead times.

This year, we have finally seen availability return to pre-pandemic levels. For this budget cycle, we had a total of seven vehicle/equipment purchases scheduled. All these have now been completed.



# GRANTS & PROGRAMS

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*Kelsey Lewis*

This March has been grant application time. We are preparing applications to renew our Transportation Options grants for commute and Safe Routes to School programming based on the new Metro Transportation Demand Management Strategy. We are also applying for several grants for replacement vehicles to support our fleet. Our Fleet Department does amazing maintenance work on our buses, and still, eventually we need to replace some vehicles in order to keep our bus fleet operating well and keep the focus on preventative maintenance as opposed to large repairs.

We are applying for grants for electric vehicles to implement our goal of 100% alternative fuel and use our newly upgraded charging infrastructure. We are also seeking grant funds for compressed natural gas (CNG) cutaways which are the majority of our fleet.



# COMMUTE OPTIONS

Michelle Marston



This March, every time you traveled by any mode other than driving alone such as bus, bike, carpool, vanpool, and walking, you could earn a chance to win an awesome monthly incentive prize!

By logging just log one or more non-single-occupancy travel trips during March, you were entered into our raffle!

Prize Drawing: April 6, 2026

One lucky winner will be selected and notified by email.

THIS MONTH'S PRIZE:

A \$100 e-gift card of choice!

Winner will be sent an email link to pick their perfect prize.

Participants earned badges for participating.

Achievement Badge: Log just one alternative commute trip

Super User Badge: Log 10 alternative trips during March

Driver Appreciation Day gave us the opportunity to recognize the dedicated professionals who keep our community moving every day. We celebrated our drivers for their commitment to safety, reliability, and outstanding customer service, and thanked them for the vital role they play in connecting people to work, school, and essential destinations. Passengers were invited to provide written comments through our commendation page on the website.



# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

*Wyle O'Neill*

In March, the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program continued its regular Walking School Bus from Autumn Park Apartments to Boones Ferry Primary, along with the Lowrie Bike Bus, both operating successfully through Winter term. These programs continue to provide students with safe, active transportation options while building community connections and promoting healthy habits.

During Spring Break, the SRTS program hosted a week of Learn-to-Ride Bike Clinics at Meridian Creek Middle School. These clinics welcomed participants ranging from children as young as 3 years old to adults in their 20s. These sessions focused on building foundational bike skills, primarily helping students find their balance on two wheels.

The clinics were well received and helped many participants gain riding confidence, further supporting long-term goals of increasing safe and active transportation throughout the community.

Additionally, staff began working on the Regional Travel Options (RTO) Grant application with Metro. This effort includes outlining program goals, identifying priorities, and planning initiatives for the next three years. The grant application will support the continued growth of Safe Routes to School programming and expand opportunities for education, engagement, and safe active transportation throughout Wilsonville.

