

SMART

SOUTH METRO AREA  REGIONAL TRANSIT

December 2022 Report

I have a real affinity for old proverbs. A proverb is defined as "a short pithy saying, stating a general truth or piece of advice." I have a belief, as false as it might be, that committing certain proverbs to memory makes me appear more intelligent. That said, one of my favorite proverbs is of African origin and reads - *"Only a fool tests the depth of water with both feet."* Who among us hasn't rushed into a situation without first understanding the consequences?

If allowed, and in closing, I would like to share my favorite holiday quote - *"You should never love the gift more than you love the gift-giver."* – Dwight Brashear

Happy Holidays!

Dwight Brashear
Transit Director



Fleet Services – Scott Simonton Fleet Services Manager

It has been some time since we updated Council on the performance of our Proterra battery electric buses. As we approach three years of service with these buses, the experience has been largely positive.

Between the three vehicles, we have accumulated a total of 170,000 miles, with very few problems related to the electric vehicle (EV) drive system. We have experienced a failure of one cell within a battery pack, which was replaced under warranty. One bus suffered a power inverter failure, which was also covered by the two year warranty.

Outside of these two incidents, the batteries and electric drive systems have performed well. The majority of the required repairs have been related to components having nothing

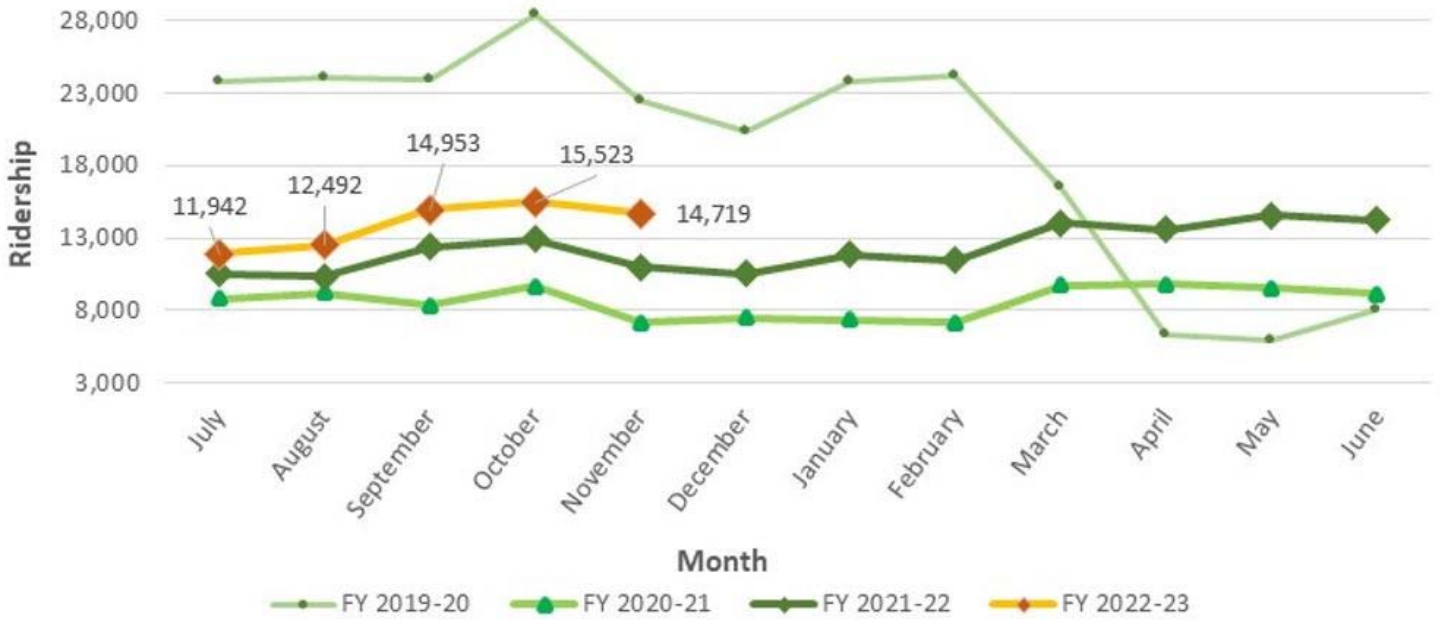
to do with the fuel source. Things like windshield wipers, doors, and accessory systems. We do experience occasional failures of the coolant pumps used to keep the battery temperature under control, but I view this as minor, as pump replacement is not expensive, and requires very little labor.

These three electric buses have allowed us to save an estimated 48,000 gallons of diesel since they were put into service in 2019.

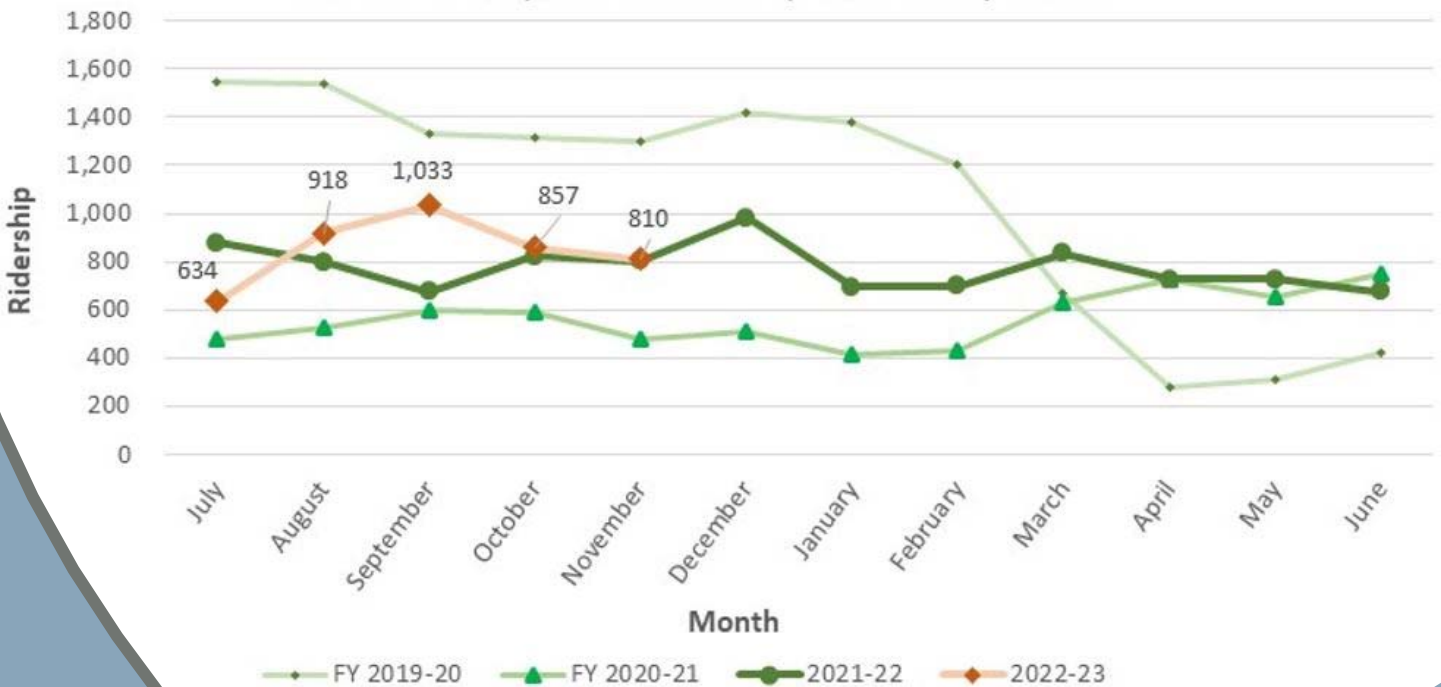


Operations - Eric Loomis Operations Manager

Fixed Route Ridership Trends by Month



Demand Response Ridership Trends by Month



Operations - Eric Loomis Operations Manager



Tis the Season to be Jolly, Healthy, and Safe!

COVID-19 isn't the only danger looming around every corner or on every surface. Flu season has been in full effect in our area and SMART continues to promote a healthy work environment for customers and employees alike.

Fleet continues to provide superior service in cleaning and sanitizing vehicles daily with drivers vigilantly keeping touch points clean throughout the day.

passengers when riding our buses and masks recommended for folks vulnerable to sickness.

Tis the season for inclement weather; SMART is fully prepared to continue service through inclement weather. Fleet equips buses with tire chains for icy and snow-packed roadways. Drivers prepare vehicles in advance with de-icer.

Driver alerts are sent out for any delayed services and real-time mapping can help customer's know if a bus is delayed. Our supervisors are available for emergency pick-ups for travel to warming locations and verify last trips on every route to ensure no passengers are left in the cold.

Space is still encouraged for

Grants & Program Manager - Kelsey Lewis

This month we participated in many meetings to coordinate our efforts with other agencies in the Portland area. SMART staff are involved in project meetings with the small transit providers of Clackamas County regarding an integrated website to make it easier to transfer between our services, as well as meetings with ODOT regarding congestion pricing, and with Metro regarding the 2023 update to the Regional Transportation Plan.

This regional coordination takes time but is worth the effort to plan for the future together.



Transportation Options - Michelle Marston Program Coordinator

For December outreach has been primarily through social media.

Recent posts are focused on keeping folks up to date on any weather induced delays or closures, a hiring campaign, and holiday service closures.

Feliz Navidad!



Transportation Options - Patty Tiburcio Mobility Technician



Boones Ferry Primary School has long car drop-off and pick-up lines. To encourage students and families to walk to school, SMART has partnered with Northwest Housing Alternatives (NHA) to organize Walking School Buses from Autumn Park Apartments to Boones Ferry Primary.

A Walking School Bus is a planned route to or from school, intended to make walking safer and more fun for students and families! With a little advanced planning, picking a good route, and sharing key safety messages, children get physical activity as they travel to or from school.

NHA and SMART staff led the December Walking School Buses and provided children with safety lights, a reflective keychain, a beanie, and a light snack. The Walking School Bus began at NHA's community space and follows a planned route. Students and parents were welcome to join at the beginning or at any point along the route. Children and parents practiced pedestrian safety.

SMART and NHA aim to get Boones Ferry Primary School families comfortable with walking to school and making it a part of their morning routine.



Boones Ferry Student, Anthony, participates in walking school bus