

# SMART SOUTH METRO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT

2025

February Report

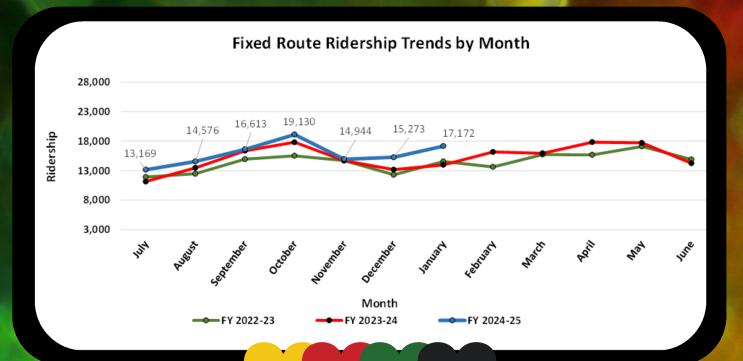
Transit/Fleet

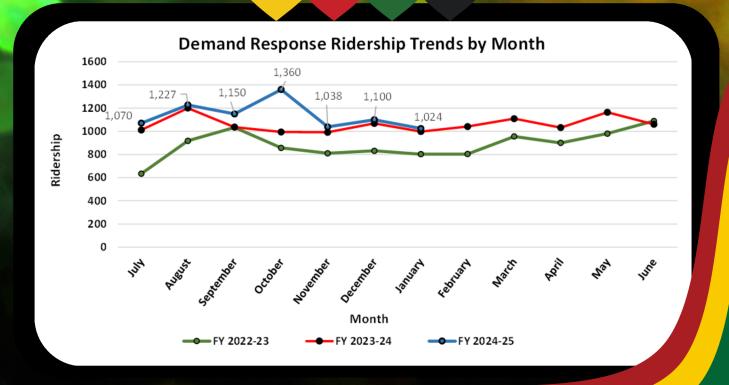
Somewhere I read, "The true measure of a person is not how they behave in moments of comfort and convenience, but where they stand at times of controversy and challenges." I can only imagine that Dr. King found himself repeating these words to himself throughout his adult life. He believed in something that many others failed to grasp... character counts. The 1970 Simon and Garfunkel song, Bridge Over Troubled Waters, I would argue, has even greater significance today. With turbulence all around us, I ask, who among us will serve as a pier, an abutment, a wing wall, or a guard rail, as we begin to build a bridge of understanding and hope for a better future? Life can be so much better if we allow LOVE to have its way.



## FEBRUARY 2025 | PAGE 2 RIDERSHIP TRENDS

#### Anne MacCracken





#### FEBRUARY 2025 | PAGE 3

### COMMUTE OPTIONS

#### Michelle Marston

February is a planning month for commute options program. We are scheduling Commute Challenges for the year as well as revising the Walk at Lunch program for 2025. SMART is working to launch a new Spring Commute Challenge for March, more details will be unveiled next month. These commute challenges or rewards programs are to promote the use of non-single occupancy vehicles, and encourage commuters to form carpools/vanpools, while also encouraging the use of transit



### GRANTS & PROGRAMS

#### **Kelsey Lewis**

Last year SMART bid for its first electric cutaway bus (our 3 battery electric buses are all larger buses). The bus has been ordered and is in production. Since the first grant we received was not able to cover all the cost of this purchase, we have been in the process of writing the application and obligating an additional Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant of formula funds to cover the additional cost. This process takes many months. This kind of work allows us to leverage our local funds as effectively as possible and keep moving in our transition to alternative fueled vehicles. We expect to see that new bus later this year.

### FLEET SERVICES

#### Scott Simonton

Although bus service was suspended during our recent snow event, Fleet employees had plenty to do. As Public Works crews cleared snow and ice from the streets, mechanics were on hand to perform minor repairs and adjustments to the City's sand and plow trucks. Due to a power outage affecting most of the City, most of our facilities were running on generator power. Fleet employees checked and refueled generators as needed in the evening, to ensure the facilities had power through the night.