CARTA BOARD MEETING

October 21, 2026
1:00 PM

Barrett Lawrimore Conference Room
5790 Casper Padgett Way
North Charleston, SC 29406

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Consideration of Board Minutes – September 23, 2026 Meeting
3. Financial Status Report – Robin Mitchum
4. Shipwatch Square Transit and Workforce Development Center Design – Presentation – Sharon Hollis
5. Construction, Engineering, and Inspection (CEI) Services – Request for Approval – Sharon Hollis
6. FY27 Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan Update – Request for Approval – Jeff Burns
7. Executive Director's Report – Ron Mitchum
8. Other Business, If Any
9. Public Comments, If Any
10. Executive Session – Legal and Contractual Matters
11. VoTran Bus Leasing – Request for Approval
12. Board Comments, If Any

The next meeting will be held on November 18, 2026

CHARLESTON AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
(CARTA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 23, 2026
Meeting Notes

A Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority (CARTA) Board of Directors meeting was held at the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) in the Barrett Lawrimore Conference Room located at 5790 Casper Padgett Way in North Charleston, SC at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 23, 2026.

MEMBERSHIP: Brad Belt; Joe Boykin; Daniel Brownstein; Reggie Burgess; William Cogswell; Henry Darby; Christopher Emde; Dwayne Green; Will Haynie; Brandon Hudson; James Lewis; Craig Logan; Pat O'Neil; Christie Rainwater; Michael Seekings; Jimmy Ward; Robert Wehrman

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joe Boykin; Daniel Brownstein; Christopher Emde; Dwayne Green; Brandon Hudson; Craig Logan; Pat O'Neil; Michael Seekings; Robert Wehrman

PROXIES: Craig Harris for Mayor Belt; Michael Mathis for Mayor Cogswell; Jerry Lahm for Henry Darby; Chief Gebhardt for Mayor Rainwater

OTHERS PRESENT: Elissa Smith (HDR); Tom Hiles (WSP); Josh Dix (Hayse Devereaux); Jacob Gamble (Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce); Sharon Broderick (Local Union #610 President/RATP Dev); Ed Remly (RATP Dev); Stanley Lacey (RATP Dev); Brandon Maybank (RATP Dev); Brandon Neff (RATP Dev); Roger Calesa, Jr. (RATP Dev); Janell Jacobs (RATP Dev); Cassandra Larry (RATP Dev); Maurice Lewis (RATP Dev); Quanita Mack (RATP Dev); Laurence Rivers (RATP Dev); Kristen Smith (RATP Dev); William Hamilton (Best Friends of Lowcountry Transit); TV News Media Personnel

STAFF PRESENT: Ron Mitchum; Robin Mitchum; Jason McGarry; Ben Cochran; Matthew Spath; Kim Coleman

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1. **Call to Order**
   Chairman Seekings called the CARTA Board of Directors Meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. followed by a moment of silence and a quorum determination. Chairman Seekings recognized Bus Operator, Roger Calesa, for his heroic actions in response to the August 31st shooting that occurred on the bus. Mr. Calesa ensured passengers exited the bus safely and he escorted a visually impaired rider to safety. Chairman Seekings noted that the shooting suspect has been arrested. Chairman Seekings announced that the Board of Directors will hold an Executive Session during today's Board Meeting.

2. **Consideration of Board Minutes: August 13, 2026 Meeting**

   Mr. Lahm made a motion to approve the August 13, 2026 Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Green seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. **Financial Status Report – Robin Mitchum**
   Robin Mitchum, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, presented the financial status report for the month ending July 31, 2026. Ms. Mitchum stated that, overall, the agency remains in good shape and ended

the month with capital expenditures in balance with the budget. The reported ending balance includes an appropriated fund balance of $1,287,203. She noted that the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures as well as the Balance Sheet, and information for the OnDemand Program are included in the Board Meeting Agenda Packet. Also included in the Board Meeting Agenda Packet was an overview of the following activities for FY2026 thus far:

Revenues:

- Farebox is the fares collected on the revenue vehicles.
- Passes & Mobile Ticketing are bus pass fares sold to customers.
- Local Contributions are local capital contributions for shelters.
- Federal Revenue includes operating for the year-to-date. Federal Revenue is recorded as eligible expenditures are incurred.
- Advertising is the advertising on the buses.
- Interest is interest earned from the SC Department of Revenue for delay of refund of paid fuel excise taxes.
- Insurance proceeds are a result of accidents.
- Miscellaneous revenue is the sale of scrap metal and lost & found cash.

Expenditures:

- Retiree Benefits include the cost of retiree insurance.
- Supplies include office, facility maintenance and signage supplies.
- Printing includes costs of printing passes and map brochures.
- Automotive is the cost to service the 2018 Ford F-150.
- Postage is shipping costs to return parts for the Genfare system and title paperwork.
- Dues/Membership is the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce membership.
- Equipment Rental includes the monthly battery lease for the electric buses, leased cutaway buses and facility maintenance equipment.
- Office Equipment Maintenance (OEM) includes Swiftly real time passenger predictions, Swiftly GPS Playback, Swiftly on-time performance, Swiftly run-times service, RCN NetCloud Essentials and NetCloud Advanced for mobile routers, Chargepoint electric charging system, Angeltrax management and system viewer, and other IT services.
- Rent includes the Ashley Phosphate Park & Ride lot, Dorchester Village Shopping Center Park & Ride lot, Leeds Avenue lot lease from Dominion, SC Works and document storage.
- Communications is the cost of phone, internet and radio services at the facilities and on the buses.
- Utilities include electric and water at the SuperStop, Melnick Park & Ride lot, the Radio Shop at Leeds Avenue, Medcom Street and the charging stations at Leeds Avenue.
- Auditing is the cost of the FY2025 GASB 75 actuary and the annual audit.
- Legal is Lowcountry Rapid Transit (LCRT) legal fees associated with the proposed condemnation of the Park & Ride facility.
- OnDemand Program is customer transportation cost for same-day service through independent rideshare.
- Comprehensive Operating Analysis is services provided to develop a comprehensive operational analysis of CARTA services and strategic implementation plan.
- Other Professional Services include underground utility tank inspections and on-site inspection and technical advisor services.
- Shared Contract Services (IGA & Management) is the extensive services the BCDCOG provides to CARTA.

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- Fixed-Route Service is the cost of fixed and commuter service provided by National Express Shuttle and Transit and RATP Dev USA, Inc.
- Onboarding Costs is RATP Dev USA, Inc. cost for contract service transition from National Express Shuttle and Transit.
- Money Transport is the cost of the armored guard service to transport cash deposits to the bank.
- Security Services are the contracted security services provided at the SuperStop by the City of North Charleston Police Department and by Extra Duty Solutions.
- Vehicle Maintenance is the cost to maintain the fleet and repair the Proterra electric fleet.
- Facility Repair & Maintenance is the cost to maintain facilities. Facility repairs include bus wash, shelter, HVAC, backflow device and lock repairs.
- Operating Fees & Licenses include credit card transaction fees and vehicle title and registration fees.
- Insurance includes the cost of directors and officers insurance and liability insurance provided by the Insurance Reserve Fund.
- Paratransit is the cost of paratransit transportation provided by National Express Shuttle and Transit and RATP Dev, USA. Inc.
- Interest is the interest on the Melnick Park & Ride loan.

Capital Expenditures:

- Rolling Stock is the purchase of two 2009 Vanpool transit buses and six 2014 Vanpools.
- Bust Shelter Construction/Bench Install is shelters, shelter equipment and shelter design and engineering services.
- Facilities Construction is facility engineering for Shipwatch Square and vehicle lift equipment upgrades.
- Security/Cameras & Equipment is AVL system equipment, security cameras and access control equipment.
- Capital (IT, Facility Repairs/Maint.) is the purchase of bike racks, shelving for inventory storage, video server replacement, in-line boiler pump at Leeds Avenue and a chill water pump replacement at the Leeds Avenue location.

The Board of Directors received the Financial Status Report and the OnDemand Program Activity Report as information.

4. FY2027 CARTA Budget – Request for Approval – Robin Mitchum

Ms. Mitchum presented the FY2027 CARTA Budget. She provided detailed explanations of line-item changes in Revenues, Expenditures and Capital Expenditures. Ms. Mitchum noted that the FY2027 proposed preliminary budget was initially approved during the May 20, 2026 CARTA Board of Directors meeting and stated that the final adoption of the FY2027 Budget was approved by all member governments during their respective Council meetings. She noted that the budget will continue to be monitored to ensure revenues and expenditures remain aligned and that any recommended revisions will be made to the Board of Directors as necessary. Ms. Mitchum requested final Board of Directors approval of the FY2027 Budget and addressed questions and comments. Chairman Seekings commended the staff regarding delivery of budget presentations and for obtaining unanimous approval from member governments.

Mr. Mathis made a motion to approve the FY2027 CARTA Budget as presented. Mr. Logan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

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5. **Low-Floor Transit Bus – Request for Approval**

Ron Mitchum, Executive Director, presented the Low-Floor Transit Bus request. He noted that staff is requesting approval to purchase two 27ft. ARBOC Spirit of Freedom low-floor buses from Model 1 Commercial Vehicles, Inc. utilizing the State of Georgia Department of Administrative Services cooperative purchasing contract 99999-SPD-SPD0000212-0005 for Public Mass Transit Vehicles and Related Options, Equipment and Accessories. The ARBOC Spirit of Freedom is a low-floor, ADA-compliant shuttle bus constructed on the Ford E-450 chassis. The vehicle provides seating for up to 18 passengers and can be configured to accommodate up to three wheelchair positions. Mr. Mitchum stated that the price per vehicle shall not exceed $185,000. Mr. Mitchum addressed questions and comments.

Mr. Logan made a motion to approve the Low-Floor Transit Bus request as presented. Mr. Brownstein seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. **Transit Bus Video Mirror System – Request for Approval**

Mr. Mitchum discussed the Transit Bus Video Mirror System. He noted that the Selection Committee met on September 17, 2026 and reviewed three proposals for the Transit Bus Video Mirror System RFP. Proposals were received from Luminator Technology Group, Safe Fleet and Safety Vision. The Selection Committee recommends that CARTA award a contract to Safety Vision based upon the overall score sheet rankings. Discussion was held regarding the video mirror system's safety features. Mr. Mitchum addressed questions and comments.

Mr. Green made a motion to approve the Transit Bus Video Mirror System request as presented. Mr. Mathis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. **Construction, Engineering and Inspection (CEI) Services: Shipwatch Square and Workforce Development Center – Request for Approval**

Mr. Mitchum presented the Construction, Engineering and Inspection (CEI) Services for the Shipwatch Square and Workforce Development Center RFP. He noted that the Selection Committee met on September 18, 2026 and reviewed two proposals for CEI Services for Shipwatch Square and Workforce Development Center RFP. Proposals were received from Michael Baker International, Inc. and Soil Consultants, Inc. The Selection Committee recommends that CARTA negotiate a contract with Michael Baker International, Inc. based upon the overall score sheet rankings. Mr. Mitchum and Ms. Mitchum addressed questions and comments.

Mr. Lahm made a motion to approve the Construction, Engineering and Inspection (CEI) Services for the Shipwatch Square and Workforce Development Center RFP as presented. Mr. Emde seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

8. **Project Updates – Andrea Kozloski**

In Andrea Kozloski's absence, Matthew Spath, Communications Director, delivered a presentation regarding upcoming events and activities noting the following: North Charleston Farmers Market (9/24 & 10/22); Charleston Latin Festival (10/4); Veterans Stand Down Event (10/8); Ferndale Fall Festival (TBD); Northwoods Fall Festival (TBD); Holiday Parades (December). Mr. Spath presented PowerPoint slides depicting the Fiesta on the Peninsula and North Charleston Farmers Market events as well as newly installed bus wraps. He discussed this year's Beach Reach Shuttle results noting that, overall, ridership was up 20.05% over previous years' results and that adding Fridays to the service had a positive impact on ridership. Mr. Spath highlighted a CARTA Bus Operator, Leon, noting that a satisfied rider commended his service. He discussed Free Ride Days to the polls on Election Day and for Veterans and Active-Duty Service Members on Veterans' Day. Mr. Spath also highlighted Bus Operator, Charles Frasier. Mr. Fraiser is affectionately known as "The King of Route

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20." He has committed over 50 years of service to CARTA. He is a Charleston native who joined CARTA in 1974. Mr. Fraiser has dedicated his career to serving the community and has driven an incredible 4 million miles throughout his tenure. In recognition of his remarkable career, CARTA honored him with a proclamation and a commemorative plaque that was installed at Stop 461 near the Charleston Visitor Center in 2024. Mr. Spath discussed CARTA Amenities, noting the shelters and benches in progress: a total of 179 bus stop-mounted solar lights have been installed as well as a total of 76 shelter-mounted solar lights installed. There have been 702 newly branded signs installed. Mr. Spath delivered information regarding the Transit App, noting that 1,916 new CARTA riders were welcomed aboard as they downloaded the app for the first time. A total of 9,538 riders opened the Transit App during the month and an average weekday had 2,197 riders opening the Transit App. He noted that 11,533 GO trips were started by riders to receive step-by-step navigation while helping to improve real-time vehicle locations. In addition, there were 359 new subscribers to service alerts during August. Mr. Spath stated that users purchased tickets during the month of August which valued $31,859. He noted that the most purchased pass was the one-trip ticket and the most popular routes were Routes 10 and 12. Mr. Spath addressed questions and comments. In addition to the Upcoming Events/Activities updates, also included in the Board Meeting Agenda Packet were the Project Updates. Board Members were encouraged to contact staff with questions, comments or concerns regarding the Project Updates report. Mr. Green commended the Beach Reach Shuttle Service noting that his family enjoyed utilizing the service and that delegates from Barbados commented on the cleanliness and convenience of the shuttle. The Board of Directors received the Project Updates and Activities/Events Reports as information.

9. **Ridership Report – Megan Ross**
   In Megan Ross' absence, Ben Cochran, Transit Planner, delivered brief remarks regarding Ridership for August 2026. For fixed-route ridership trends, passenger trips totaled 245,075 and there were 14.3 customers per service hour. This was an increase of 6.2% and 6.5%, respectively, over July 2026. Detailed Ridership information was included in the Board Meeting Agenda Packet for Board Member review prior to today's meeting. The Board of Directors received the Ridership Report as information.

10. **Executive Director's Report – Ron Mitchum**
    Mr. Mitchum noted that he will deliver his report during Executive Session. However, he commended Senator Sutton regarding earmarks for shelters.

11. **Other Business, If Any**
    There was no further business to discuss.

12. **Public Comments, If Any**
    There was one Public Comment noted for the record:
    - William Hamilton (Best Friends of Lowcountry Transit): Mr. Hamilton expressed his gratitude for the dual-sided bus stop and shelter signs as well as for the Beach Reach Shuttle Service. He expressed his concerns regarding the massive disruption of the fuel industry. Mr. Hamilton thanked the Board of Directors for their service.

13. **Executive Session – Legal and Contractual Matters**

Mayor O'Neil made a motion that the Board of Directors convene into Executive Session. Chairman Boykin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Non-Board Members, Guests and Non-Essential Staff Members were excused.

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An Executive Session was held.
Chairman Boykin made a motion to reconvene the Board of Directors meeting.
Mr. Brownstein seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
Chairman Seekings reconvened the Board of Directors meeting noting that no action was taken related to legal and contractual matters discussed during Executive Session.

14. Board Comments, If Any

Mr. Brownstein recognized CARTA, the City of Isle of Palms and the Town of Mt. Pleasant regarding the success of the Beach Reach Shuttle. Chairman Seekings thanked the Board of Directors for their invaluable service to the Board and the communities they serve.

15. Adjourn

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Seekings adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Coleman

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robin W. Mitchum, Deputy Director of Finance & Administration

SUBJECT: August 31, 2026 Financial Report Overview

DATE: October 12, 2026

Please find attached the August 31, 2026 Financial Report. Below is a brief overview of the activities for FY26.

Revenues

- Farebox is the fares collected on the revenue vehicles.
- Passes & Mobile Ticketing is bus pass fares sold to customers.
- Local Contributions is local capital contributions for shelters.
- The Federal revenue includes operating for the year to date. Federal revenue is recorded as eligible expenditures are incurred.
- Advertising is advertising on the buses.
- Interest is interest earned from SC Department of Revenue for delay of refund of paid fuel excise taxes.
- Insurance proceeds are a result of accidents.
- Miscellaneous revenue is the sale of scrap metal and lost and found cash.

Expenditures

- Retiree Benefits includes the cost of retiree insurance.
- Supplies includes office, facility maintenance, and signage supplies.
- Printing includes costs of printing passes and map brochures.
- Automotive is the cost to service the 2018 Ford F150.
- Postage is shipping costs to return parts for the Genfare system and title paperwork.
- Dues/Memberships is the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce membership.
- Equipment Rental includes the monthly battery lease for the electric buses, leased cutaway buses, and facility maintenance equipment.
- Equipment Maintenance (OEM) includes Swiftly real time passenger predictions, Swiftly GPS Playback, Swiftly on-time performance, Swiftly run-times service, RCN NetCloud Essentials & Netcloud Advanced for mobile routers, Chargepoint electric charging system, Angeltrax management and system viewer and other IT services.
- Rent includes the Ashley Phosphate Park & Ride Lot, Dorchester Village Shopping Center Park & Ride Lot, Leeds Avenue lot lease from Dominion, SC Works, and document storage.

- Communications is the cost of phone, internet, and radio services at the facilities and on the buses.
- Utilities includes electric and water at the Superstop, Melnick Park and Ride, the Radio Shop at Leeds Avenue, Medcom St, and the charging stations at Leeds Avenue.
- Auditing is the cost of the FY25 GASB 75 actuary and the annual audit.
- Legal is Lowcountry Rapid Transit (LCRT) legal fees associated with the proposed condemnation of the Park & Ride facility.
- OnDemand Program is customer transportation cost for same day service through independent rideshare.
- Comprehensive Operating Analysis is services provided to develop a comprehensive operational analysis of CARTA services and strategic implementation plan.
- Other Professional Services includes underground utility tank inspections and on-site inspection and technical advisor services.
- Shared Contract Services (IGA & Management) is the extensive services BCDCOG provides to CARTA.
- Fixed Route service is the cost of fixed and commuter service provided by National Express Shuttle and Transit and RATP Dev USA, Inc.
- Onboarding Costs is RATP Dev USA, Inc. cost for contract service transition from National Express Shuttle.
- Money Transport is the cost of the armored guard service to transport cash deposits to the bank.
- Security Services are contracted security services provided at the Super Stop by the City of North Charleston Police Dept. and Extra Duty Solutions.
- Vehicle Maintenance is the cost to maintain the fleet and repair the Proterra electric fleet.
- Facility Repair & Maintenance is the cost to maintain facilities. Facility repairs include bus wash, shelter, HVAC, backflow device and lock repairs.
- Operating Fees & Licenses include credit card transaction fees and vehicle title & registration fees.
- Insurance includes the cost of directors and officers insurance and liability insurance provided by the Insurance Reserve Fund.
- Paratransit is the cost of paratransit transportation provided by National Express Shuttle and Transit and RATP Dev USA, Inc.
- Interest is interest on the Melnick Park and Ride Loan.

Capital Expenditures

- Rolling Stock is the purchase of two 2009 Van Hool Transit Buses and six 2014 Van Hools.
- Bus Shelter Construction/Bench install is shelters, shelter equipment, and shelter design and engineering services,
- Facilities Construction is facility engineering for Shipwatch and vehicle lift equipment upgrades.
- Security/Cameras & Equipment is AVL system equipment, security cameras, and access control equipment.
- Capital (IT, Facility Repairs/Maint) is the purchase of bike racks, shelving for inventory storage, video server replacement, in-line boiler pump at Leeds, and a chill water pump replacement at the Leeds Avenue location.

Overall, the agency ended the month with revenues equal to expenditures, resulting in a net excess of revenue over expenditures of $0.00. The reported ending balance includes an appropriated fund balance of $1,369,489.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 843-529-2126 or robinm@bcdcog.com.

Amount owed to RATP Dev USA, Inc. as of 08/31/26 was $2,085,425.47.

CARTA
Statement of Revenues & Expenditures
For the Month Ending August 31, 2026

Time elapsed: **75%**

	Original Budget FY26	Revised Budget FY26	Actual	% of Budget
Operating Revenues				
Farebox	1,238,120	854,060	892,936	105%
Passes & Mobile Ticketing	659,690	593,370	544,426	92%
COC Shuttle	393,945	395,725	364,106	92%
MUSC	765,160	1,398,030	1,302,250	93%
City of Charleston - DASH	778,524	778,524	713,647	92%
Local Contributions	-	8,250	8,250	100%
Federal	11,648,167	14,557,458	13,343,236	92%
Sales Tax - Charleston County	12,700,640	14,267,936	14,160,446	99%
Appropriate fund balance	-	6,211,341	1,369,489	22%
Advertising	900,000	981,780	898,559	92%
Interest	-	-	187	N/A
Insurance Proceeds	-	56,735	57,797	102%
Miscellaneous	-	1,317	1,923	146%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	29,084,246	40,104,526	33,657,252	**84%**
Operating Expenditures				
Retiree Benefits	10,660	10,601	9,708	92%
Supplies	65,000	65,000	81,226	125%
Printing	40,000	40,000	40,815	102%
Automotive	2,500	2,500	918	37%
Postage	50	500	568	114%
Dues/Memberships	2,500	2,500	500	20%
Equipment Rental	116,225	358,775	373,661	104%
Equipment Maintenance	411,100	426,532	386,598	91%
Rent	38,175	40,380	35,811	89%
Communications	167,095	169,225	162,922	96%
Utilities	204,310	204,690	172,163	84%
Advertising	5,000	11,375	-	0%
Professional Services				
Auditing	31,850	32,300	32,300	100%
Legal	1,000	1,000	24,237	2424%
Custodial	11,405	-	-	N/A
On Demand Program	531,050	591,710	528,240	89%
Comprehensive Operating Analysis	1,000,000	568,850	421,834	74%
Other	20,000	25,000	11,139	45%
Contract Services				
Shared Services - IGA	3,972,314	4,733,882	4,211,441	89%
Fixed Route	15,650,000	18,873,118	16,091,809	85%
Onboarding Costs	-	1,330,771	1,321,077	99%
Money Transport	14,230	13,000	10,701	82%
Security Services	171,180	154,850	129,615	84%
Vehicle Maintenance	350,000	5,190,060	2,817,210	54%
Facility Repair & Maintenance	48,050	125,865	157,628	125%
Operating Fees & Licenses	63,420	78,170	73,824	94%

CARTA
Statement of Revenues & Expenditures
For the Month Ending August 31, 2026

	Original Budget FY26	Revised Budget FY26	Actual	Time elapsed: 75% % of Budget
Insurance	1,085,307	1,141,000	1,148,782	101%
Fuel	1,268,750	1,415,000	1,711,637	121%
Paratransit	3,735,000	4,426,000	3,645,953	82%
Miscellaneous	5,950	7,990	9,745	122%
Interest	37,125	38,882	35,828	92%
Non-Capitalized Assets	25,000	25,000	9,362	37%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	29,084,246	40,104,526	33,657,252	**84%**
Excess (Deficit) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures			-	
Capital Revenues				
Rolling Stock	2,228,000	-	-	
Land	2,520,000	2,520,000	-	
Facilities Construction	4,807,800	1,853,404	442,157	
Security Cameras & Equipment	275,841	319,712	108,586	
Sales Tax - Charleston County	2,097,360	2,205,564	488,887	
TOTAL CAPITAL REVENUES	11,929,001	6,898,680	1,039,630	**15%**
Capital Expenditures				
Rolling Stock	2,785,000	522,000	190,977	
Bus Shelter Construction/Bench Install	210,000	304,300	153,432	
Land	3,150,000	3,150,000	-	
Facilities Construction	5,414,200	2,456,755	497,048	
Security Cameras & Equipment	344,801	440,625	152,647	
Capital (IT, Facility Repairs/Maint)	25,000	25,000	45,526	
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	11,929,001	6,898,680	1,039,630	**15%**

CARTA
BALANCE SHEET
8/31/2026

ASSETS

ASSETS	
GENERAL OPERATING (BB&T)	21,703,424.29
PETTY CASH	160.00
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	2,727,187.21
PREPAID EXPENSES	1,417,565.69
INVENTORY - FUEL	22,192.66
LAND	8,586,573.20
VEHICLES	52,204,669.50
EQUIPMENT	2,958,073.83
FAREBOXES	1,214,379.70
SHELTERS	4,883,095.48
BUS SIGNAGE	254,913.32
FACILITIES	11,539,875.34
PARK & RIDE FACILITY	183,927.64
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(47,079,148.08)
RIGHT TO USE LEASES	1,598,814.11
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION - RTU	(720,763.03)
TOTAL ASSETS	61,494,940.86

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LIABILITIES	
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	5,932,462.05
NOTE PAYABLE - BB&T	1,061,791.35
ACCRUED INTEREST	20,261.30
UNEARNED REVENUE	9,034.00
OPEB LIABILITY	180,638.00
LEASE LIABILITY	827,412.90
TOTAL LIABILITIES	8,031,599.60
EQUITY	
CURRENT YEAR FUND BALANCE	0.00
APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	(1,369,489.24)
INVEST IN CAPITAL ASSETS	33,586,707.52
FUND BALANCE	21,246,122.98
TOTAL EQUITY	53,463,341.26
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY	61,494,940.86

CARTA
OnDemand Program
8/31/2026

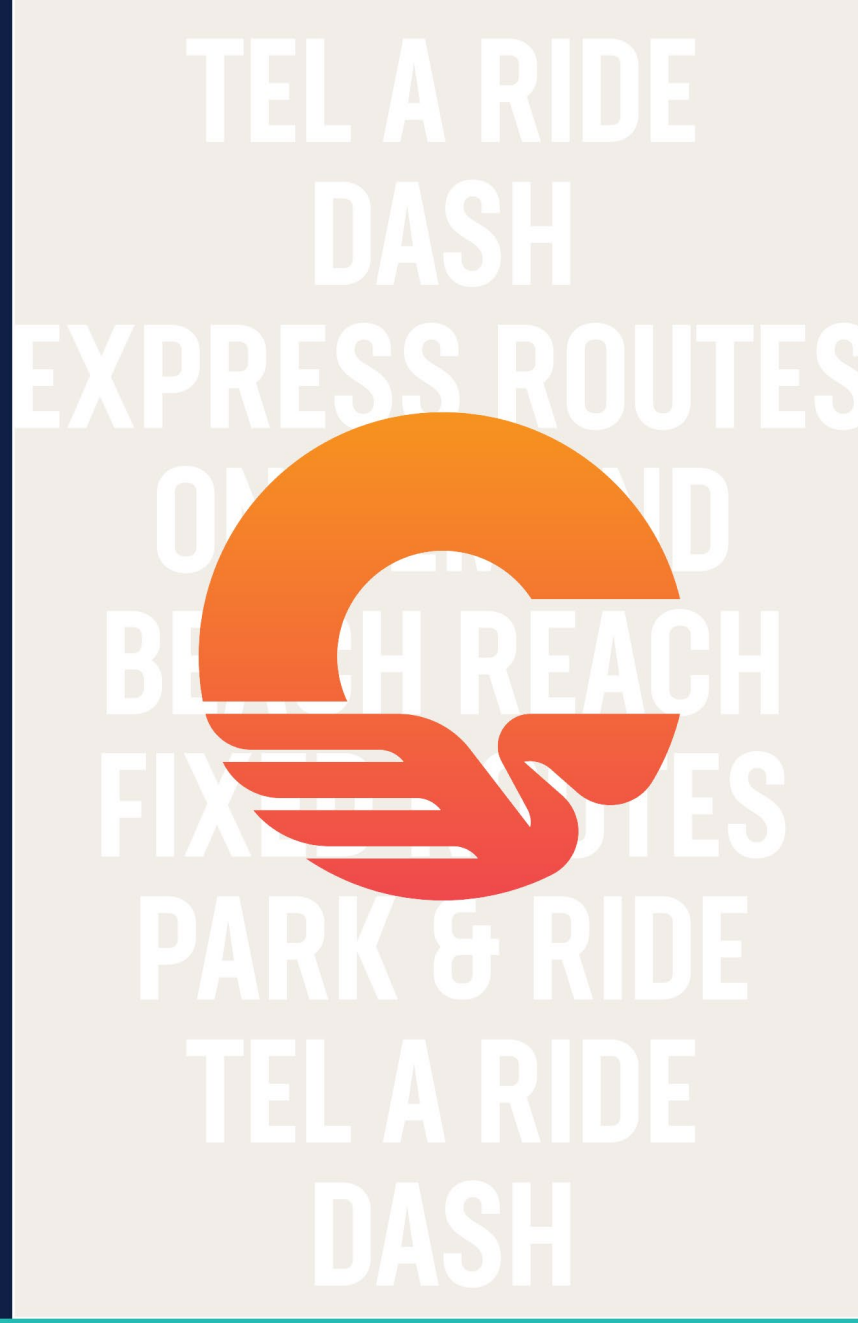
Activity	BUDGET	FY 21 Total Costs	FY 22 Total Costs	FY 23 Total Costs	FY 24 Total Costs	FY 25 Total Costs	**FY 26 Total Costs**	Total	Balance	% Complete
OnDemand Program	1,481,216	1,421	20,778	98,039	323,179	501,549	**528,240**	1,473,206	8,010	99%
Total	1,481,216	1,421	20,778	98,039	323,179	501,549	**528,240**	1,473,206	8,010	99%
									-	
Federal *FTA 5310*	1,016,000	1,137	16,622	75,203	258,544	235,494	**422,592**	1,009,592	6,408	99%
Local	465,216	284	4,156	22,836	64,635	266,055	**105,648**	463,614	1,602	100%
Total	1,481,216	1,421	20,778	98,039	323,179	501,549	**528,240**	1,473,206	8,010	99%

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Shipwatch Square Transit and Workforce Development Center

CARTA Board Update

October 21, 2026



Project Location



Project Elements

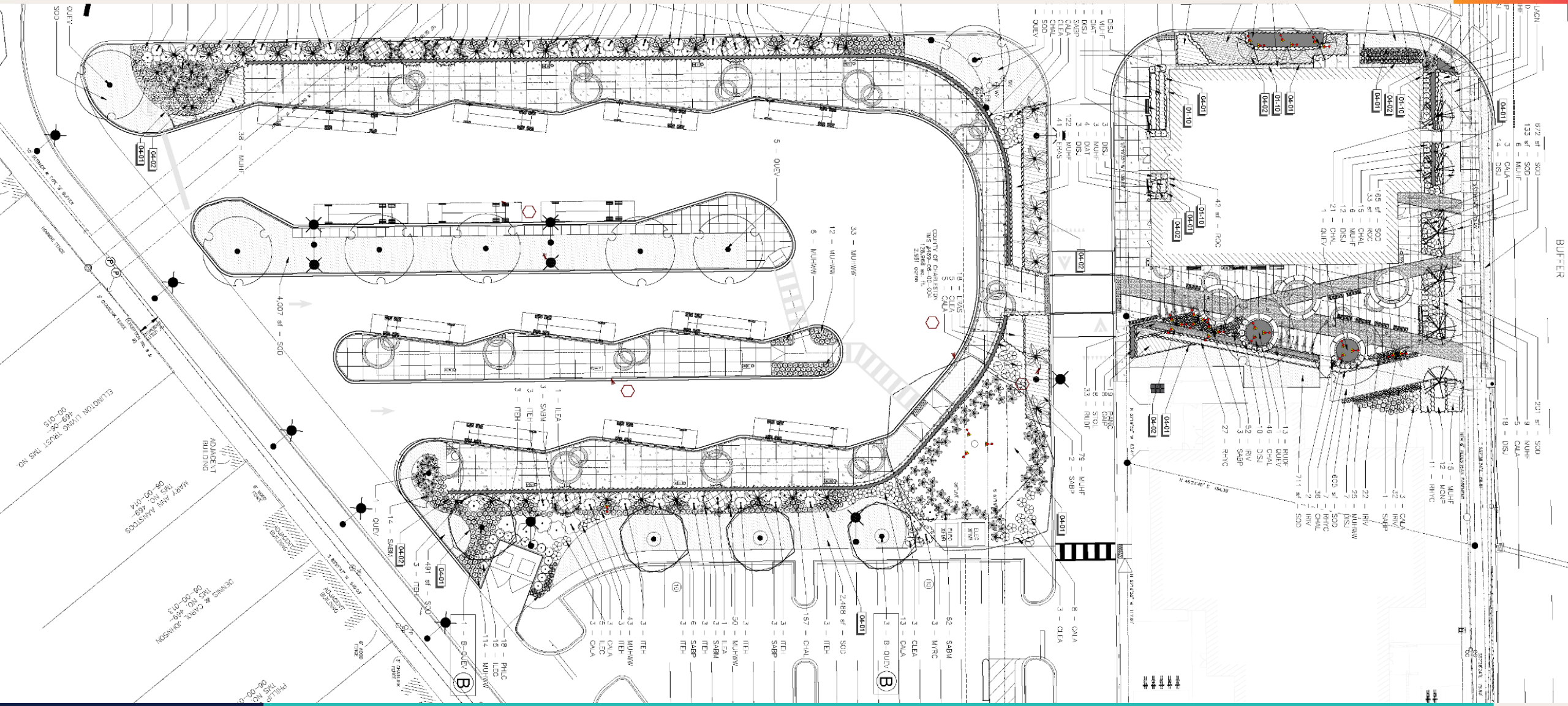


- 20,000+ Square Foot Building
- Transit Center
  - Restroom Facilities
  - Customer Service Desk
  - Customer Waiting Area
  - Community Meeting Space
  - Fare Vending Machines
  - 2 Training Rooms
- Workforce Development Center
  - SC Works and Partner Offices
  - Resource Center
  - GED Testing
  - Adult Education
- Bus Transfer Area
  - Outdoor Covered Terrace with Connection to LCRT
  - Covered Waiting Areas at Buses
  - 10 Bus Bays (40’ and 60’)
  - Linear Bus Bay that can accommodate up to 4 on-route bus chargers

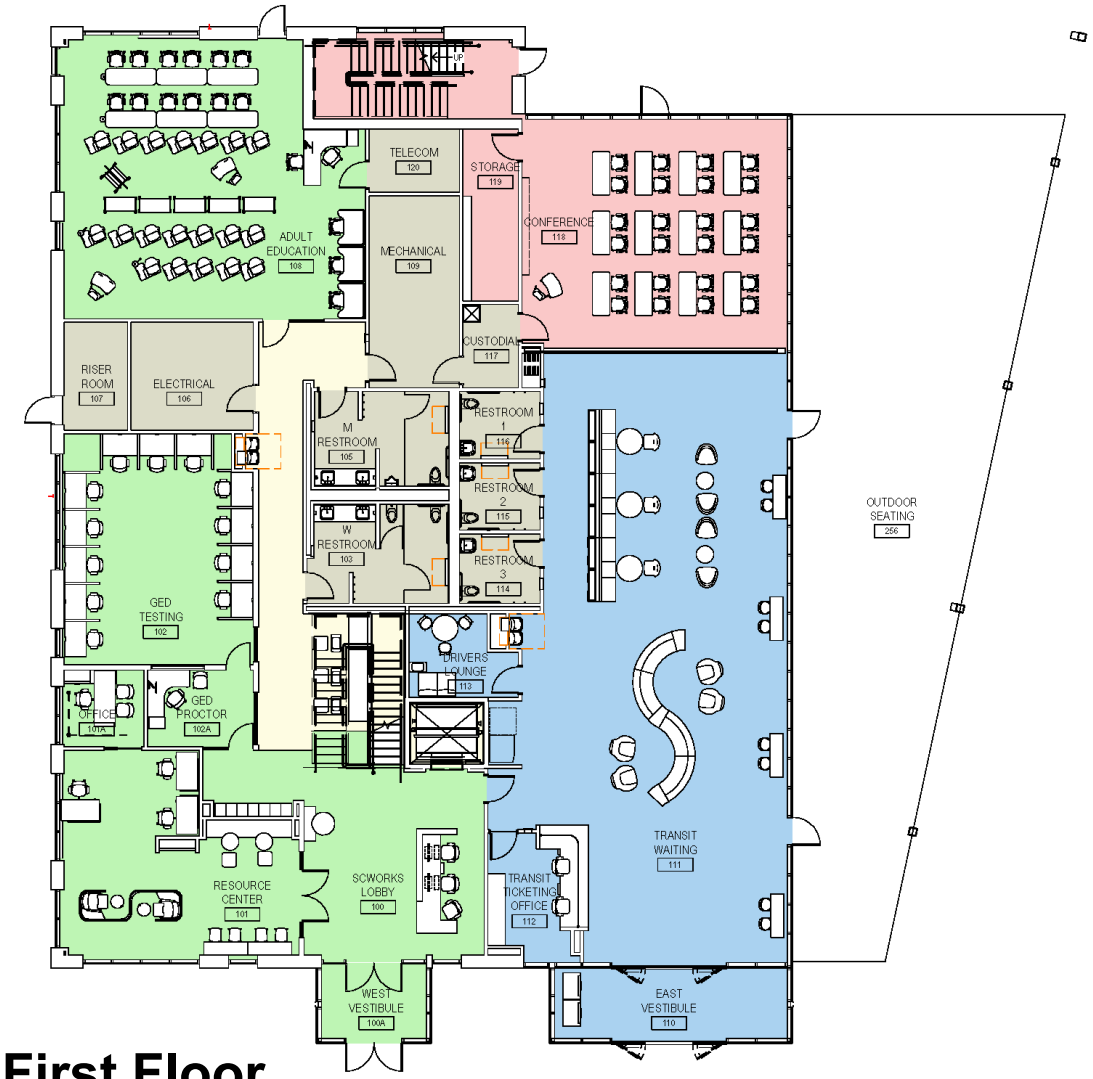
Shipwatch Square Rendering (From Bus Loop)



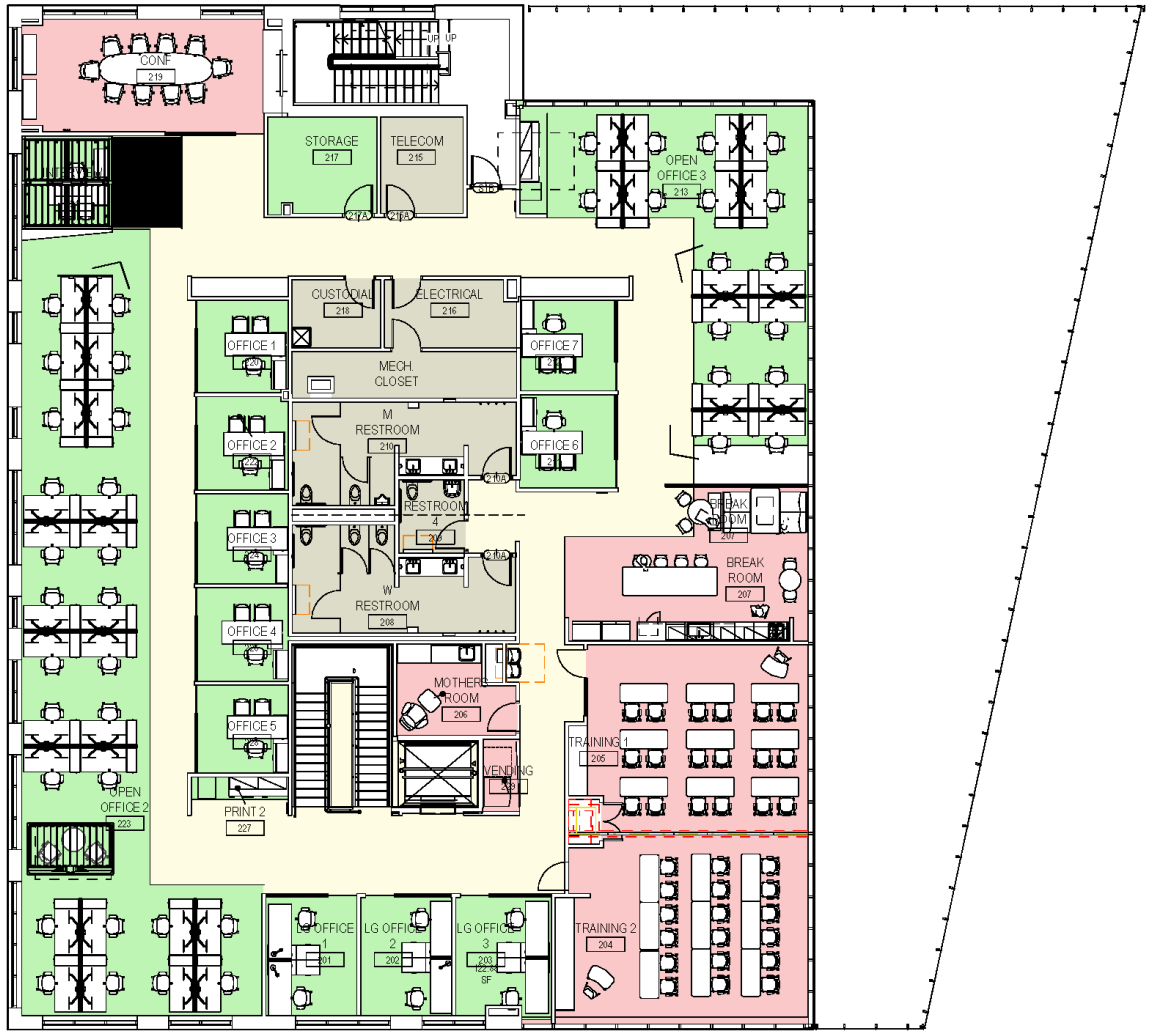
Site Plan



Floor Plan



First Floor



Second Floor

Transit Center Renderings





Workforce Development Renderings



Lobby





Breakroom



Resource Center



Office Areas



Conference Room


Rivers & Dorchester
KEITH SUMMEY
NORTH CHARLESTON LIBRARY
SHIPWATCH SQUARE
TRANSIT & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Next Steps



Fall 2026 – Construction Starts

Construction Timeline -18 Months

Spring 2028 - Opening

MEMORANDUM

To:	CARTA Board of Directors
From:	Ronald Mitchum, Executive Director
Subject:	Request for Approval – Construction, Engineering, and Inspection (CEI) Services: Shipwatch Square Transit and Workforce Development Center
Date:	October 20, 2026

On September 16th, the CARTA Board approved the request to negotiate a contract with Michael Baker International for the Construction, Engineering, and Inspection (CEI) Services: Shipwatch Square Transit and Workforce Development Center RFP.

Staff is requesting approval to enter into a contract with Michael Baker International for a cost not to exceed $1,791,570.63.

Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 13, 2026

To: Ronald E. Mitchum, Executive Director

From: Jeffrey Burns, Grants and Contracts Compliance Administrator

Subject: Annual Asset Management Plan Progress Report and FY 2027 Performance Targets

The Federal Transit Administration established a National Transit Asset Management (TAM) System to monitor and manage public transportation capital assets to enhance safety, reduce maintenance costs, increase reliability, and improve performance. The objective is to develop a strategic and systematic process of operating, maintaining, and improving public transportation capital assets effectively through their entire life cycle. The mandate, enumerated in 49 U.S.C. 5326 requires FTA grantees to maintain an asset management plan for their public transportation assets, including vehicles, facilities, equipment, and other infrastructure.

CARTA established the goal of achieving and maintaining a state of good repair for its public transportation assets. Transit asset management is a business model that uses transit asset condition to guide the optimal prioritization of funding. FTA has defined State of Good Repair (SGR) as the condition in which a capital asset is able to operate at a full level of performance. A capital asset is in a state of good repair when that asset:

1. Is able to perform its designed function,
2. Does not pose a known unacceptable safety risk, and
3. Its lifecycle investments must have been met or recovered.

It is proposed to continue the following performance measure targets as required by FTA for Fiscal Year 2027.

Asset Type	Performance Measure	TAM Plan Targets
Rolling Stock – Revenue Vehicles	• Percentage of vehicles exceeding the FTA's Useful Life Benchmark	• 15% for Buses • 20% for Cut-Away buses • 20% for Vans/Mini-Vans
Rolling Stock – Support Vehicles	• Percentage of vehicles exceeding the FTA's Useful Life Benchmark	• 30% for Support vehicles
Equipment	• Percentage of equipment exceeding the FTA's Useful Life Benchmark	• 30% for Equipment
Facilities	• Percent of facilities within an asset class rated below 3.0 on the FTA Transit Economic Requirement Model scale	• 0% of Facilities

CARTA continues to participate in the rule's requirements for metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to coordinate with transit providers, set targets, and integrate those targets into their planning documents. The following process has been established to share TAM information, including data, plans, and targets, with BCDCOG and the CHATS MPO.

CARTA shall be responsible for collecting and maintaining ongoing operational data needed for other studies and the MPO's Public Transportation Management System, including the sharing of information for the development of regional transportation plans, financially constrained plans, and the annual listing of obligated projects. Data will be submitted annually or upon request.

BCDCOG/CHATS shall consult with CARTA on public transit service and facility matters, including development of regional infrastructure, service plans, park and ride facilities, and agency coordination. The BCDCOG will include CARTA in developing and implementing a regional congestion management system and ITS projects. To coordinate effective planning and programming activities, CARTA and BCDCOG shall, to the maximum extent practical, coordinate their public information efforts and seek joint opportunities for public involvement.

During the fiscal year, CARTA continued execution of its vehicle replacement program. This resulted in the average age of the revenue fleet increasing by 21.0%. The average age of the revenue fleet increased by 1.3 years from 6.2 years to 7.5 years with the average mileage on the revenue fleet increasing from 203,858 to 247,626 over the fiscal year. The portion of the fleet that had the most significant increase in average age is the Bus sub-fleet, which increased from an average age of 7.2 to 8.5 years, an 18.1% change. The Cutaway sub-fleet also increased from an average age of 6.8 to 7.7 years, a 13.2% change. The minivan and the van sub-fleet saw their average mileage increase with the average age remaining the same. Vehicles comprising the Minivan and Van sub-fleets are in their third first year of service, offering customers of the Tel-A-Ride service a comparatively new vehicle. The average age of the nation's rubber wheeled transit fleet is 6.8 years according to the most recent data, placing CARTA on par with other transit providers.

Overall, 23.3% of the revenue fleet exceeds its useful life benchmark (ULB), above the Plan performance targets. Detracting from this target is that 26.6 percent of the vehicles in the Bus sub-fleet category exceed their useful life benchmark. The introduction of used vehicles in this category is the contributing factor that increased the sub-fleet's average age. Four buses have been ordered and will enter production early next calendar year. The replacement of an additional eight has been budgeted.

The availability of parts and the reliability of the battery-electric buses have impacted the Bus sub-fleet. Once the performance of the battery-electric fleet is stabilized, vehicles can be retired, reducing the category's average age. A purchase order has been executed to replace additional vehicles in the Cutaway category to retain the state of good repair for this sub-fleet. Three Cutaway vehicles were delivered during the month of October and are being outfitted for revenue service. All fleet categories meet the ULB and are in satisfactory condition.

The condition of the equipment in each asset classification has maintained an adequate or greater rating except for the shop equipment category. A quality maintenance plan has contributed to this acceptable condition, in addition to the ongoing replacement multiple assets supporting operations. The light usage of these assets mitigates the extended age of the vehicles and equipment, particularly the forklift that serves its function that is in good working order, it has just been in service for many years. The equipment continues to perform its function safely and effectively and does not necessitate replacement, especially with the limited use it entertains. An additional set of mobile vehicle lifts to supplement lifts in the main maintenance bays will be completed in November 2026. Two support vehicles were added to the fleet early this year. The data indicates that additional replacements are needed, for which staff will prepare these as a budget item.

During the next fiscal year, this replacement process will continue. As indicated by the progress toward achieving the performance targets, CARTA set a target to maintain its state of good repair.

Staff recommends adoption of the TAM Plan performance targets for fiscal year 2027, which are consistent with last year's performance targets. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or for further information.

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 12, 2026
To: CARTA Board of Directors
From: Ronald E. Mitchum, Executive Director
Subject: Transit Planning Project Updates for September 2026

Please find the progress reports for transit planning projects.

1. Service Planning Initiatives (Project Manager: Megan Ross)
2. CARTA Comprehensive Operational Analysis (Project Manager: Megan Ross)
3. CARTA On-Demand (TNC Pilot Project) (Project Manager: Courtney Cherry)
4. Shelter Improvement Program (Project Manager: Rainee Kearney)
5. Shipwatch Square Transit Center (Project Manager: Sharon Hollis)
6. Lowcountry Rapid Transit (Project Manager: Sharon Hollis)
7. Dorchester Transit Signal Priority (TSP) Pilot Project (Project Manager: Sharon Hollis)
8. Mt. Pleasant Street Park and Ride (Project Manager: Robin Mitchum)
9. Fairgrounds Park and Ride (Project Manager: Robin Mitchum)
10. O&M Facility – LCRT (Project Manager: Robin Mitchum)
11. Mobile Ticketing Sales and Use (Project Manager: Jeff Burns)
12. Rethink Folly (Project Manager: Kyle James)

Please let me know if you need additional information.

1. Service Planning Initiatives

- Staff remain working with Spare and RATPDev to improve efficiency and rider experience for Tel-A-Ride clients.
- Staff and RATPDev met with Swiftly to review the system. Overall, there are significant improvements with operators logging into the onboard tablets and minor steps forward in reducing early departures.
- Staff continue working with Remix to finalize the domain name for Google and set up the GTFS database. The domain name is fully up and running; however, for Remix to talk to Swiftly, CARTA needs to use a blocking module for which CARTA has a three-month trial. Staff received training on the blocking module.
- Staff met with a GTFS management company that works with Swiftly and has self-management abilities and a full management option.
- Staff met with the main library staff to review the needs of unhoused patrons who need to use the system to go to the temporary library location during renovations. With the move, patrons can no longer use Rt. 210 to travel to the library. The temporary location is within walking distance of Rt. 20.
- Staff continued working on an information database to improve performance measurement and reporting.
- Staff took part in a discussion around the development of the new MUSC Cancer center. Staff adjusted the location of the current stop to accommodate construction. After construction, the location will have a new shelter at Calhoun and Ashley.
- Staff met with Stantec to discuss the bus stops and new shelters that will be installed by the construction of the I-526 on Rivers Ave.
- Staff took over Genfare farebox exceptions reporting and correcting.
- Staff continue to support Customer Service by responding to passenger complaints, operational challenges, and other related correspondence.
- Staff continue working with development review and infrastructure improvement along the bus routes.
- Staff tracks and investigates all missed service. It is reported to RATPDev and documented to calculate service hours performed.
- Staff participated in selection committees for Shipyard Square CE&I and CARTA bus video mirrors.
- Staff participated in shelter design meeting with students from the American College of the Building Arts.
- Staff continue working on LCRT corridor construction bus stop planning.
- Staff developed and submitted a federal grant to replace ten diesel vehicles with hybrid electric vehicles.
- Staff began working on a fare analysis of users of contactless payment.

2. Comprehensive Operational Analysis

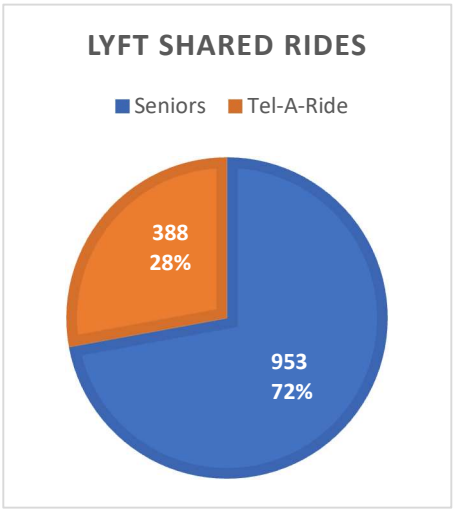
Staff and Nelson\ Nygaard continue with bi-weekly meetings. Staff participated in the final open house. Staff met with the team to review the fare technology that we currently have and where the

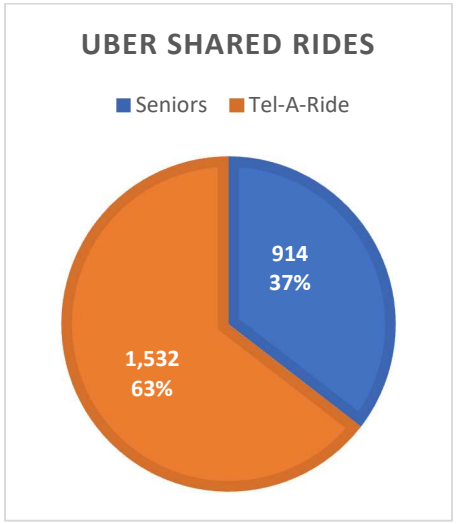
shortfalls are. We also discussed the needs we will have for the operation of the LCRT and linking the three transit systems in the region. Lastly, we reviewed the financial model for the RTFP update.

3. CARTA OnDemand (TNC Pilot)

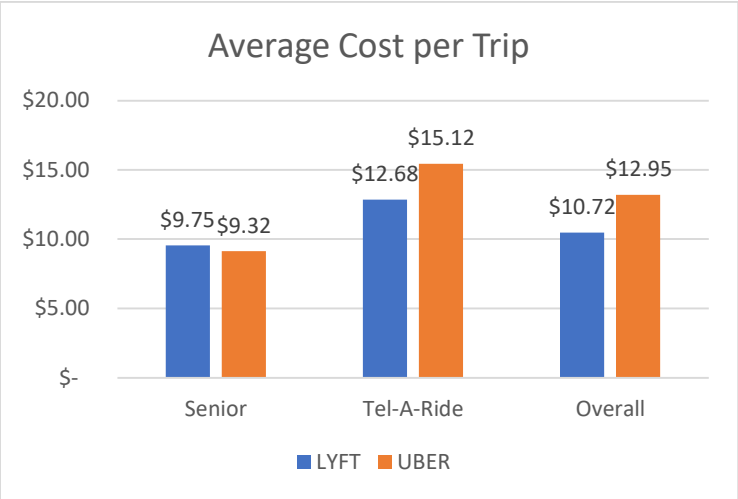
Staff contracts with service providers Uber and Lyft to provide subsidized transportation. CARTA OnDemand launched on February 1, 2021. On March 1, 2025, program changes were implemented and updated for senior vouchers. Changes included reduction in CARTA max subsidy, monthly vouchers to weekly vouchers, and an increase in min customer pay. The service offers door-to-door subsidized services for seniors (60+) and Tel-A-Ride customers and covers the Tel-a-Ride service area Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7 AM and 5 PM. Senior customers pay an initial $5 with a maximum trip subsidy of $14 and any surplus being charged to the rider. Tel-A-Ride customers pay an initial $4 with a maximum trip subsidy of $30 and any surplus amount being charged to the rider.

In September 2026, there were 2,532 senior riders and 267 Tel-A-Ride customers approved to use OnDemand service, a total of 2,799. Also in September, CARTA OnDemand had a total of 3,787 trips, with 51% of the trips being taken by paratransit customers and 49% being taken by senior customers.





In September, the 3,787 trips (Tel-A-Ride and senior) averaged $12.16 per trip. To date (February 2021 – present), CARTA has spent a total of $1,485,367.00 on the OnDemand program.

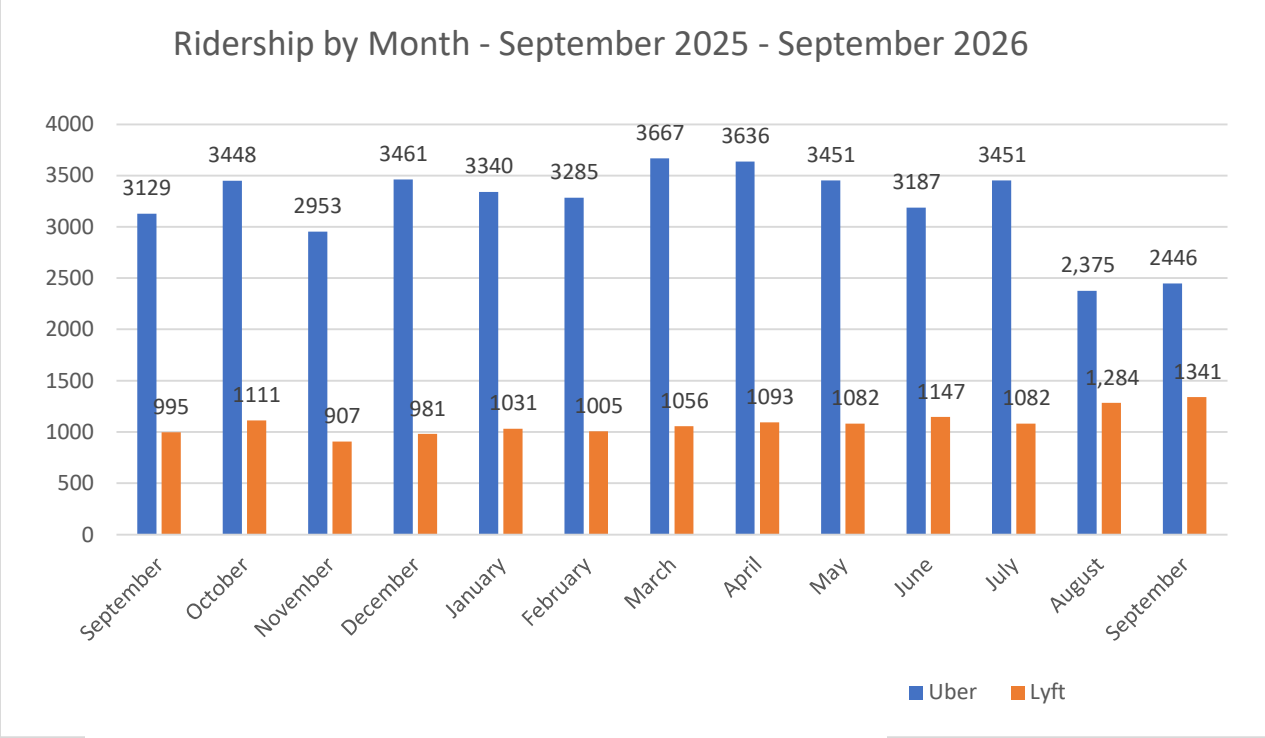


LYFT STATISTICS

- 1,341 Trips provided
- Avg Trip Cost: **$10.72**
- 204 Unique Riders
- Total Cost: **$14,370.32**

UBER STATISTICS

- 2,446 Trips provided
- Avg Trip Cost: **$12.95**
- 277 Unique Riders
- Total Cost: **$31,686.81**



Ongoing Tasks:

Program Parameters

- Parameters to CARTA OnDemand were updated and approved 11/2024. Changes to be implemented March 1st, 2025. Changes include an increase in the customer fare,

reduction in CARTA subsidy amount, an age increase, and reduction in vouchers allocated. These changes resulted in the removal of any current customers under 60 years of age.
- Beginning June 1, 2026, UberX was no longer an eligible ride option for CARTA OnDemand vouchers. Customers must select an eligible shared ride option for the voucher to apply.

Coordination with TNC provider

- Staff coordinates with Uber and Lyft to ensure consistent service delivery and address service and billing issues.
- Staff continues to coordinate with Uber and Lyft to address customer questions related to eligible ride options and voucher application following the June 1, 2026 service changes.

Marketing

- Marketing collateral has been distributed by request and through various public outreach efforts
- Staff is coordinating with Marketing to update CARTA OnDemand educational materials, including FAQs and instructional resources, to address common customer questions and improve program guidance.

Application approval and customer service

- Staff application process continues to be an efficient approval process
- Staff approves applications from seniors and paratransit customers within 15 business days of receipt
- Staff provides customer service by responding to inquiries about the service and assisting new riders with information on how to use Uber and Lyft

Performance Monitoring (ongoing)

- Staff tracks ridership and expenditures monthly
- Staff continues to monitor monthly ridership trends.

There are no outstanding or settled claims exceeding $100,000. There are no claims or litigation involving third-party contracts and potential third-party contracts.

4. CARTA Shelter Improvement Program (SIP)

Bus stops play a vital role in shaping how riders experience transit. CARTA continues to enhance the rider experience by improving bus stop amenities to ensure safety, comfort, and accessibility.

- Staff continued reviewing proposed developments and coordinating with developers, municipalities, and project partners to identify appropriate transit accommodations, ADA-accessible boarding areas, pedestrian connections, and passenger amenities.
- Staff coordinated with the MUSC Cancer Hospital project team regarding CARTA service and proposed passenger shelter improvements and continued coordination regarding shelter design and infrastructure needs.
- Staff continued coordination on Meeting Street/Morrison Drive transit infrastructure, including review of previous coordination documents and requirements associated with proposed bus stop improvements.
- Staff continued coordination related to digital passenger information/signage and provided background information on CARTA's existing digital signage system.
- Staff continued coordination with project partners on the ReThink Folly Road Phase 1 transit improvements, including planned boarding pads, shelters, and related passenger amenities.
- Staff continued reviewing shelter and bench needs associated with active development review and infrastructure projects.

In Progress:

- **3640 Dorchester Rd**: Re-coordination from the 2024 project with the developer. Requested shelter pad.
- **Orleans Rd / Carverwood Lane (Stop ID 848) –** Orleans Rd Improvements to install a bench pad as part of the project.
- **98 Wentworth St** – Temporary stop placement, easement agreement, and ADA bench pad and bench; currently in development review/construction phase
- **1940 Savannah Hwy (Stop ID 795)** – Shelter pad requested and stop shift to the far side of the intersection under development review.
- **Meeting St / Line St (Stop ID 59)** – Bench installed and stop relocated approximately 146 feet; confirm whether shelter installation is still pending.
- **512 Johnnie Dodds Blvd** – Shelter pad poured. Shelter installation status pending confirmation.
- **162 Ashley Ave (Stop ID 138)** – ADA-compliant pad and approved bench pending construction.
- **Charleston Place Hotel** – Requested bench and pad- Bench design approved.
- **Courier Square II** – Detailed site plan received showing CARTA sign, bench, trash receptacle, and 8'x5' landing pad; coordination ongoing with the City and CARTA. Space constraints may require the omission of a bench.

- **Savage Rd** – SCDOT/Charleston County sidewalk project; easement agreement submitted to the County by engineer.
- **Dorchester Rd** – SCDOT Safety Audit:
    - **Stop ID 351** – Dorchester Rd / Archdale Blvd: Proposed shift to the far side of the intersection with an ADA-compliant bench pad and accessible path under review.
    - **Stop ID 394** – Dorchester Rd / Franchise St: Proposed shift to the far side of the intersection with ADA-compliant bench pad and path under review.
    - **Stop ID 378** – Dorchester Rd / Ashley Phosphate Rd: Proposed shelter relocation approximately 300 feet to the far side of the intersection.
- **783 Calhoun St / Ashley Ave** – Coordinating relocation and refurbishment of historic shelter.
- **575 Calhoun St / Jonathan Lucas St (far side)** – CARTA-initiated infrastructure; shared easement agreement in progress with MUSC. Coordinating relocation and refurbishment of historic shelter.
- **485 Jonathan Lucas St / MUSC Quad** – CARTA-initiated infrastructure; shared easement agreement in progress with MUSC.
- **Dorchester Road and Bennett Yard Road (Stop ID 229)-** CARTA-initiated infrastructure; Shelter Installation Requires Survey for feasibility and SCDOT permits if necessary
- **Dorchester Road and Ashley Phosphate(Stop ID 368)** - CARTA-initiated infrastructure; Requires Survey for SCDOT permits
- **Antler Road (Stop ID 26)-** CARTA-initiated infrastructure; ½ shelter installation; Requires Survey for SCDOT permits.
- **Folly Rd/ Wilton (Stop ID 636) –** CARTA-initiated infrastructure, Foundation, and bench installation
- **Savannah Hwy/ Skylark Dr (Stop ID 627)-** CARTA-initiated infrastructure, Shelter installation
- **Tobias Gadsden / Paul Cantrell (Stop ID 850)-** CARTA-initiated infrastructure, Bench, and bike rack installation
- **Tobias Gadsden / Ashley River Rd (Stop ID- 859) –** CARTA-initiated infrastructure, Bench, and bike rack installation
- **Carner Ave/ Clements Ave (Stop ID 81)-** CARTA-initiated infrastructure, Shelter installation
- **Carner Ave / Clements Ave (Stop ID 6)-** CARTA-initiated infrastructure, Shelter Installation
- **Cosgrove Ave / Mott Ave (Stop ID 173) –** CARTA-initiated infrastructure, Shelter Installation
- **American College of the Building Arts**: Timber Frame Shelter Installations:
    - Dorchester Rd / Montague Ave (Stop ID 335)
    - Reynolds Ave / N. Atlantic Ave (Stop ID 287)

- Otranto Rd / Rivers Ave (Stop ID 382)
- Cosgrove Ave / Lenape Ave (Stop ID 174)
- Mall Dr / Lacross Rd (Stop ID 237)

- **Citadel Mall (Stop ID 611):** CARTA initiated infrastructure, new shelter installation

Letters of Coordination Issued

CARTA issued letters of coordination to support transit integration in the following developments:

- MUSC Citadel Mall
- Pinecrest Drive Improvements
- 5106 Rockingham Street
- 295 Calhoun Street
- 40 Line Street

5. Shipwatch Square/Transit Hub

- NEPA: NEPA is complete.
- A&E Design: 100% Design Complete/City Permitting Complete/NOI received. Furnishing Design is underway.
- IFB: Bidding is complete.
- Construction:
  - CE&I: Consultant Selection, began contract negotiations.
  - Contractor: Negotiated Contract
  - NTP/Pre Construction Meeting to be scheduled.

6. Lowcountry Rapid Transit

A&E Design: IFB/Specifications going through SCDOT Letting Prep for Bid Date of January 2027

Key Stakeholder Coordination: Stakeholder meetings are ongoing. MOT meetings with Medical District in October; municipal maintenance agreements to be scheduled in October/November.

FTA Coordination: Monthly and quarterly meetings are held with FTA and the Project Management Oversight Consultant (PMOC). PMOC participates in monthly risk review meetings. Remainder of federal funding has been allocated in the FY2027 budget. FFGA shifted to January pending final 3rd Party Agreement.

NEPA: Documented Categorical Exclusion (DCE) was approved by FTA in July 2021. A reevaluation document for 60% design was submitted to FTA in August 2024 and was approved by FTA in October

2024. A reevaluation for project shift to diesel fleet as submitted and approved by FTA on July 8, 2025. 90% design did not impact Class of Action. 100% design reevaluation underway for one 4F property, Dominion Poles outside of ROW, and changes to ROW limits in 100% design. Wetlands permitting is underway, submitted in April 2026,

Maintenance Facility: 100% Design Deliverable to be submitted for client review in October/November 2026 pending Berkeley County Permitting Review.

Transit Signal Prioritization: Transit signal prioritization at intersections is included as part of the LCRT project. A demonstration project of TSP on Dorchester Road was initiated to develop the technology and infrastructure on a smaller scale corridor to advance that technology on CARTA transit buses traveling on Dorchester Road. Progress on that effort is provided in #9 below.

Public Involvement: Stakeholder and neighborhood meetings are ongoing. Team continues to engage with community via neighborhood association meetings, farmers markets, festivals, and events.

ROW Acquisition: ROW acquisition for the corridor is underway.

Utility Coordination: Monthly utility coordination meetings with all impacted utilities are underway. All critical third-party utility and railroad agreements have been executed, including CSX, NS, Dominion, NCSD, and CWS.

Construction Related Activities: Meetings related to coordination on MOT, IGAs, CEI, bidder outreach, and construction phase project procedures are ongoing. CEI procurement is underway. Railroad construction agreements have been signed with CSX and NS. Industry Review/Open Forum to be held in November 2026.

Systems Integration: Tasks associated with transit systems and integration (vehicles, fare vending, technology, etc.) are underway. A Bus Stop Impacts Plan during and after construction is being developed. Developing Fare Policy scope to prepare for the addition of BRT into the system.

7. Dorchester TSP

- Final deliverables have been received. NEPA documentation is complete.
- IGA has been executed.
- Phase 3 Funding has been programmed. Technical Support RFP going through LPA process.

8. Mt. Pleasant Street Park and Ride

The bid documents are under review.

9. Fairgrounds Park and Ride

We are currently waiting for a ruling from the appeals court.

10. O&M Facility (Acres Drive, Ladson)

100% Design Deliverable to be submitted for client review in October/November 2026 pending Berkeley County Permitting Review.

11. Mobile Ticketing Sales & Use

During the month of September 2026, mobile ticket sales totaled $31,235.08. This is a 0.9% increase in sales revenue over September 2025 and a 2.0% decrease from August 2026. Mobile ticket sales comprised 22.8% of total farebox revenue for the month and totals 23.9% of the revenue fiscal year to date. Mobile ticketing revenue comprised 21.4% of total farebox revenue last year fiscal year to date. Mobile ticket sales this fiscal year are 0.1% greater than sales were last year fiscal year to date. There were 2,375 unique users over the month, conducting 16,254 transactions. The pass type with the highest frequency of use is the local, fixed-route, one-trip ticket. The route with the highest usage is Route 10, followed by Route 12. Functionality to accept direct credit card payment with the existing on-vehicle hardware was launched on June 1, 2026, with 1,614 transactions during the month, which is a 17.3% increase over August 2026.

12. Rethink Folly Road

Coordinating implementation of transit infrastructure improvements associated with the Phase 1 roadway project, including:

a. George Griffith Boulevard – New ADA boarding pad.

b. Wilton Street – New ADA boarding pad and passenger shelter.

c. Prescott Street – New ADA boarding pad and passenger shelter.

d. Eugene Gibbs Road – New ADA boarding pad, passenger shelter, and bicycle rack.

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 12, 2026
To: Ronald E. Mitchum, Executive Director
From: Megan Ross, Transit Planner
Subject: Monthly Ridership Report – September 2026

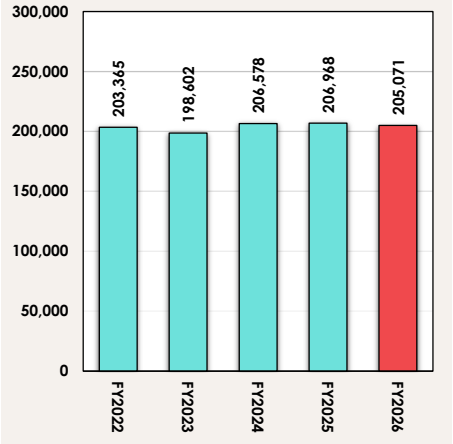
The following tables and figures summarize operating statistics for the month of September 2026. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or for further information.

FIXED-ROUTE METRICS THIS MONTH – SEPTEMBER 2026

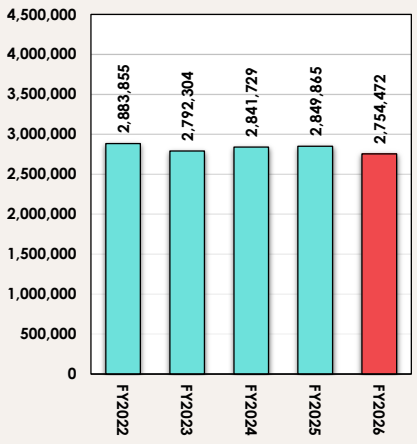
Fixed Route Metrics	This Month	Percent Change from Same Month Last Year	Percent Change from Last Month
	Sep-26	Sep-25	Aug-26
Fixed-Route Ridership Overview			
Total Ridership	242,389	-10.8%	-1.1%
Total Revenue Hours	17,426	-1.4%	1.8%
Total Revenue Miles	218,787	-8.7%	-2.7%
Fixed-Route Efficiency			
Passengers Per Hour	13.9	-9.4%	-2.8%
On-Time Performance	70.2%	-4.0%	3.2%
Fixed-Route Financial Summary			
Cost per Passenger	$6.42	34.0%	2.1%
Revenue	$340,477.17	18.0%	-0.3%
Farebox Recovery	17.9%	-1.6%	-1.1%
Fixed-Route Safety			
Miles Between Road Calls	5,088	-72.4%	-43.4%
Revenue Vehicle Accidents per 100k Miles	5.0	-19.6%	2.8%
Preventable Accidents per 100k Miles	2.7	-26.9%	2.8%
Fixed-Route Customer Experience			
Complaints per 100k Passengers	3.3	-10.5%	-42.2%
Compliments per 100k Passengers	0.4	-44.0%	1.1%
Routes Not Meeting Performance Standards This Month			
XP2 Mt Pleasant-West Ashley Express		42 Wando Circulator	
13 Remount Road		102 North Neck/ Rutledge Ave	
40 Mt. Pleasant		104 Montague Avenue	
41 Coleman Boulevard			

FIXED ROUTE ANNUAL TRENDS FY2022 – FY2026 (TO DATE)

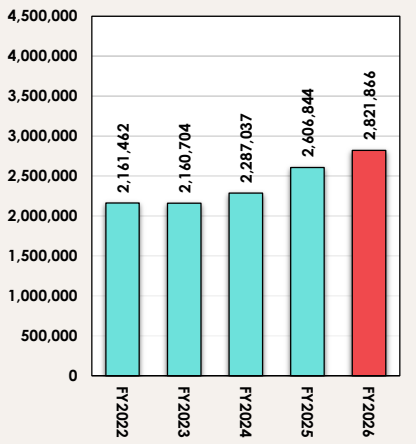
TOTAL HOURS



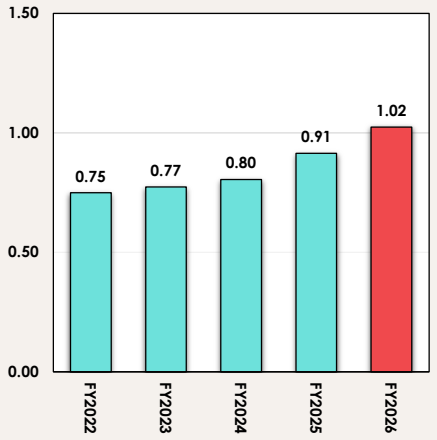
TOTAL MILES



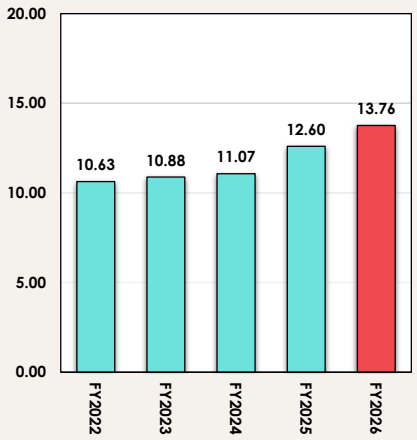
TOTAL PASSENGERS



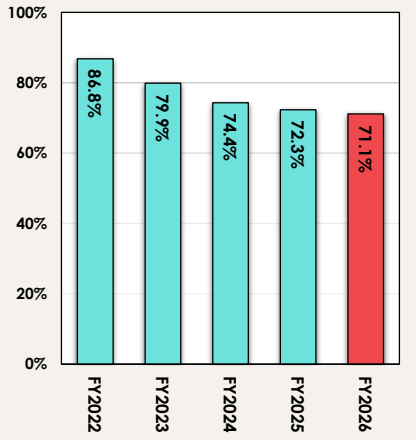
PASSENGERS PER MILE



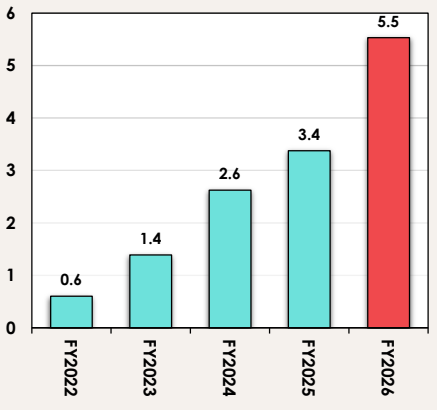
PASSENGERS PER HOUR



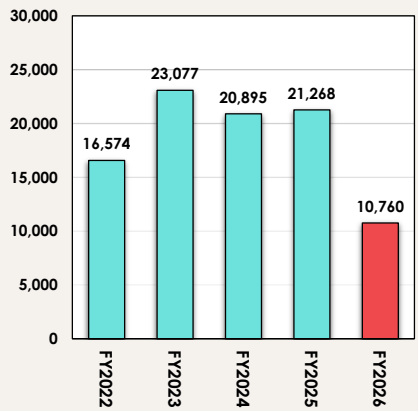
ON TIME PERFORMANCE



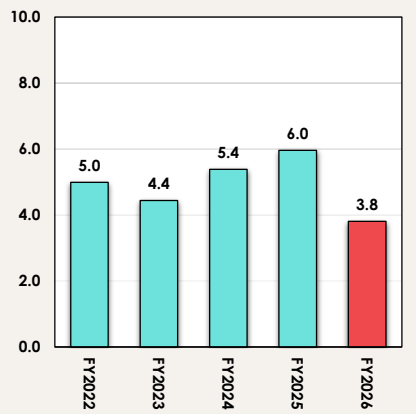
COMPLAINTS PER 100K RIDERS



TOTAL MILES B/W ROAD CALLS



ACCIDENTS PER 100,000 MILES

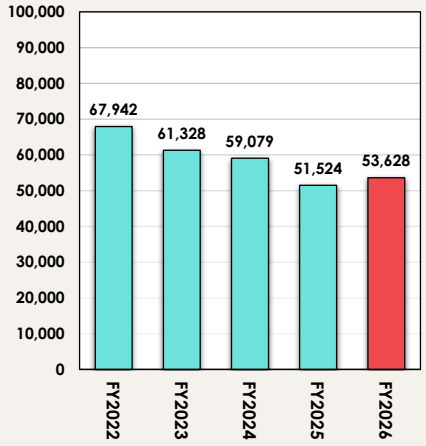


PARATRANSIT METRICS THIS MONTH – SEPTEMBER 2026

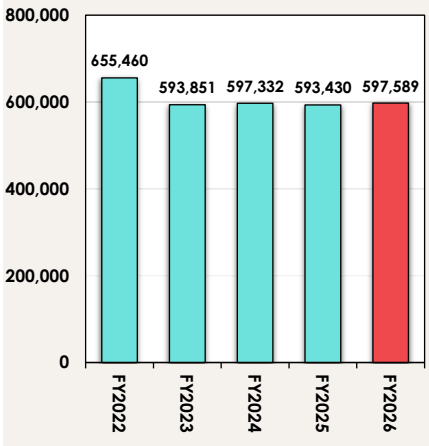
On-Demand Metrics	This Month	Percent Change from Same Month Last Year	Percent Change from Last Month
	Sep-26	Sep-25	Aug-26
Paratransit Ridership Overview			
Total Ridership	4,705	4.3%	-5.1%
Total Revenue Hours	3,456	7.0%	-4.0%
Total Revenue Miles	51,477	-8.5%	-4.3%
Paratransit Efficiency			
Passengers Per Hour	1.4	-2.5%	-1.1%
No-Shows	207	-8.4%	-19.5%
On-Time Performance	94.6%	7.5%	2.8%
Paratransit Financial Summary			
Cost per Passenger Trip	$73.89	36.1%	1.2%
Paratransit Safety			
Miles Between Road Calls	17,159	-	-36.2%
Revenue Vehicle Accidents per 100k Miles	1.9	-45.3%	-47.8%
Preventable Accidents per 100k Miles	0.0	-	-
Paratransit Customer Experience			
Complaints per 1,000 Passengers	-	-	-
Compliments per 1,000 Passengers	0.0	-	-

PARATRANSIT ANNUAL TRENDS - FY2022 – FY2026 (TO DATE)

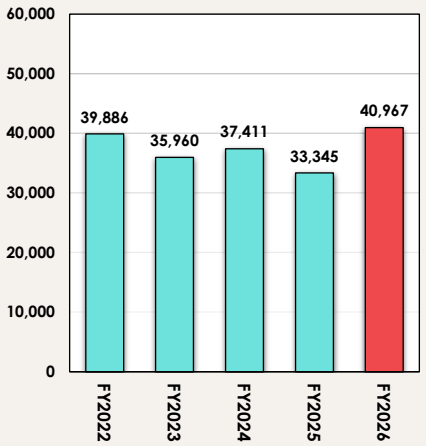
TOTAL PASSENGERS



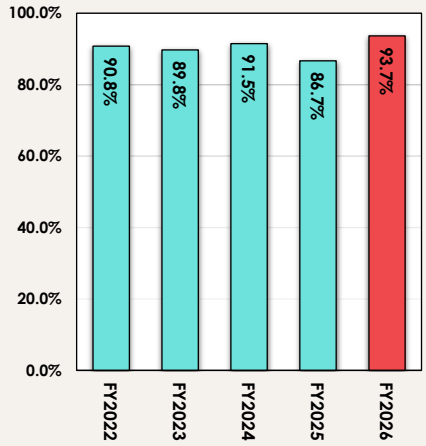
TOTAL MILES



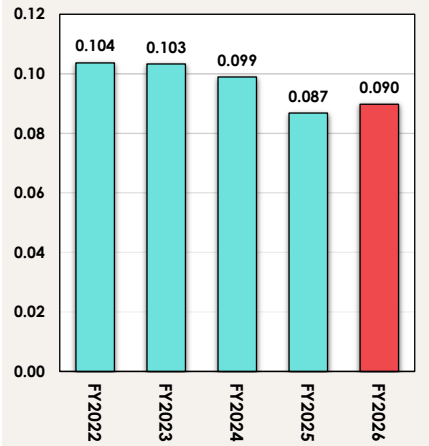
TOTAL HOURS



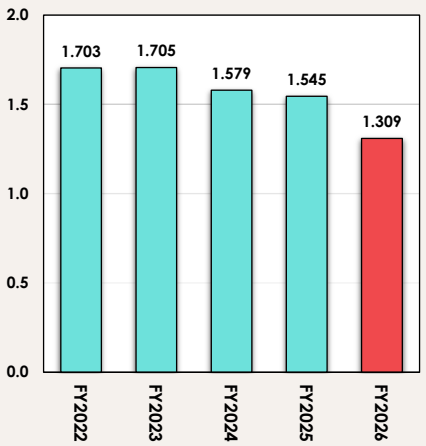
ON TIME PERFORMANCE



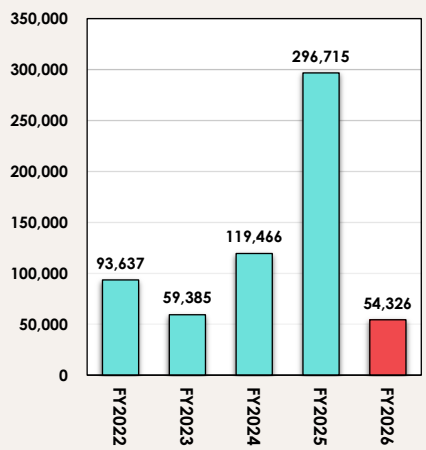
PASSENGERS PER MILE



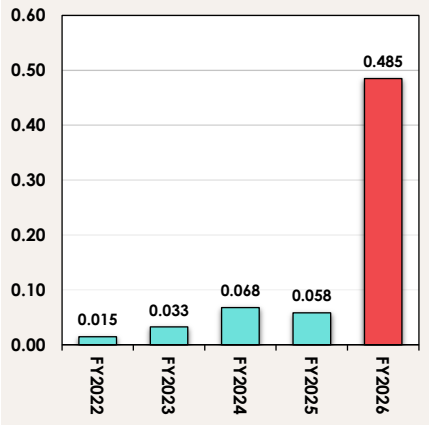
PASSENGERS PER HOUR



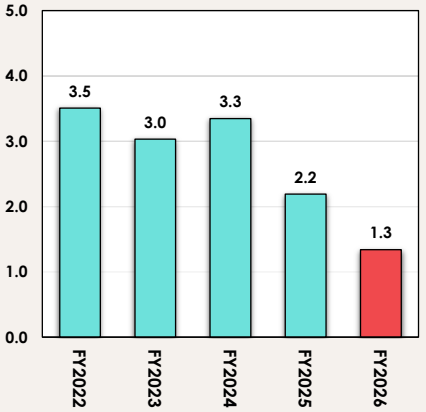
MILES B/W ROAD CALLS



COMPLAINTS PER 1,000 RIDERS



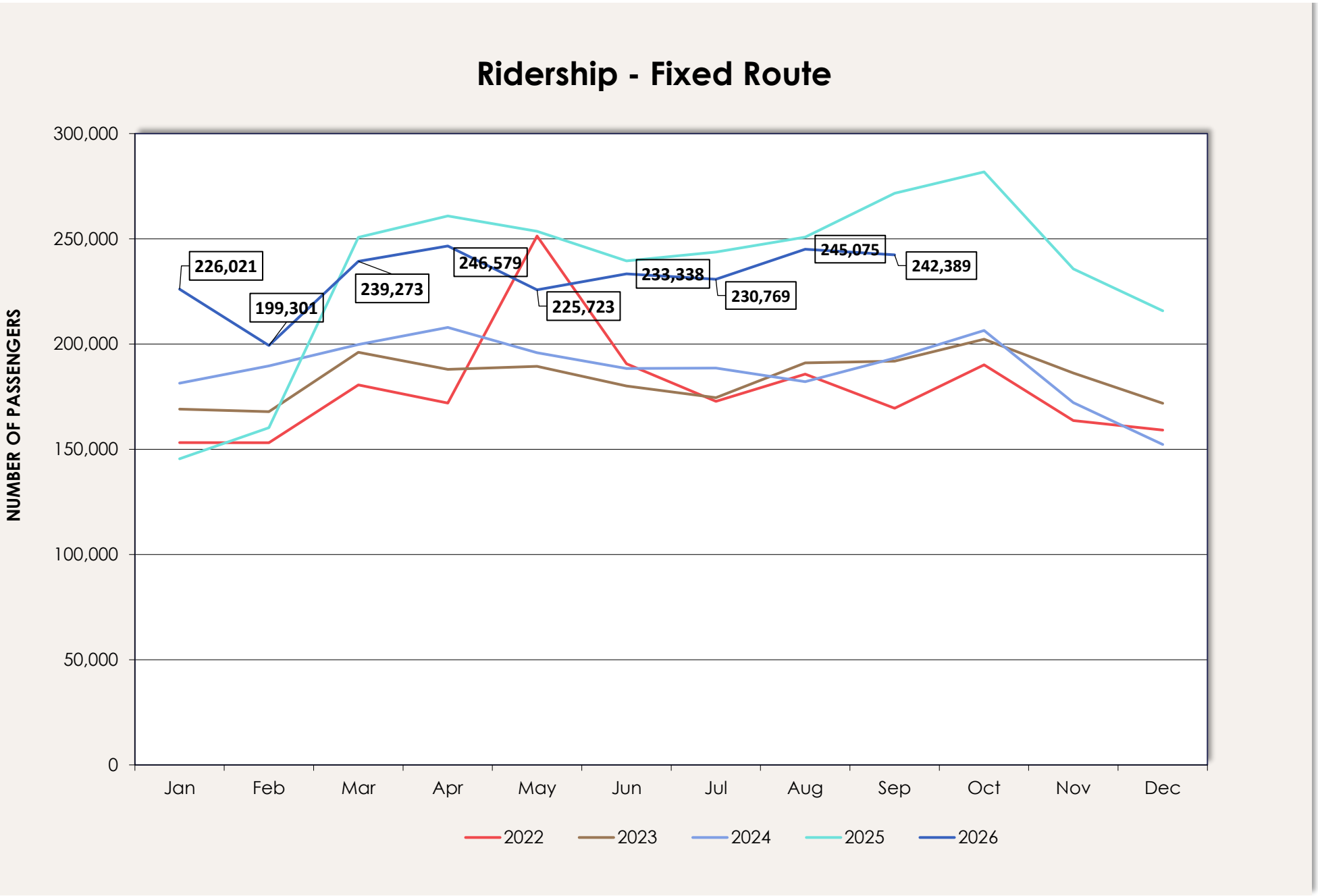
ACCIDENTS PER 100,000 MILES

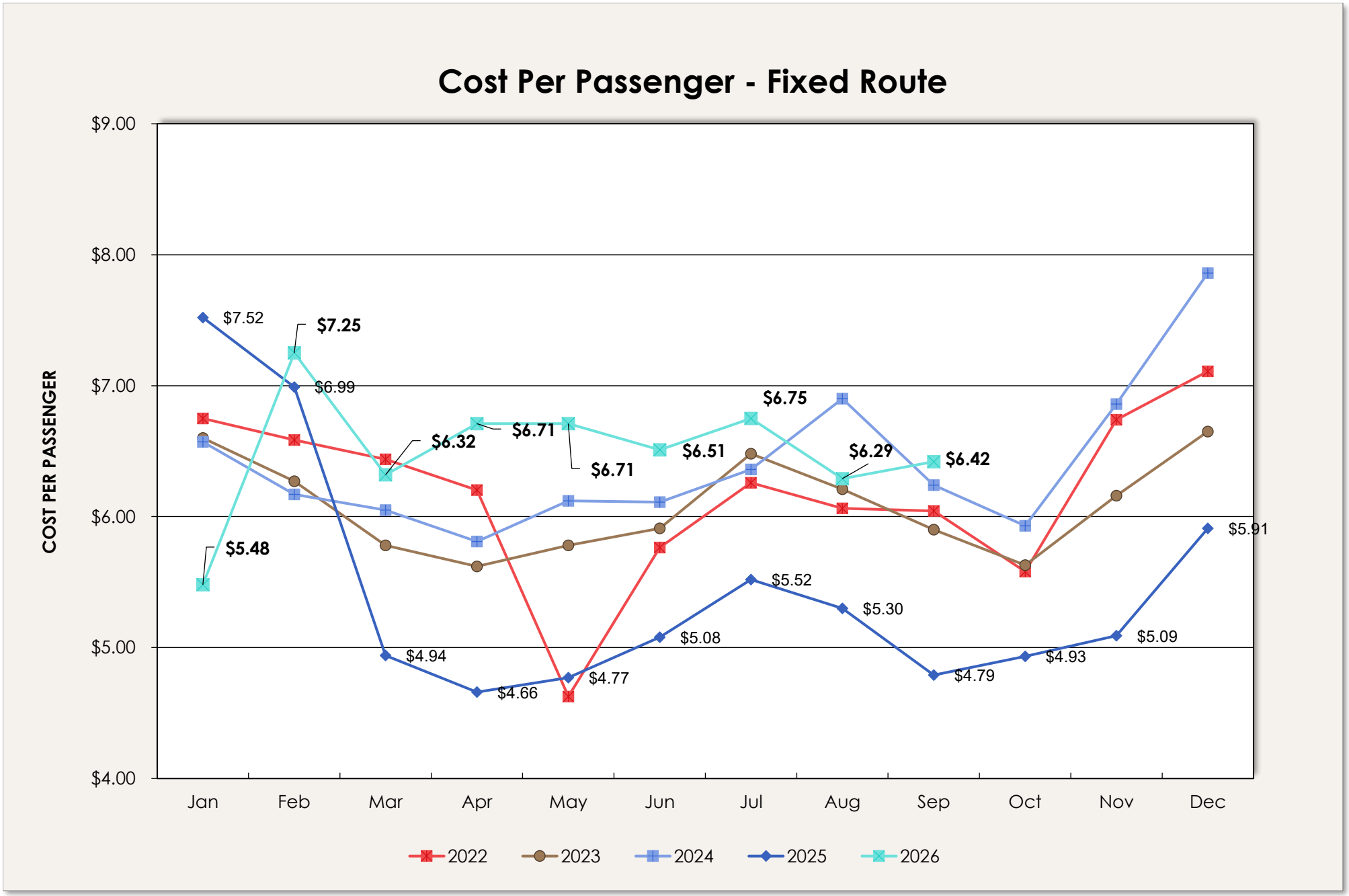


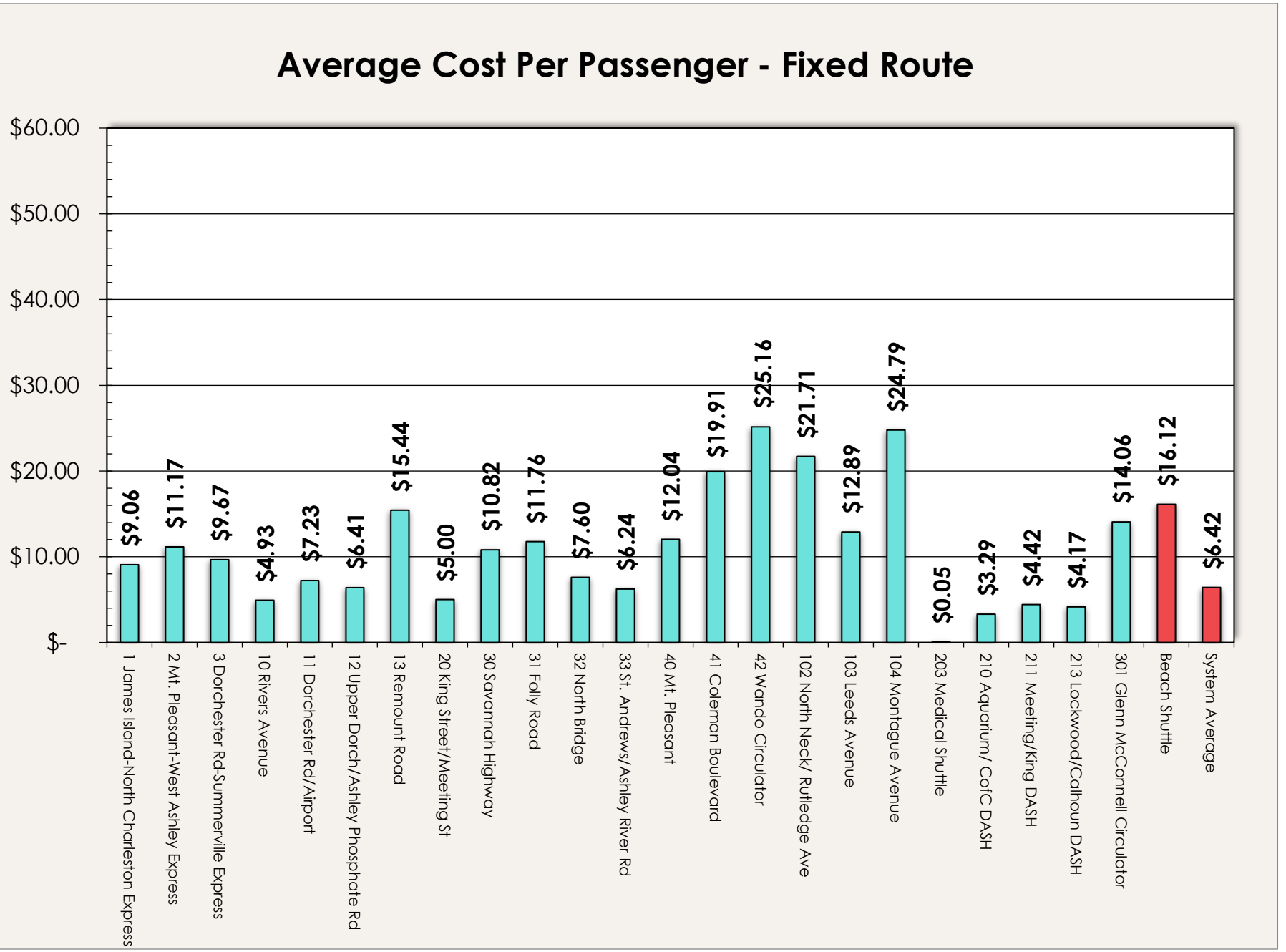
Revenue/Cost/Ridership for the Month of September 2026

Route Name	Route Name	Farebox Revenue	Pass/Presale Revenue	2025 Revenue	2026 Revenue	Cost of Operation	Hours Operated	Farebox Recovery	Cost Per Passenger	Deviation From System Average	Allowable Deviation Under Performance Standards	2025 Passengers Per Hour	2026 Passengers Per Hour	Change from Last Year	Passenger Per Hour Target Under Performance Standards	2025 Ridership	2026 Ridership	Change from Last Year	Change from Last Year	% of Total Ridership
1 James Island-North Charleston Express	1 James Island-North Charleston Express	$429.45	$ 9,421.60	$ 9,558.38	$9,851.05	$ 72,591.07	666.56	13.6%	$ 9.06	-4.37%	-5%	11	10	-3%	15	7,053	6,922	(131)	-2%	2.86%
2 Mt. Pleasant-West Ashley Express	2 Mt. Pleasant-West Ashley Express	$ 492.44	$ 7,612.68	$ 8,576.95	$ 8,105.12	$ 70,566.54	647.97	11.5%	$ 11.17	-6.45%	-5%	9	9	-8%	15	6,091	5,593	(498)	-8%	2.31%
3 Dorchester Rd-Summerville Express	3 Dorchester Rd-Summerville Express	$712.42	$ 6,048.77	$ 7,073.24	$6,761.19	$ 49,739.74	456.73	13.6%	$ 9.67	-4.35%	-5%	10	10	-7%	15	4,724	4,444	(280)	-6%	1.83%
4 Airport Express	4 Airport Express	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -		-	-	-	-5%	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	0.00%
7 HOP Shuttle (Hospitality on Peninsula)	7 HOP Shuttle (Hospitality on Peninsula)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -		-	-	-	-15%	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10 Rivers Avenue	10 Rivers Avenue	$ 27,898.20	$ 15,326.79	$ 43,075.88	$ 43,224.99	$ 286,292.35	2,628.85	15.1%	$ 4.93	-2.84%	-10%	20	19	-7%	20	53,813	49,265	(4,548)	-8%	20.32%
11 Dorchester Rd/Airport	11 Dorchester Rd/Airport	$ 7,522.10	$ 4,843.04	$ 12,400.53	$ 12,365.14	$ 124,905.29	1,146.93	9.9%	$ 7.23	-8.04%	-10%	15	14	-7%	20	16,771	15,567	(1,204)	-7%	6.42%
12 Upper Dorch/Ashley Phosphate Rd	12 Upper Dorch/Ashley Phosphate Rd	$ 9,293.33	$ 5,896.76	$ 15,832.71	$ 15,190.09	$ 136,644.06	1,254.72	11.1%	$ 6.41	-6.82%	-10%	15	15	0%	20	19,047	18,954	(93)	0%	7.82%
13 Remount Road	13 Remount Road	$ 3,055.59	$ 1,569.55	$ 5,827.01	$ 4,625.14	$ 82,511.14	757.65	5.6%	$ 15.44	-12.34%	-10%	10	7	-35%	20	7,870	5,045	(2,825)	-36%	2.08%
20 King Street/Meeting St	20 King Street/Meeting St	$ -	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.75	$ 6,000.00	$ 66,108.01	607.03	9.1%	$ 5.00	-8.86%	-10%	23	20	-14%	20	14,961	12,025	(2,936)	-20%	4.96%
30 Savannah Highway	30 Savannah Highway	$ 3,500.87	$ 1,740.03	$ 5,064.75	$ 5,240.90	$ 65,757.34	603.81	8.0%	$ 10.82	-9.97%	-10%	10	9	-12%	20	6,646	5,593	(1,053)	-16%	2.31%
31 Folly Road	31 Folly Road	$ 2,631.56	$ 2,155.05	$ 4,982.02	$ 4,786.61	$ 86,268.32	792.15	5.5%	$ 11.76	-12.39%	-15%	10	9	-14%	10	8,384	6,927	(1,457)	-17%	2.86%
32 North Bridge	32 North Bridge	$ 4,004.68	$ 3,335.40	$ 8,551.19	$ 7,340.08	$ 88,853.71	815.89	8.3%	$ 7.60	-9.68%	-10%	16	13	-15%	20	12,672	10,721	(1,951)	-15%	4.42%
33 St. Andrews/Ashley River Rd	33 St. Andrews/Ashley River Rd	$ 4,319.21	$ 3,406.64	$ 8,168.02	$ 7,725.85	$ 76,020.46	698.05	10.2%	$ 6.24	-7.78%	-10%	17	16	-10%	20	12,269	10,950	(1,319)	-11%	4.52%
40 Mt. Pleasant	40 Mt. Pleasant	$ 1,374.71	$ 1,663.81	$ 3,675.98	$ 3,038.52	$ 67,429.02	619.16	4.5%	$ 12.04	-13.43%	-10%	10	9	-9%	20	6,183	5,348	(835)	-14%	2.21%
41 Coleman Boulevard	41 Coleman Boulevard	$ 867.11	$ 609.77	$ 1,089.93	$ 1,476.88	$ 40,510.12	371.98	3.6%	$ 19.91	-14.29%	-10%	4	5	40%	20	1,416	1,960	544	38%	0.81%
42 Wando Circulator	42 Wando Circulator	$ 332.82	$ 468.22	$ 885.24	$ 801.04	$ 38,669.64	355.08	2.1%	$ 25.16	-15.87%	-15%	4	4	12%	10	1,325	1,505	180	14%	0.62%
102 North Neck/ Rutledge Ave	102 North Neck/ Rutledge Ave	$ 652.72	$ 697.82	$ 1,710.46	$ 1,350.54	$ 50,038.13	459.47	2.7%	$ 21.71	-15.24%	-15%	6	5	-24%	10	3,042	2,243	(799)	-26%	0.93%
103 Leeds Avenue	103 Leeds Avenue	$ 634.85	$ 396.35	$ 1,041.89	$ 1,031.20	$ 17,456.23	160.29	5.9%	$ 12.89	-12.03%	-15%	8	8	-3%	10	1,366	1,274	(92)	-7%	0.53%
104 Montague Avenue	104 Montague Avenue	$ 924.12	$ 929.28	$ 2,507.29	$ 1,853.40	$ 75,910.46	697.04	2.4%	$ 24.79	-15.50%	-10%	6	4	-30%	10	4,291	2,987	(1,304)	-30%	1.23%
203 Medical Shuttle	203 Medical Shuttle	$ 1.00	$ 104,363.64	$ 52,477.00	$ 104,364.64	$ 105,938.57	972.77	98.5%	$ 0.05	80.57%	-10%	36	33	-8%	10	32,887	32,312	(575)	-2%	13.33%
210 Aquarium/ CofC DASH	210 Aquarium/ CofC DASH	$ -	$ 47,248.67	$ 46,218.89	$ 47,248.67	$ 85,509.26	785.18	55.3%	$ 3.29	37.31%	-15%	18	15	-16%	10	13,850	11,639	(2,211)	-16%	4.80%
211 Meeting/King DASH	211 Meeting/King DASH	$ -	$ 29,625.67	$ 28,595.89	$ 29,625.67	$ 121,320.17	1,114.01	24.4%	$ 4.42	6.48%	-15%	20	19	-9%	10	24,680	20,747	(3,933)	-16%	8.56%
213 Lockwood/Calhoun DASH	213 Lockwood/Calhoun DASH	$ -	$ 13,625.67	$ 12,595.89	$ 13,625.67	$ 45,491.39	417.72	30.0%	$ 4.17	12.01%	-15%	22	18	-18%	10	9,427	7,648	(1,779)	-19%	3.16%
301 Glenn McConnell Circulator	301 Glenn McConnell Circulator	$ 1,098.12	$ 820.71	$ 2,015.33	$ 1,918.83	$ 39,018.82	358.26	4.9%	$ 14.06	-13.02%	-15%	8	7	-6%	10	2,853	2,638	(215)	-8%	1.09%
Beach Shuttle	Beach Shuttle	$ -	$ 2,925.95	$ 602.24	$ 2,925.95	$ 4,247.57	39.00	68.9%	$ 16.12	50.94%	-15%	2	2	14%	10	18	82	64	356%	0.03%
TOTAL	**System Average**	$69,745.30	$270,731.87	$ 288,527.44	$340,477.17	$ 1,897,797.40	17,426.30	17.9%	$ 6.42			15.4	13.9	-10%		271,639	242,389	(29,250)	-10.8%	100.0%

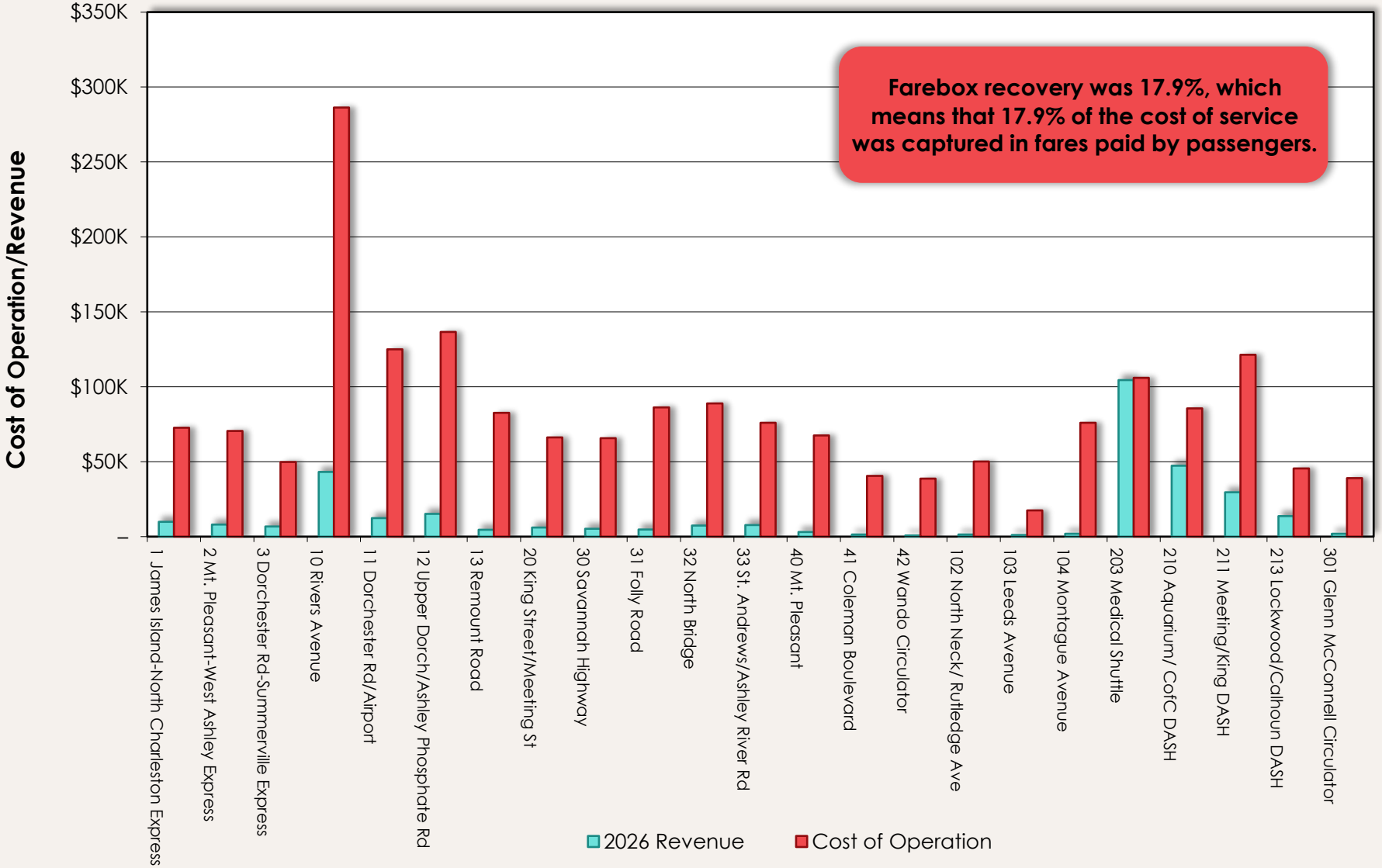
Meeting Passenger Per Hour Standards
NOT Meeting Passenger Per Hour Standards


Ridership - Fixed Route
NUMBER OF PASSENGERS
300,000
250,000
200,000
150,000
100,000
50,000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
226,021
199,301
239,273
246,579
225,723
233,338
230,769
245,075
242,389
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026

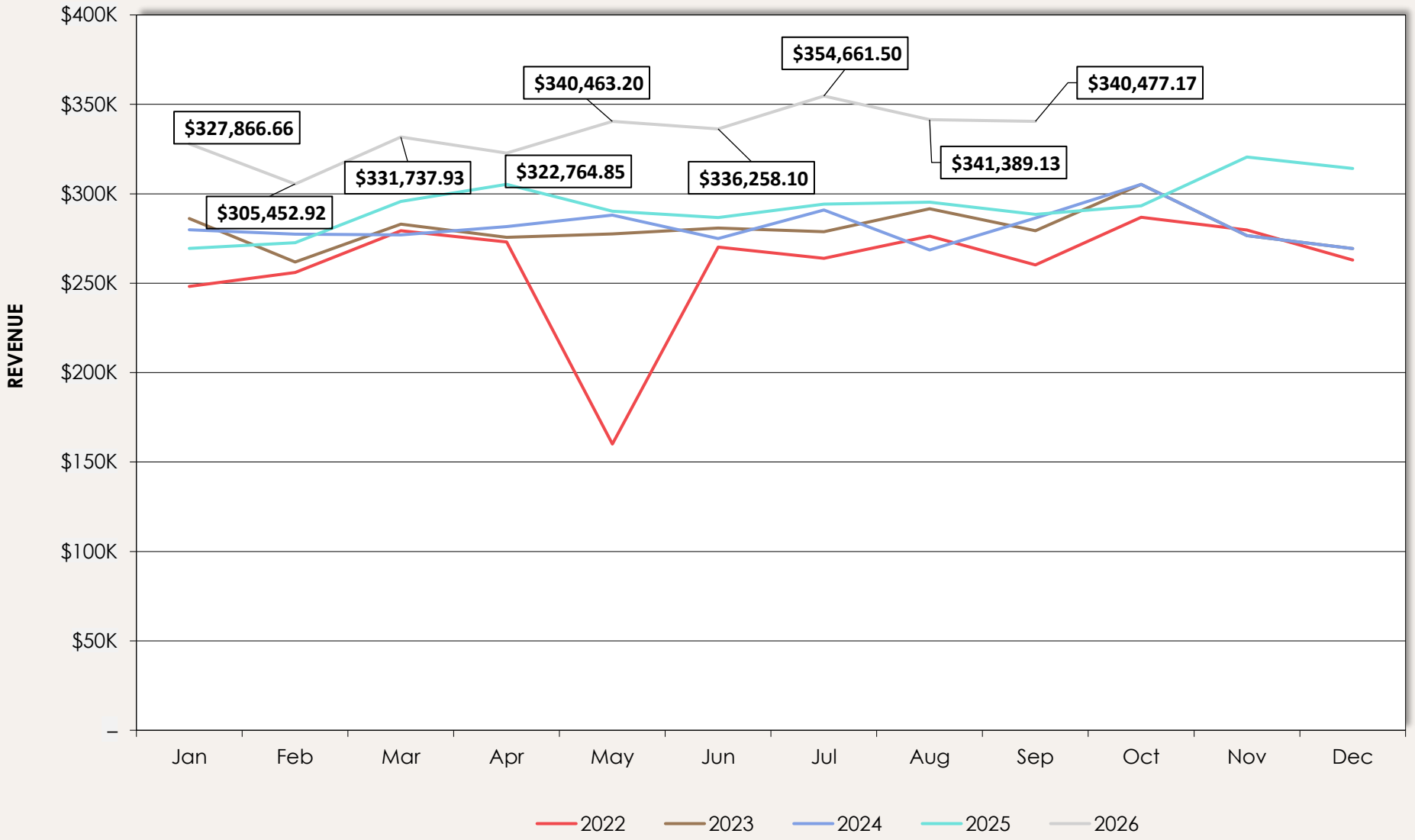

Cost Per Passenger - Fixed Route
COST PER PASSENGER
$9.00
$8.00
$7.00
$6.00
$5.00
$4.00
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
$7.52
$7.25
$6.99
$6.32
$6.71
$6.71
$6.51
$6.75
$6.29
$6.42
$5.48
$4.94
$4.66
$4.77
$5.08
$5.52
$5.30
$4.79
$4.93
$5.09
$5.91
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026


Average Cost Per Passenger - Fixed Route
$60.00
$50.00
$40.00
$30.00
$20.00
$10.00
$-
$9.06
$11.17
$9.67
$4.93
$7.23
$6.41
$15.44
$5.00
$10.82
$11.76
$7.60
$6.24
$12.04
$19.91
$25.16
$21.71
$12.89
$24.79
$0.05
$3.29
$4.42
$4.17
$14.06
$16.12
$6.42
1 James Island-North Charleston Express
2 Mt. Pleasant-West Ashley Express
3 Dorchester Rd-Summerville Express
10 Rivers Avenue
11 Dorchester Rd/Airport
12 Upper Dorch/Ashley Phosphate Rd
13 Remount Road
20 King Street/Meeting St
30 Savannah Highway
31 Folly Road
32 North Bridge
33 St. Andrews/Ashley River Rd
40 Mt. Pleasant
41 Coleman Boulevard
42 Wando Circulator
102 North Neck/ Rutledge Ave
103 Leeds Avenue
104 Montague Avenue
203 Medical Shuttle
210 Aquarium/ CofC DASH
211 Meeting/King DASH
213 Lockwood/Calhoun DASH
301 Glenn McConnell Circulator
Beach Shuttle
System Average

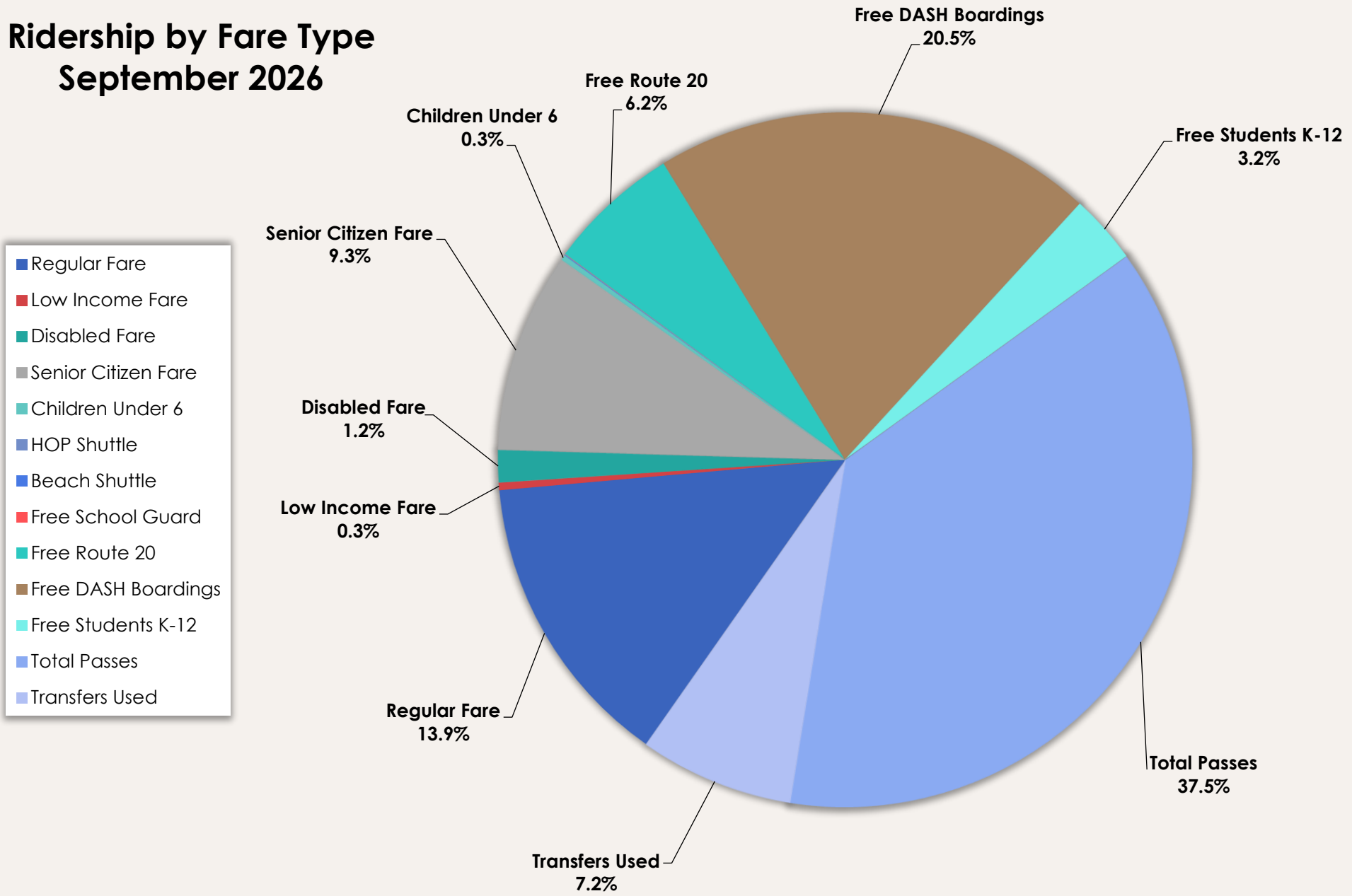
Revenue & Cost by Route
September 2026



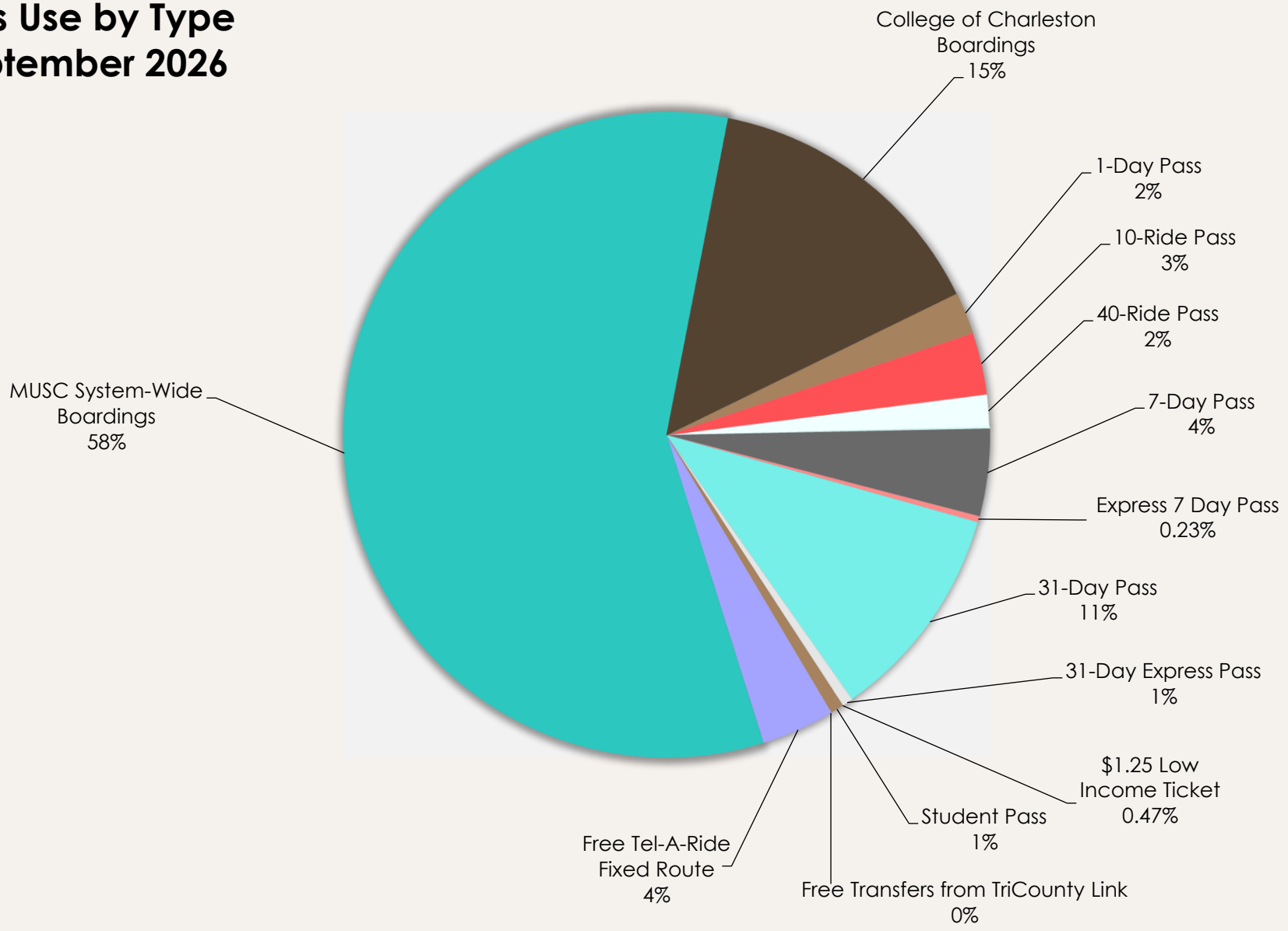
Revenue - Fixed Route



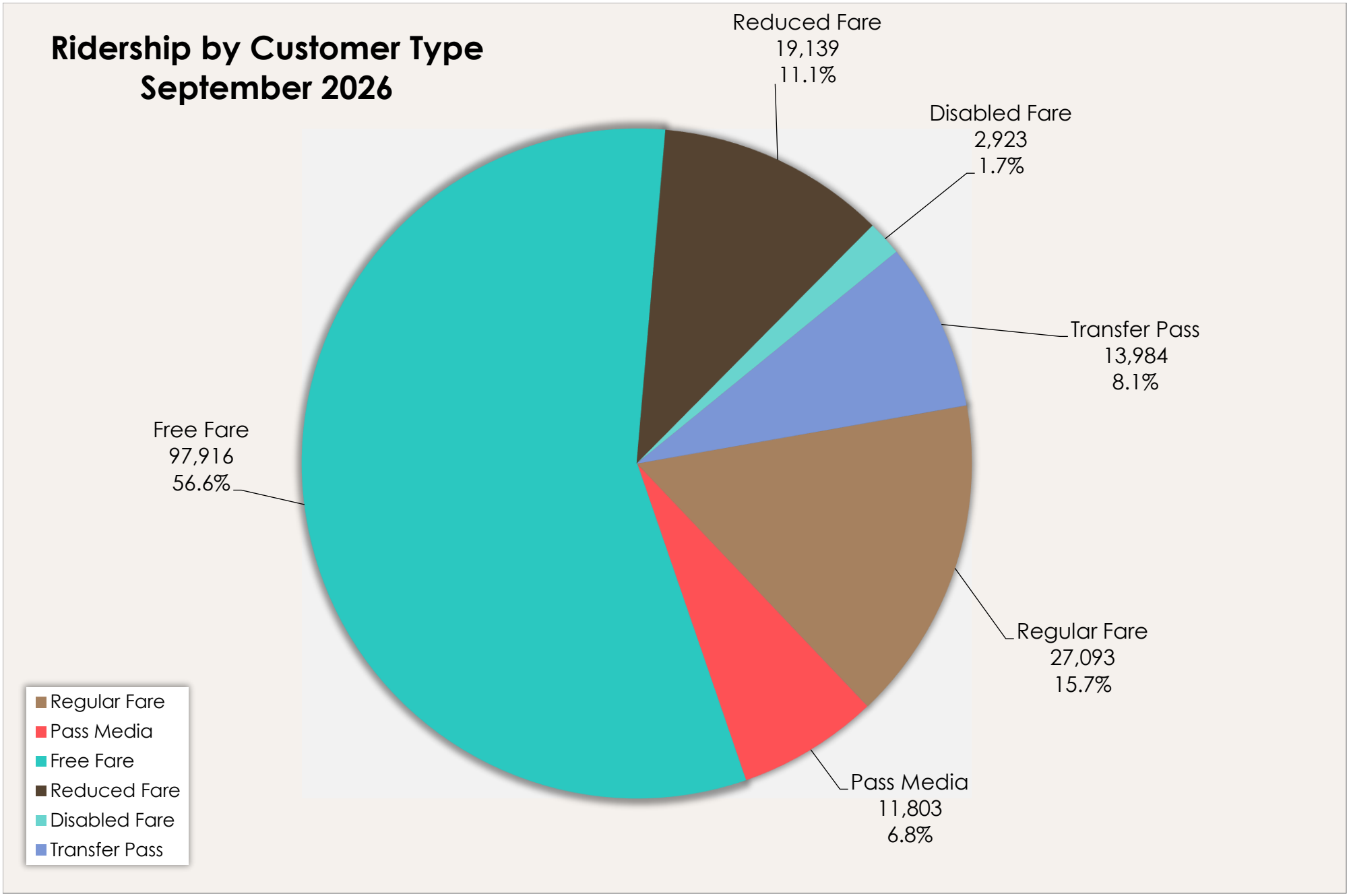
Ridership by Fare Type
September 2026



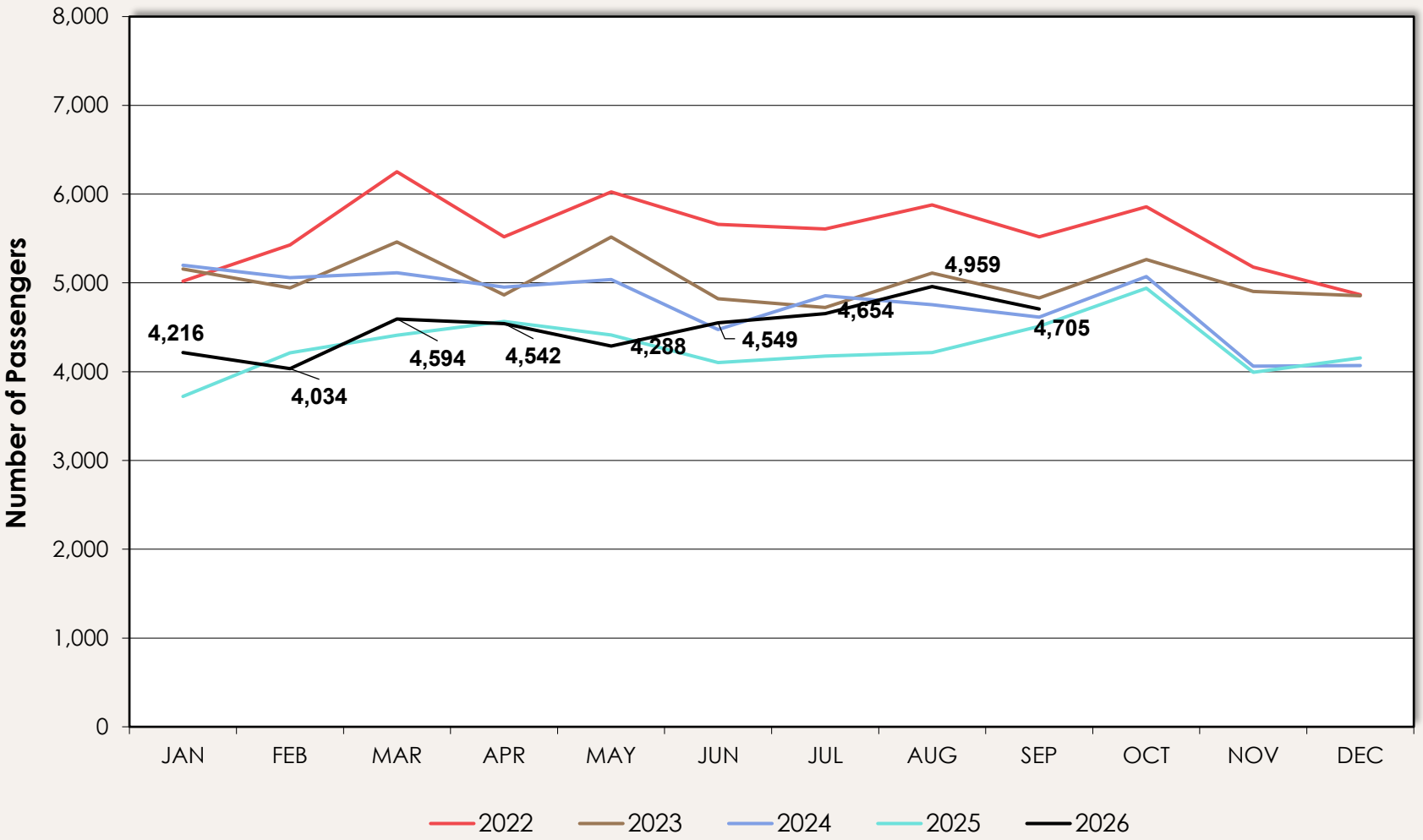
Pass Use by Type
September 2026

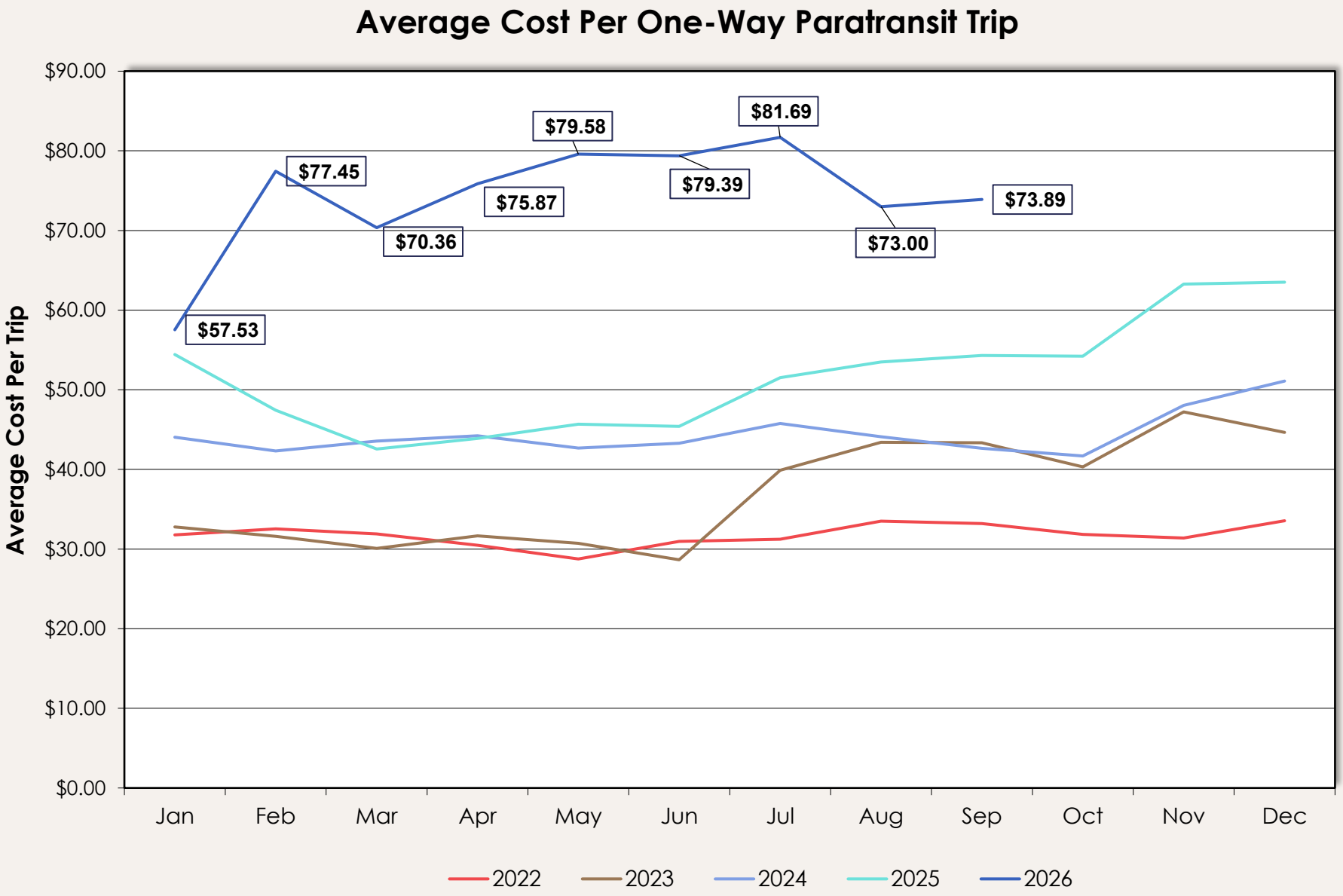


Ridership by Customer Type
September 2026



Ridership – Tel-A-Ride



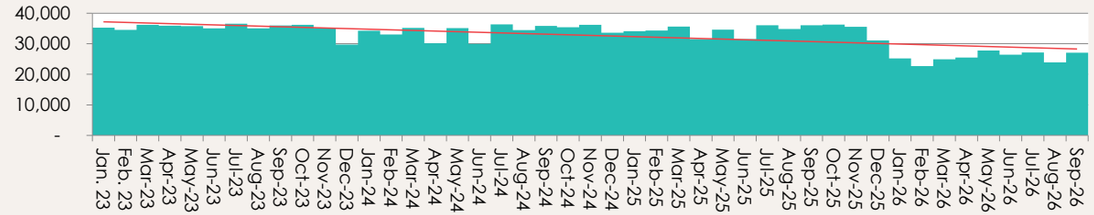

Average Cost Per One-Way Paratransit Trip
Average Cost Per Trip
$90.00
$80.00
$70.00
$60.00
$50.00
$40.00
$30.00
$20.00
$10.00
$0.00
$57.53
$77.45
$70.36
$75.87
$79.58
$79.39
$81.69
$73.00
$73.89
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026

Ridership Classification for September 2026

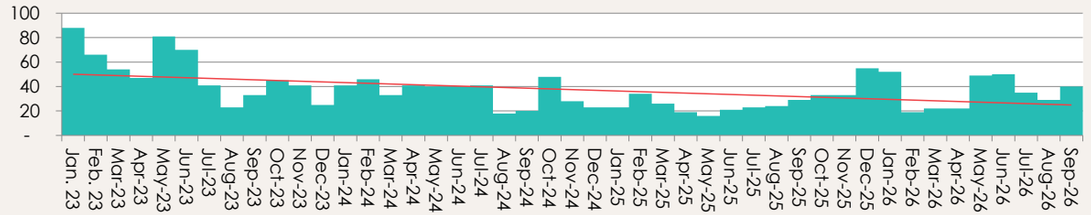
Type of Fare		
Regular Fare	27,093	11.18%
Low Income Fare	667	0.28%
Disabled Fare	2,923	1.21%
Senior Citizen Fare	18,132	7.48%
Children Under 6	506	0.21%
HOP Shuttle	0	0.00%
Beach Shuttle	82	0.00%
Free School Guard	40	0.02%
Free Route 20	12,025	4.96%
Free DASH Boardings	40,034	16.52%
Free Students K-12	6,282	2.59%
Free Other	947	0.39%
Subtotal	155,317	64.08%
Type of Pass		
1-Day Pass	1,073	0.44%
10-Ride Pass	1,610	0.66%
40-Ride Pass	809	0.33%
3-Day Pass	46	0.02%
7-Day Pass	2,221	0.92%
7-Day Express Pass	165	0.07%
31-Day Pass	5,592	2.31%
31-Day Express Pass	277	0.11%
$1.25 Low Income Ticket	0	0.00%
Student Pass	340	0.14%
1-Ride Courtesy Pass	0	0.00%
1-Ride Pass	10	0.00%
Free Transfers from TriCounty Link	0	0.00%
Free Tel-A-Ride Fixed Route	1,867	0.77%
MUSC System-Wide Boardings	29,631	12.22%
College of Charleston Boardings	7,531	3.11%
Total Passes	73,088	30.15%
Transfers		
Issued	20,519	
Transfers Used	13,984	5.77%
Wheelchair Count	427	
Total Ridership	242,389	100.00%

Classification History

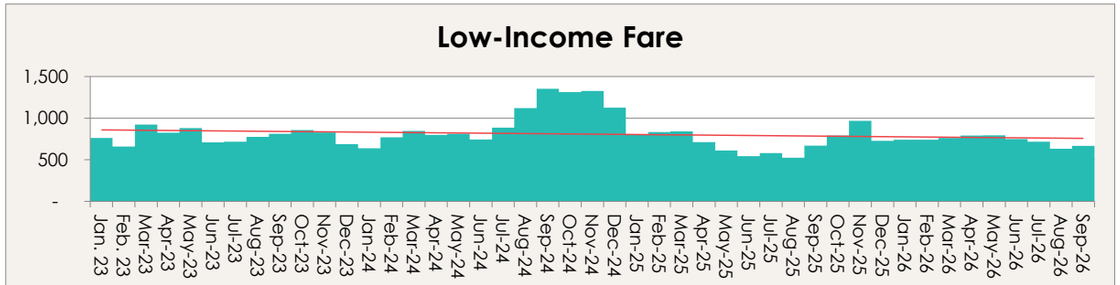
Regular Fare



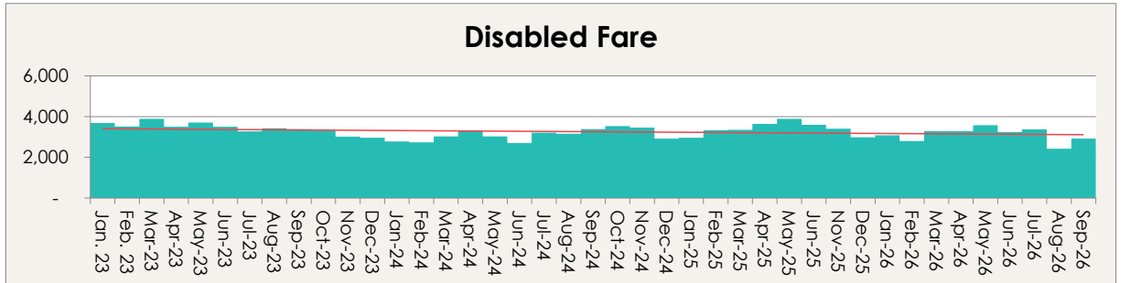
Free School Guard



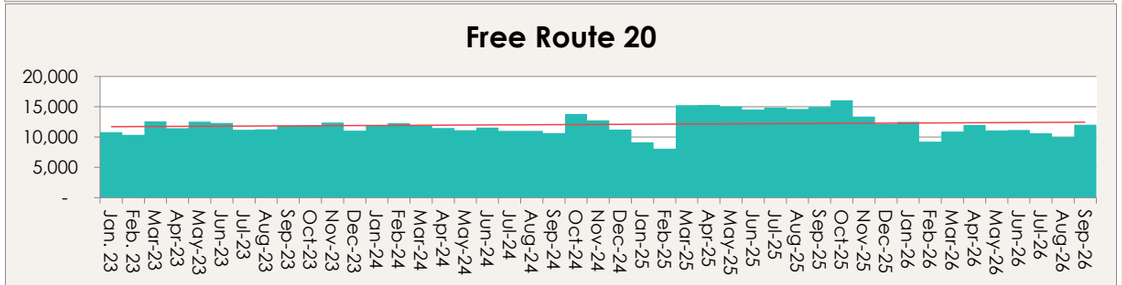
Low-Income Fare



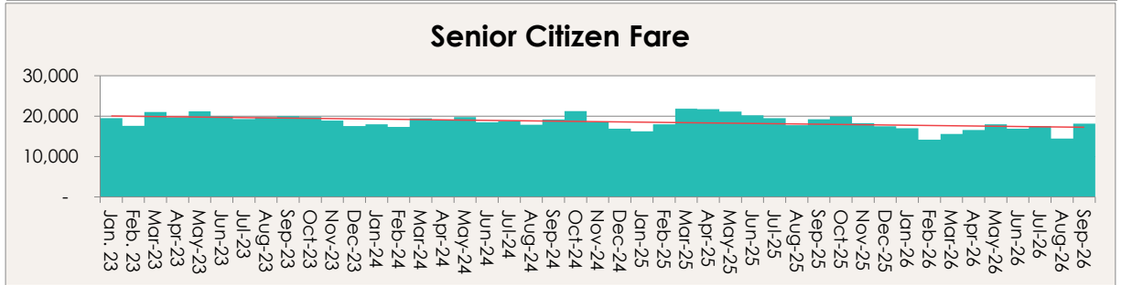
Disabled Fare



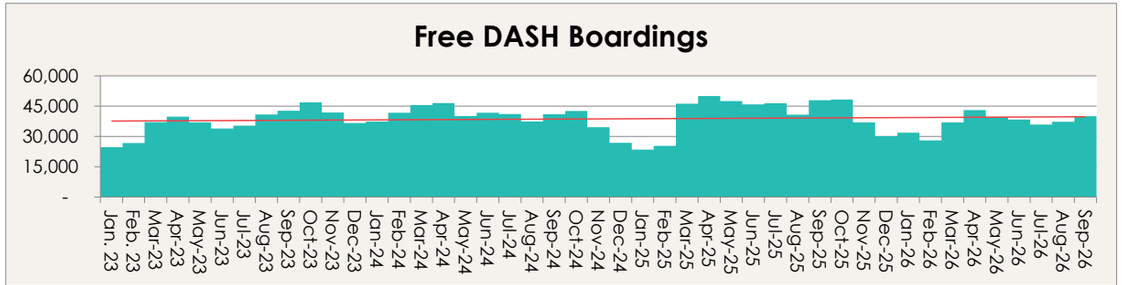
Free Route 20



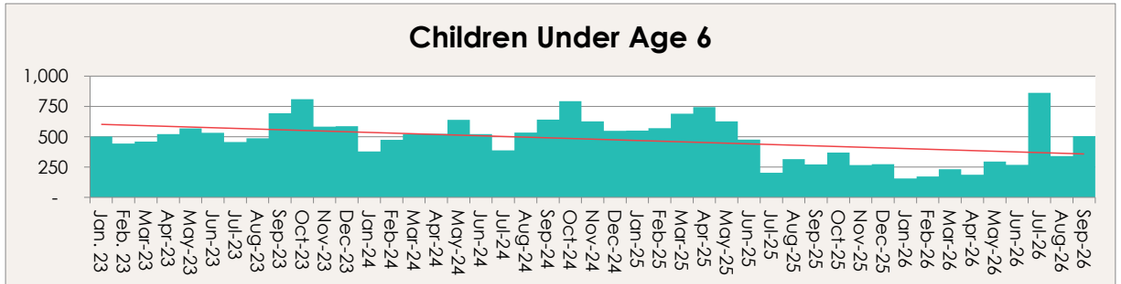
Senior Citizen Fare



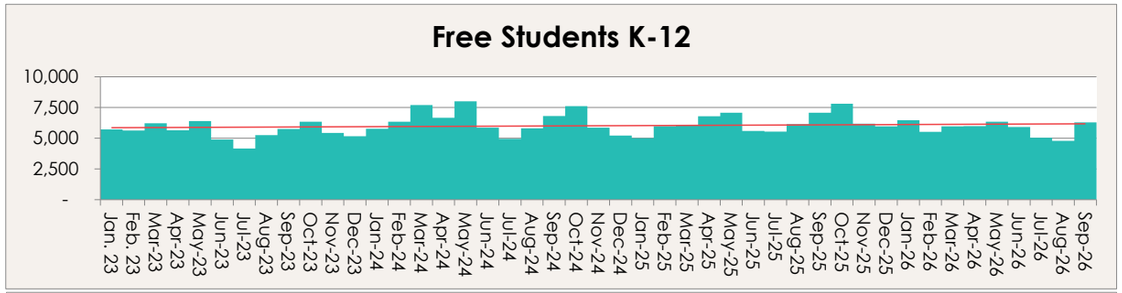
Free DASH Boardings

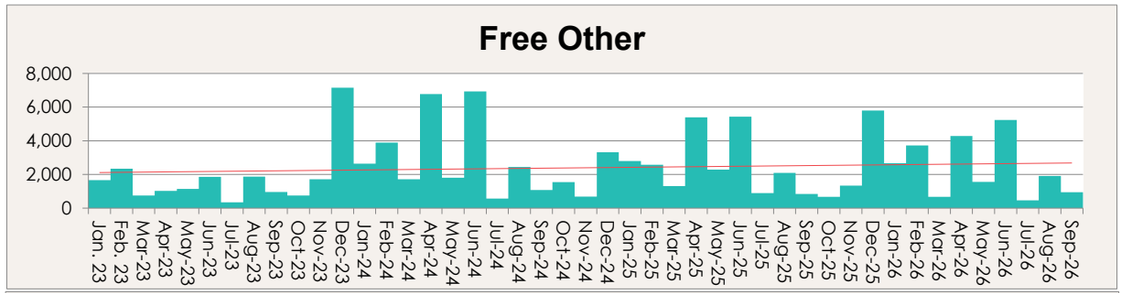


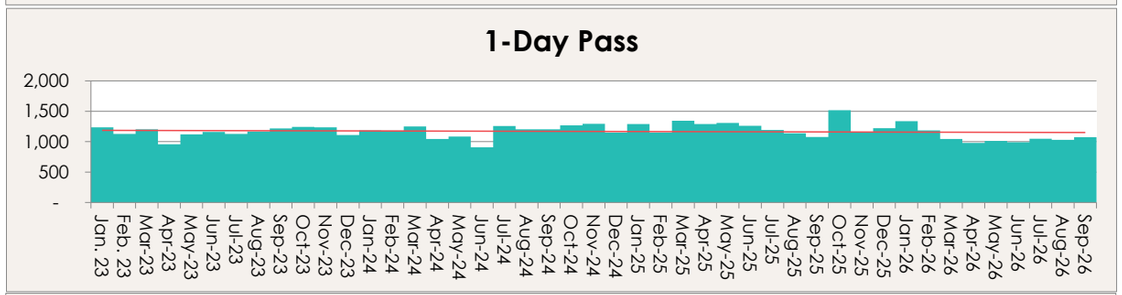
Children Under Age 6

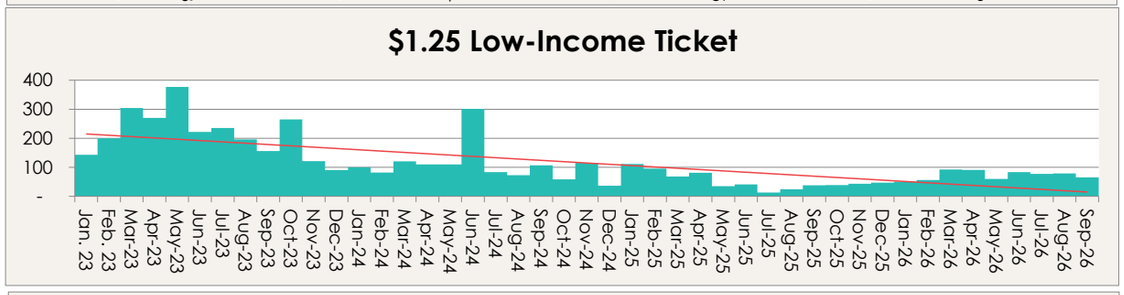


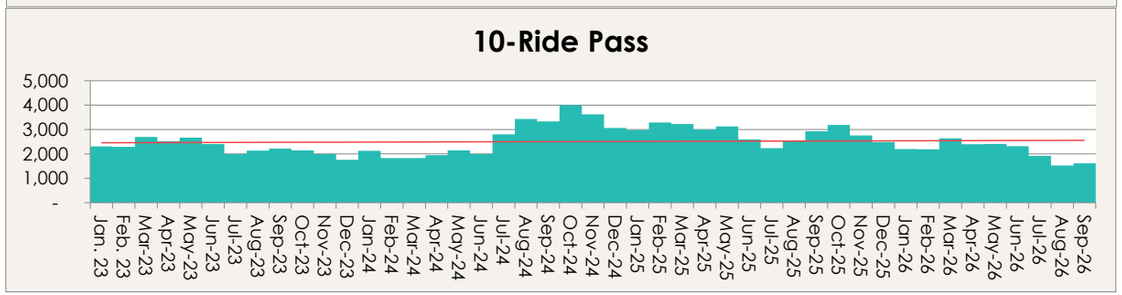
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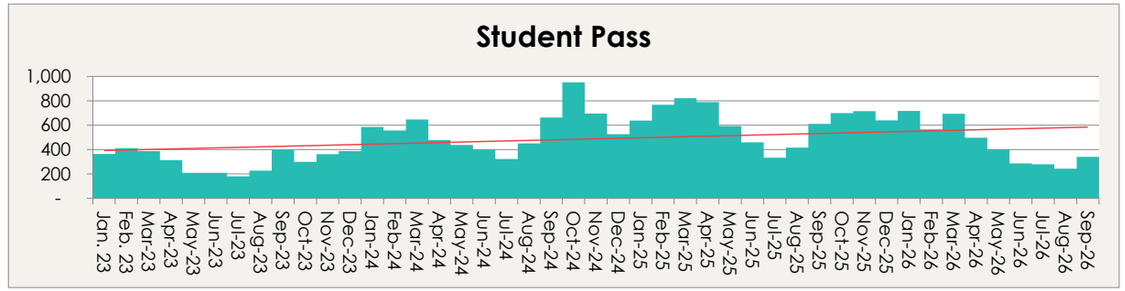


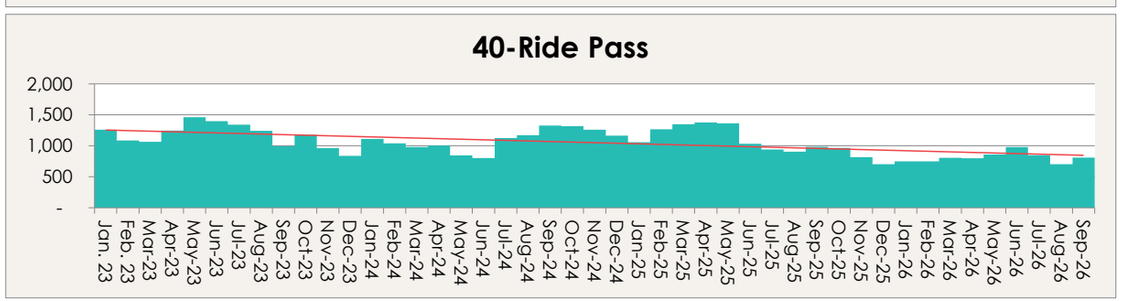


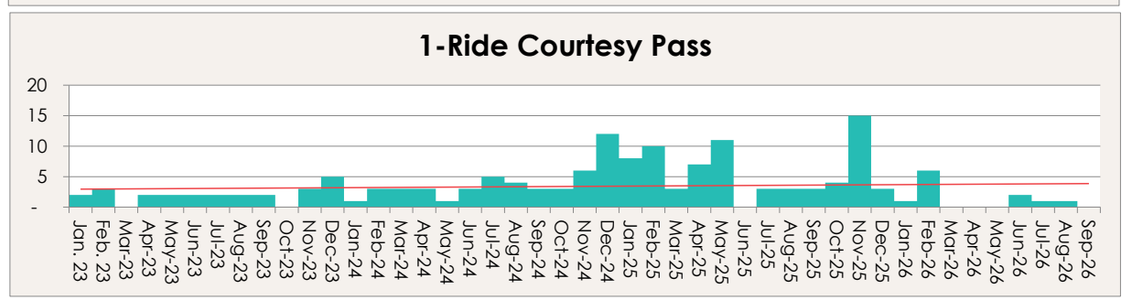






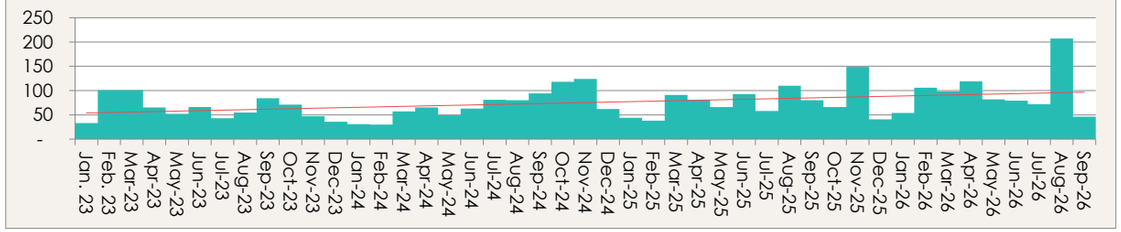




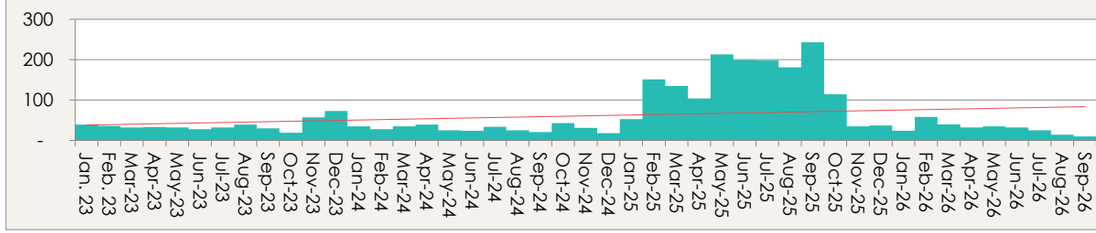


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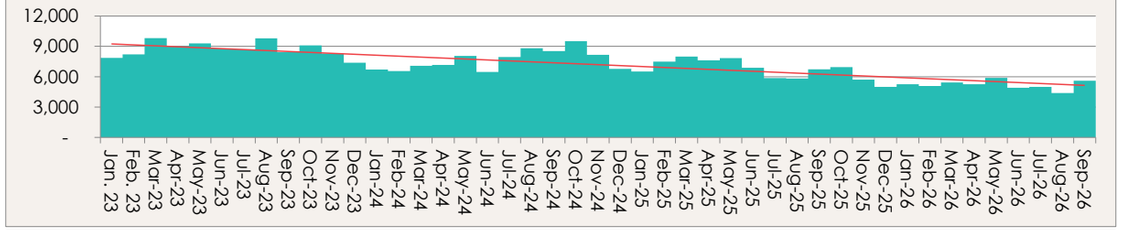
3-Day Pass



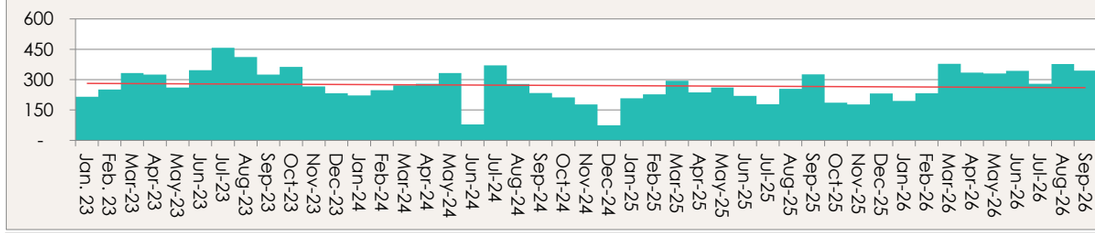
1-Ride Pass



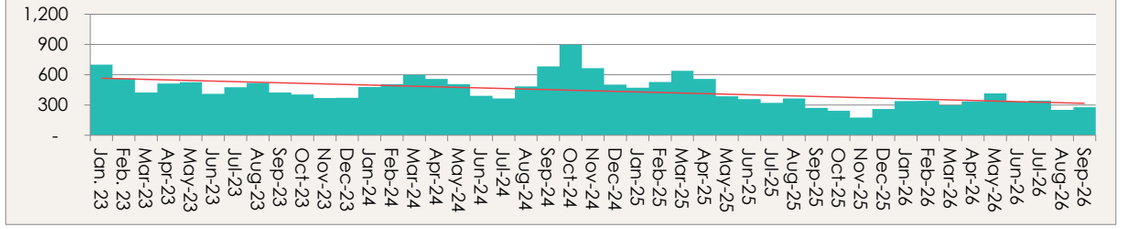
31-Day Pass



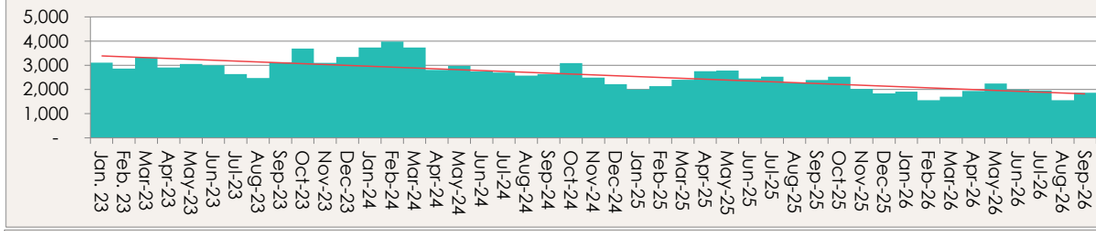
Free Transfers from TriCounty Link



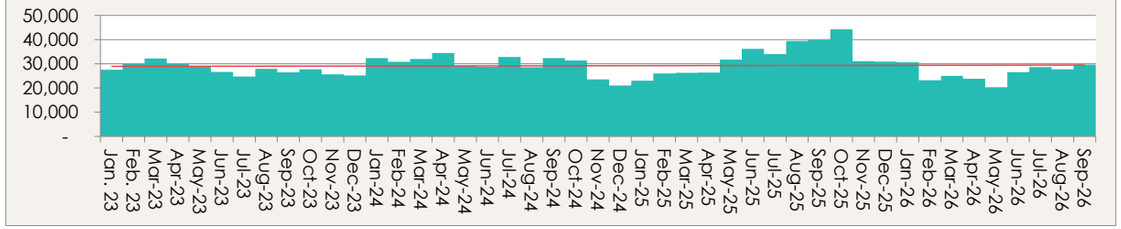
31-Day Express Pass



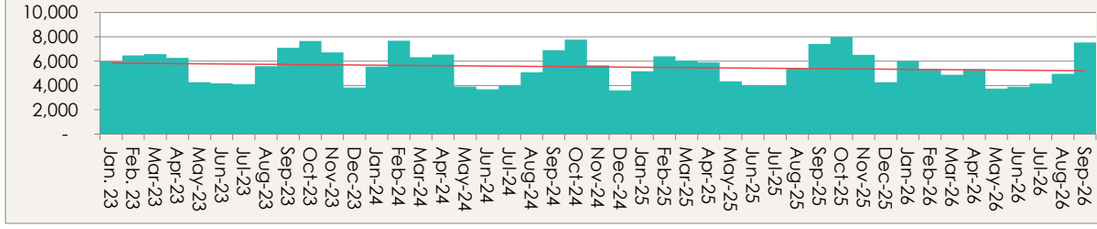
Free Tel-A-Ride Fixed Route



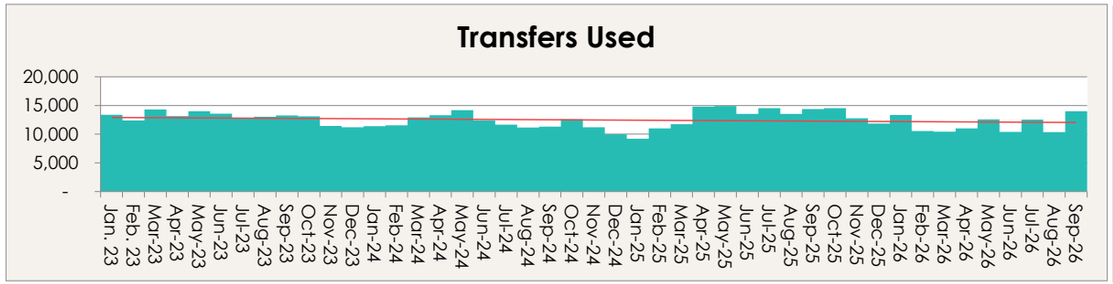
MUSC Systemwide Boardings

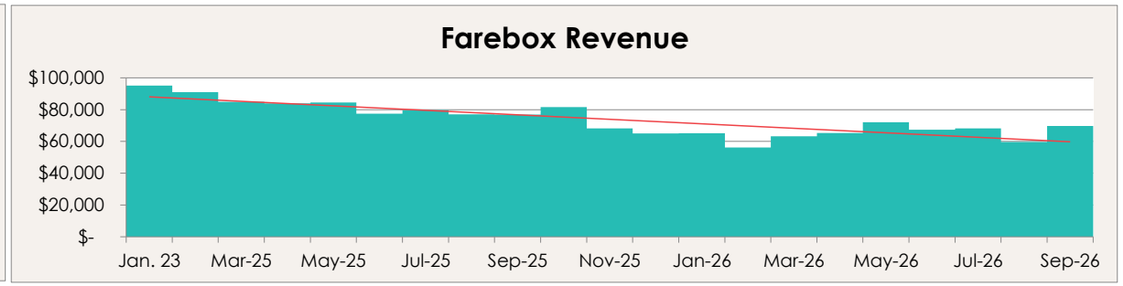


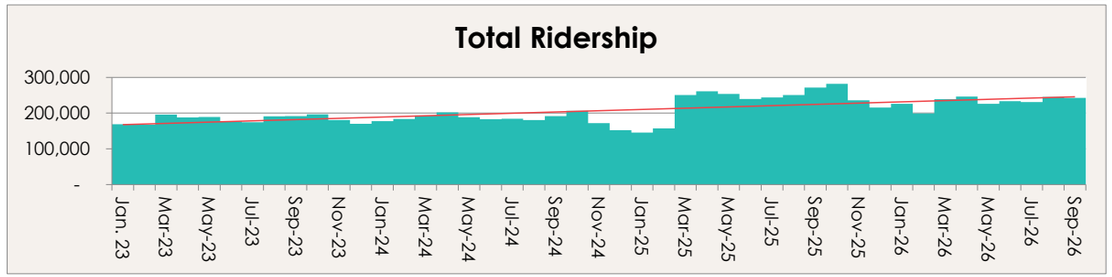
College of Charleston Boardings

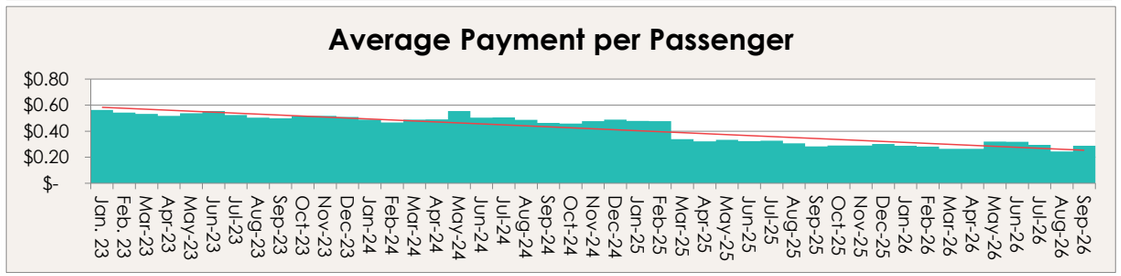


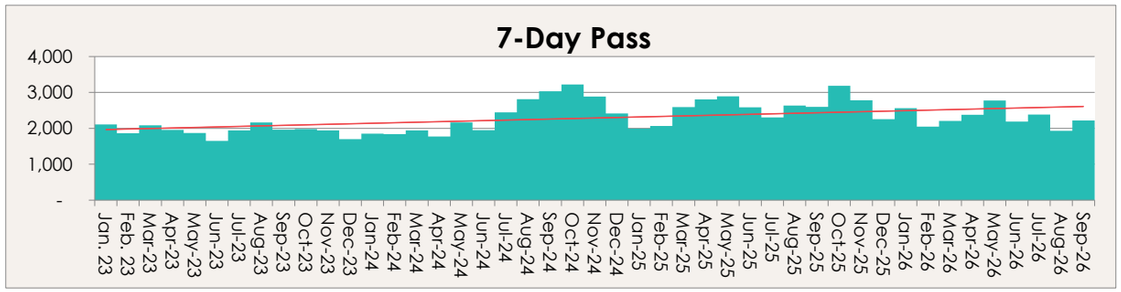
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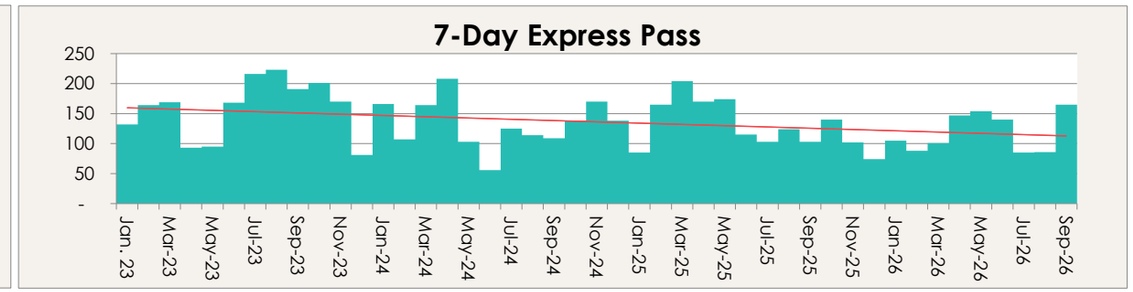


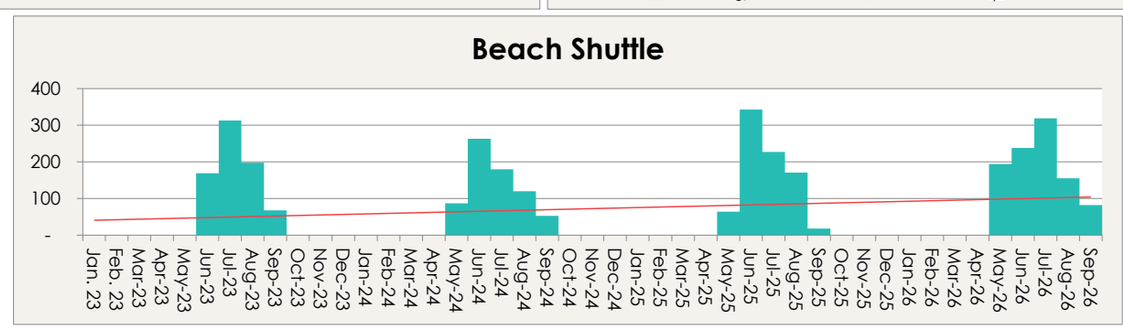




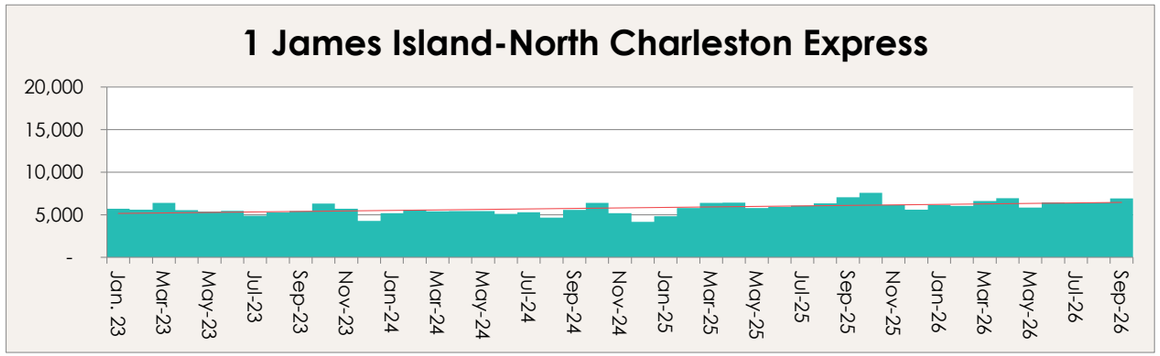


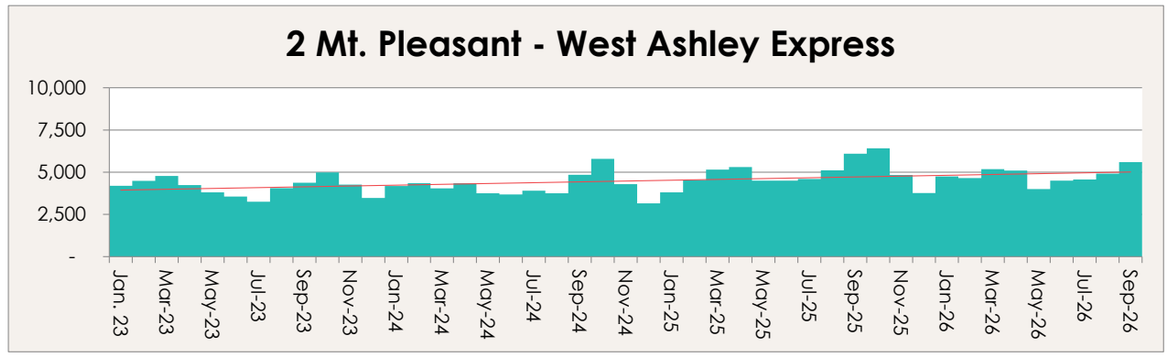


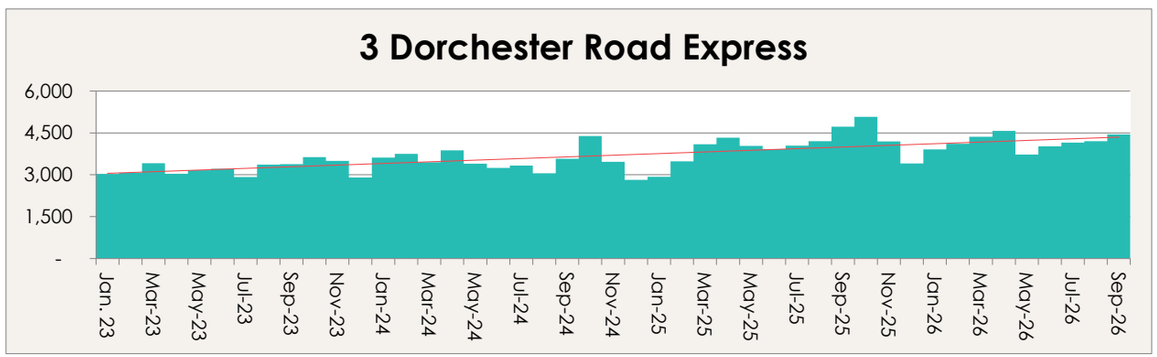


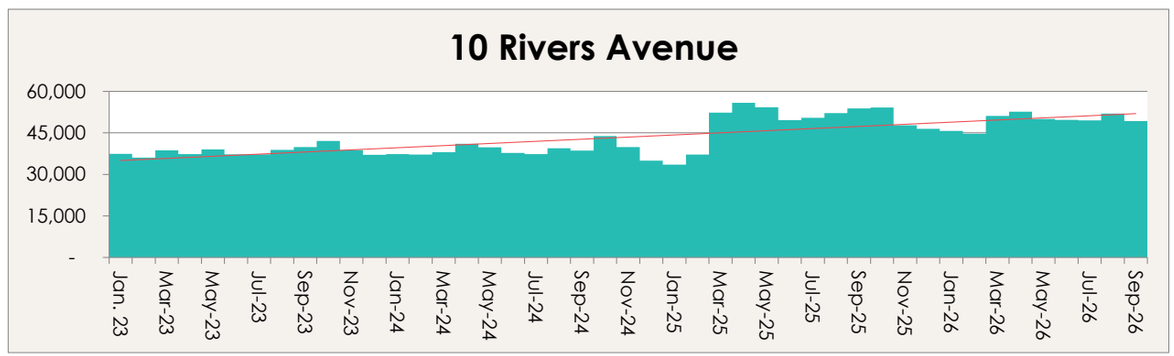


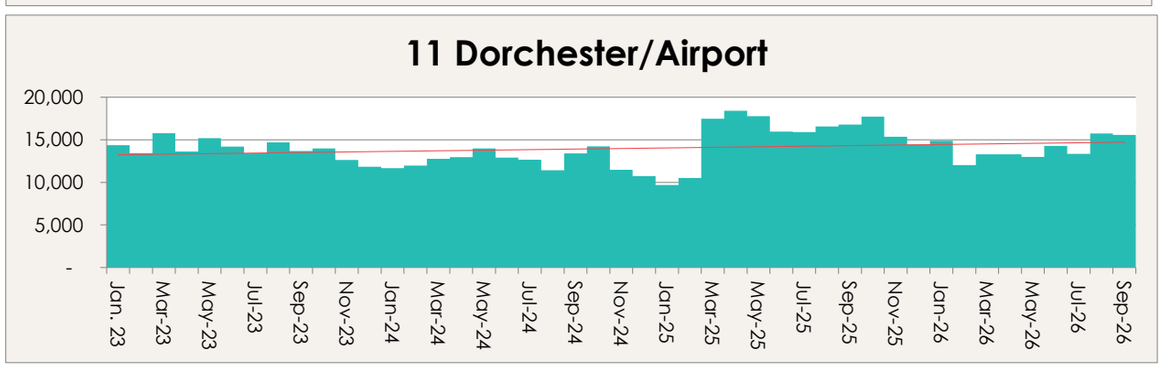
Ridership Trends by Route

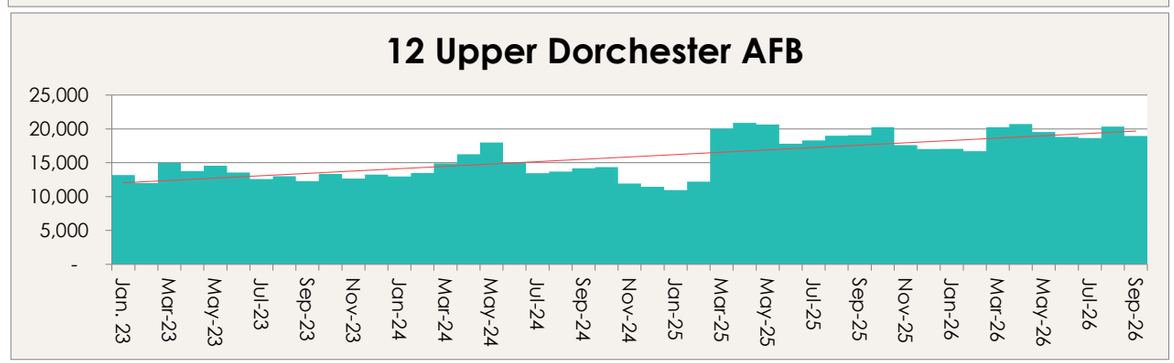




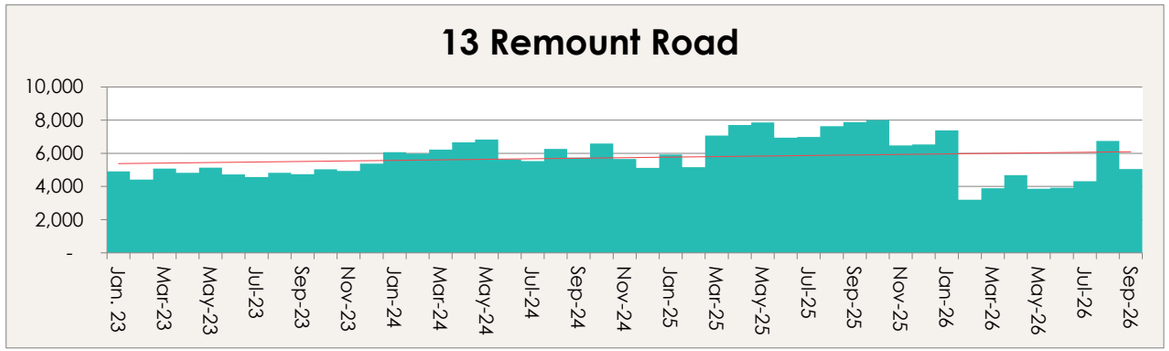


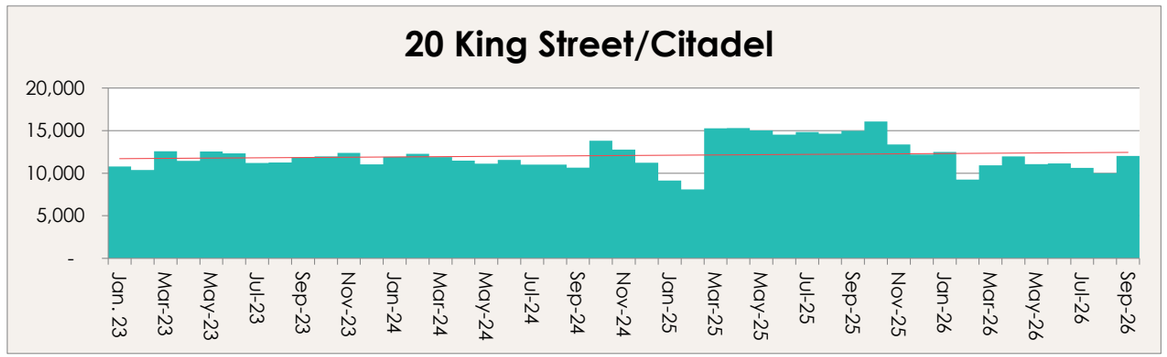


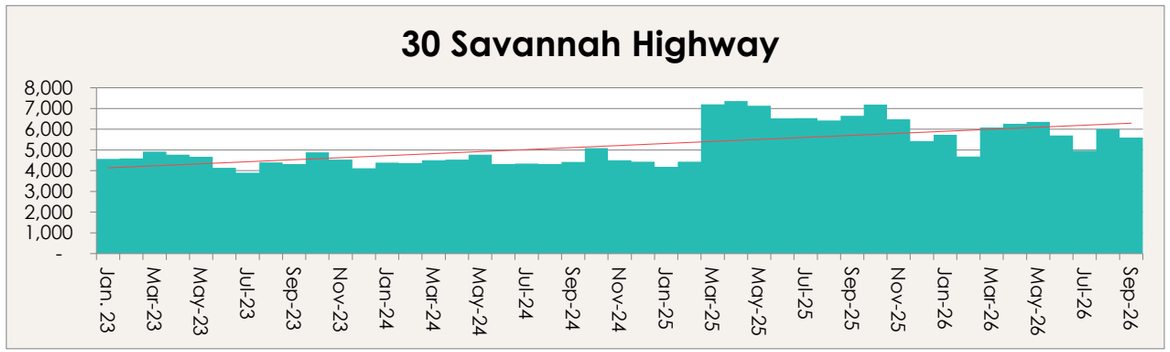


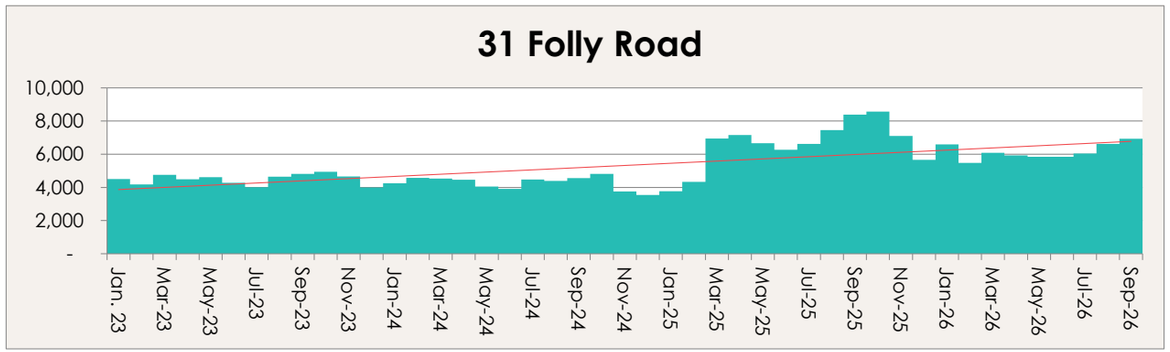


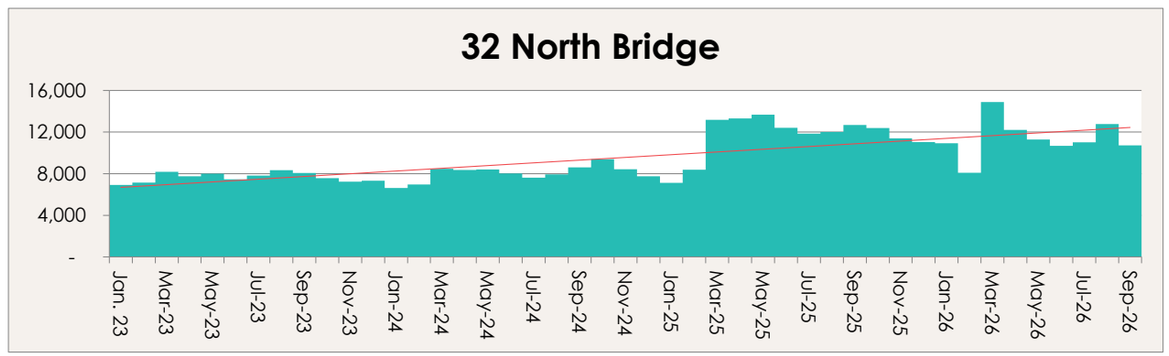
Ridership Trends by Route

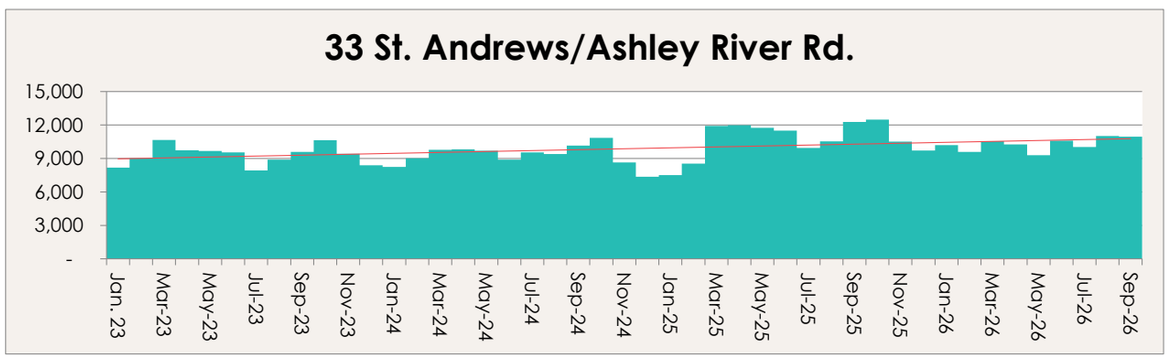




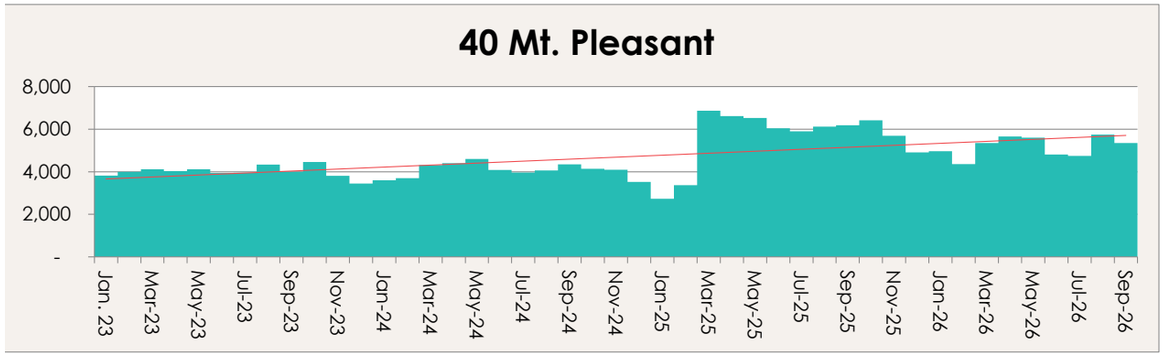


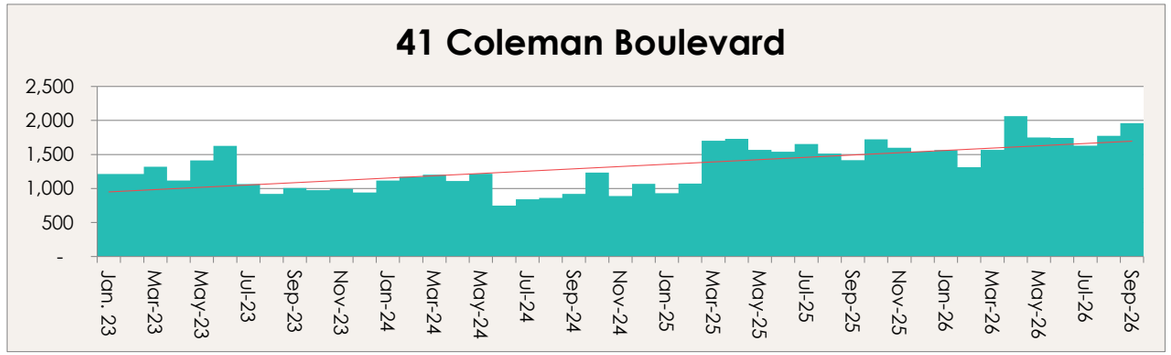


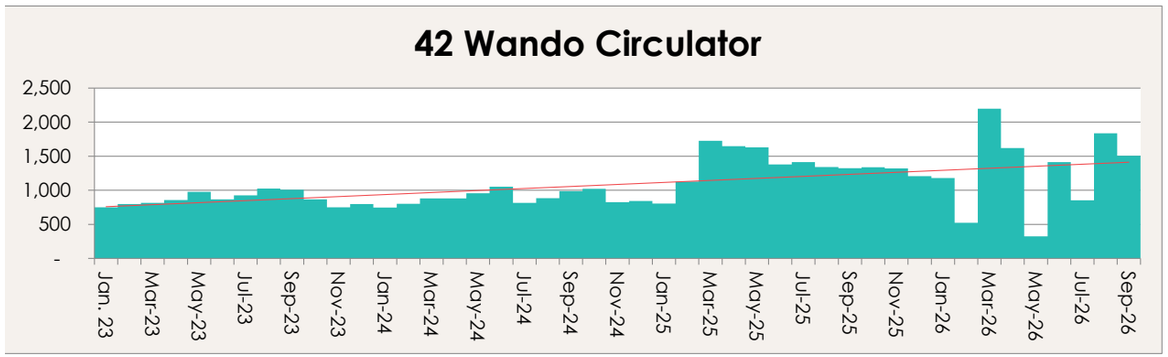


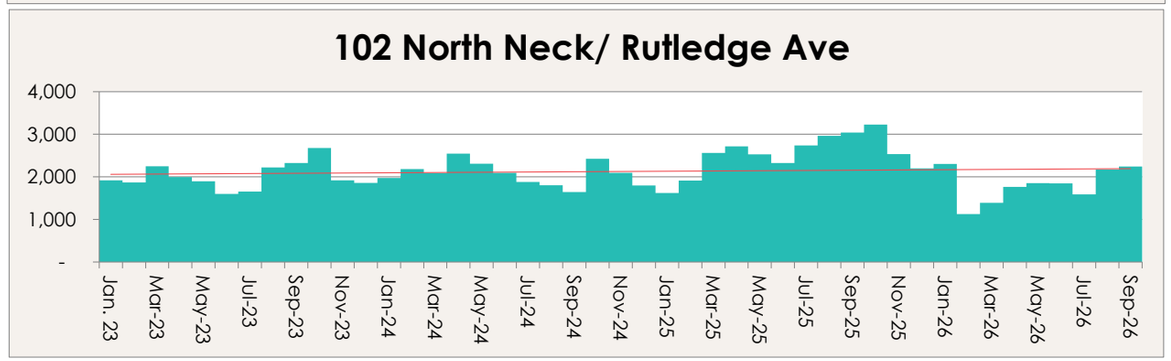


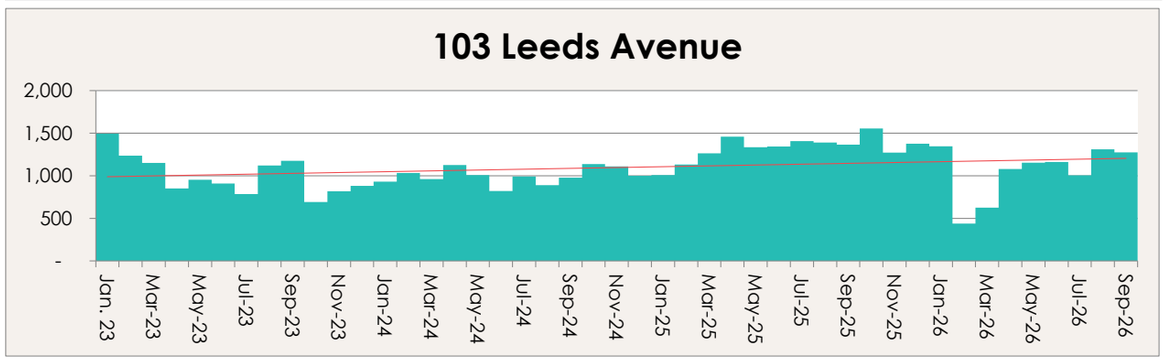
Ridership Trends by Route

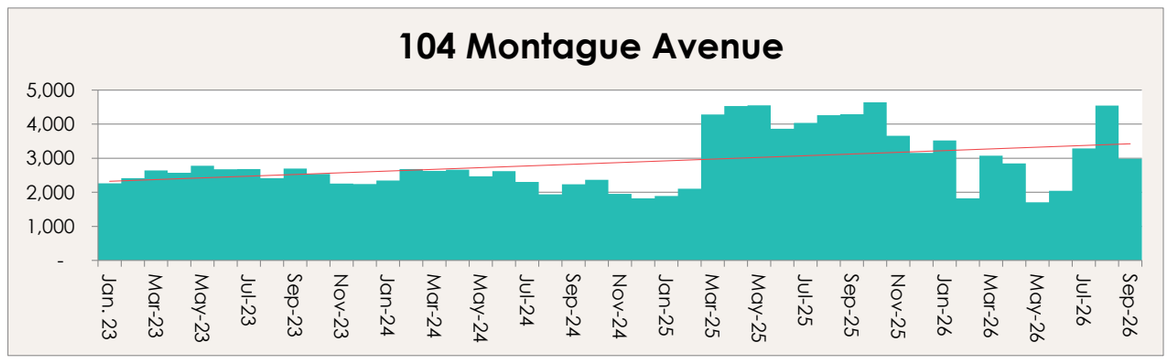




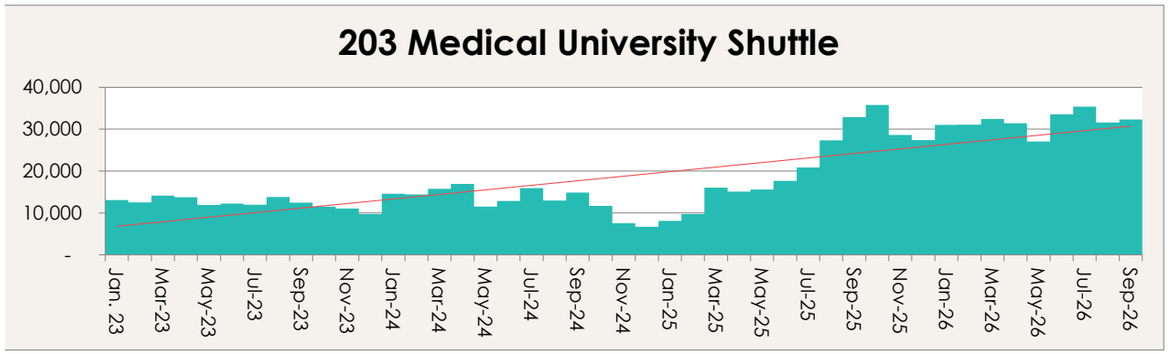


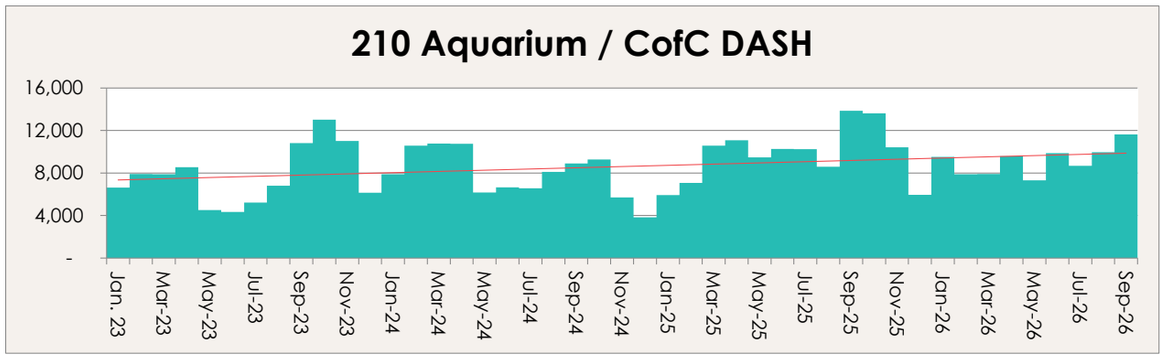


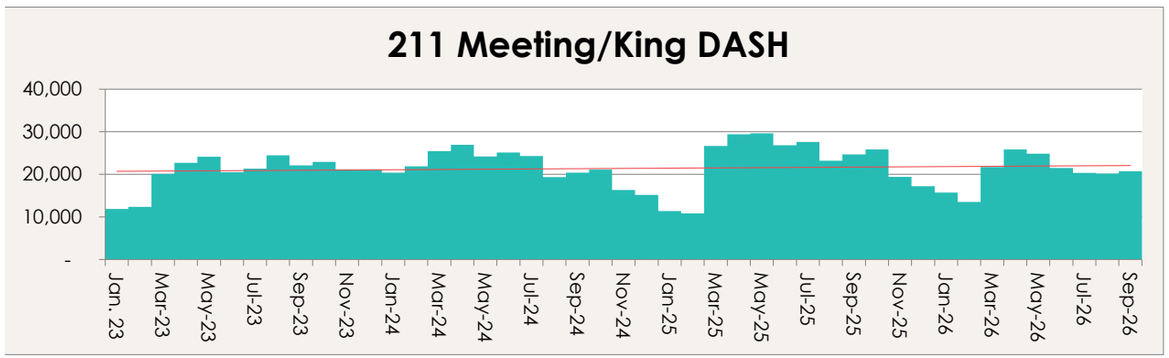


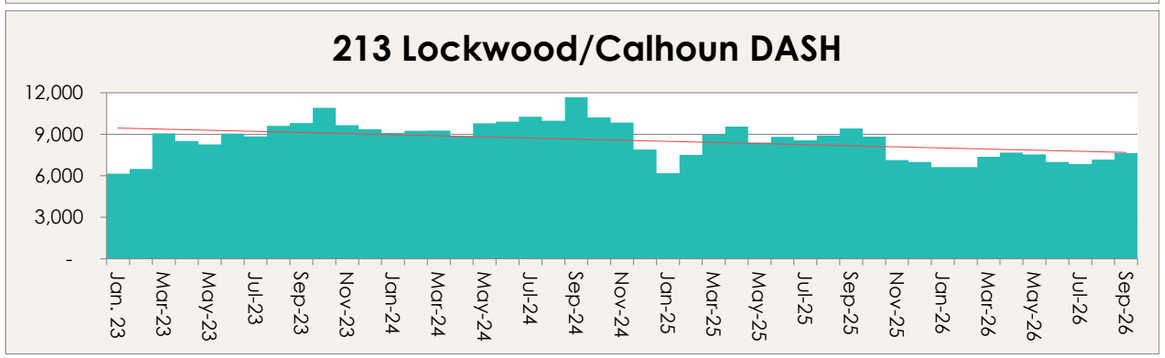


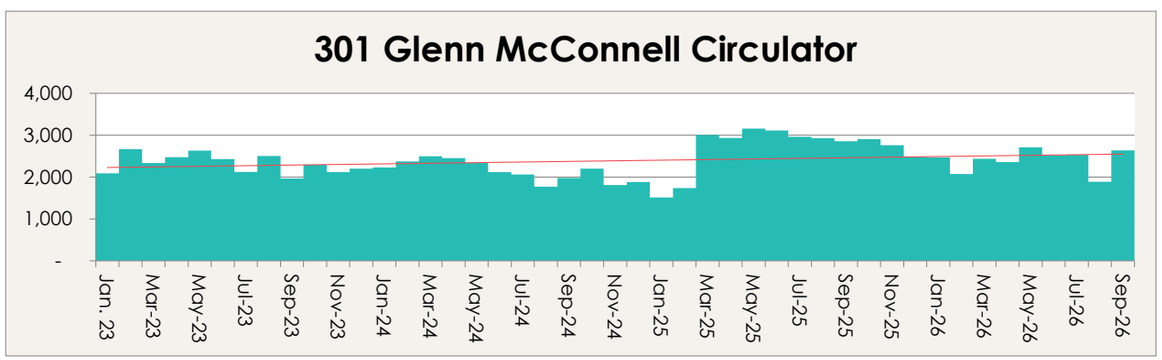
Ridership Trends by Route

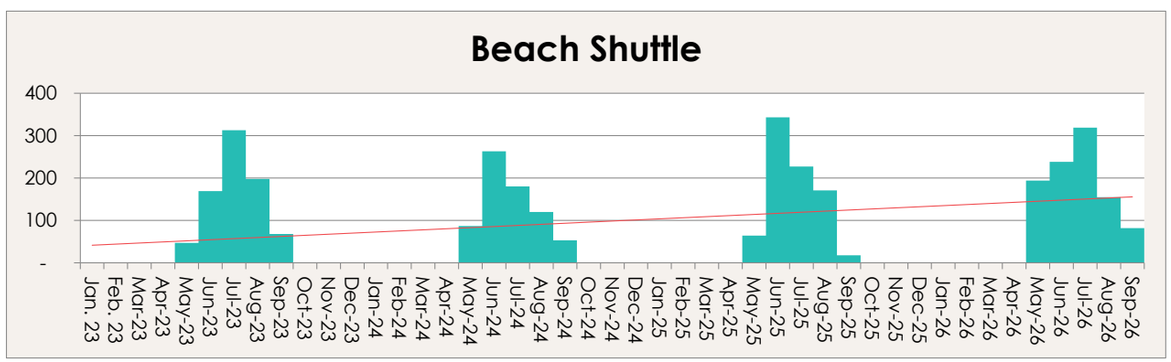




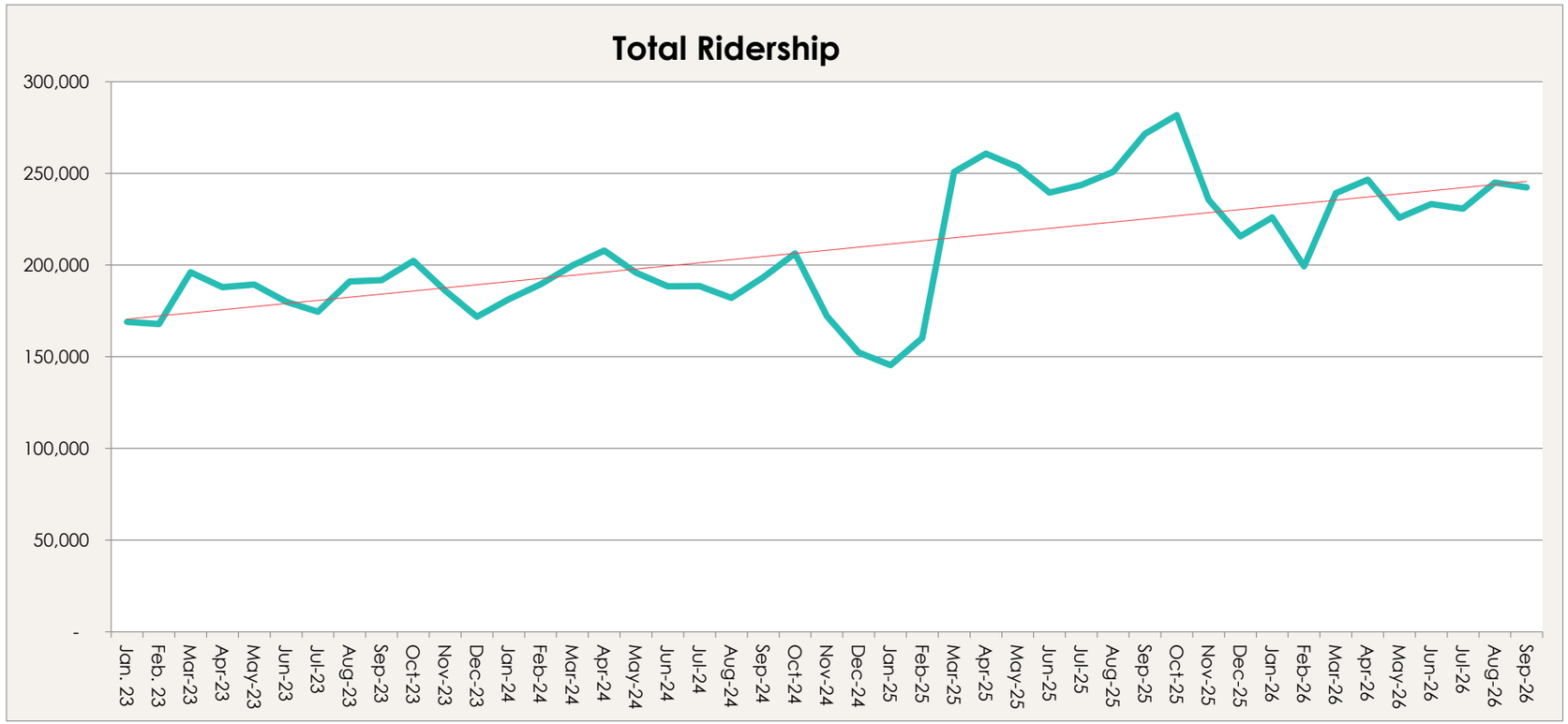








Ridership Trends by Route



Farebox and Pass Revenue History



MEMORANDUM

To: CARTA Board of Directors
From: Ronald Mitchum, Executive Director
Subject: Request for Approval – Bus Leasing
Date: October 12, 2026

Staff is requesting approval to lease up to seven (7) 35-foot Gillig low-floor buses from Votran in Volusia County, Florida, for a period of 12 months.

The buses would supplement CARTA's existing fleet and help improve vehicle availability. The proposed lease rate is $3,000 per bus per month, for a total not to exceed $252,000 over the 12-month period.