

# SMART

SOUTH METRO AREA

REGIONAL TRANSIT

## DECEMBER

## 2023 REPORT

Transit/Fleet



“No change of circumstances can repair a defect of character.” The profound words of Ralph Waldo Emerson. So what exactly is character? Merriam-Webster defines character this way – “The complex of mental and ethical traits marking and often individualizing a person, group, or nation.” Dr. King believed that we should live in a world where we are all judged by the content of our character. It does appear that Emerson and King agreed that character really does count. If this is indeed the case, why then do so many of us play loose and light with this precious attribute? In my most humble opinion, the answer may rest with our ever-evolving moral relativisms and/or ethical relativisms. We live in a world where many have come to believe that there is nothing absolutely wrong nor is there anything absolutely right. We look to others to determine good and bad, right and wrong. We protect ourselves by taking the position that if the majority of people are engaged in something, it must be good, which would make the adverse true as well. Too many of us are willing to sacrifice our character for what we perceive as the greater good; the path of least resistance. I believe as Eleanor Roosevelt believed – “People grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built.”

**Dwight Brashear**  
Transit Director

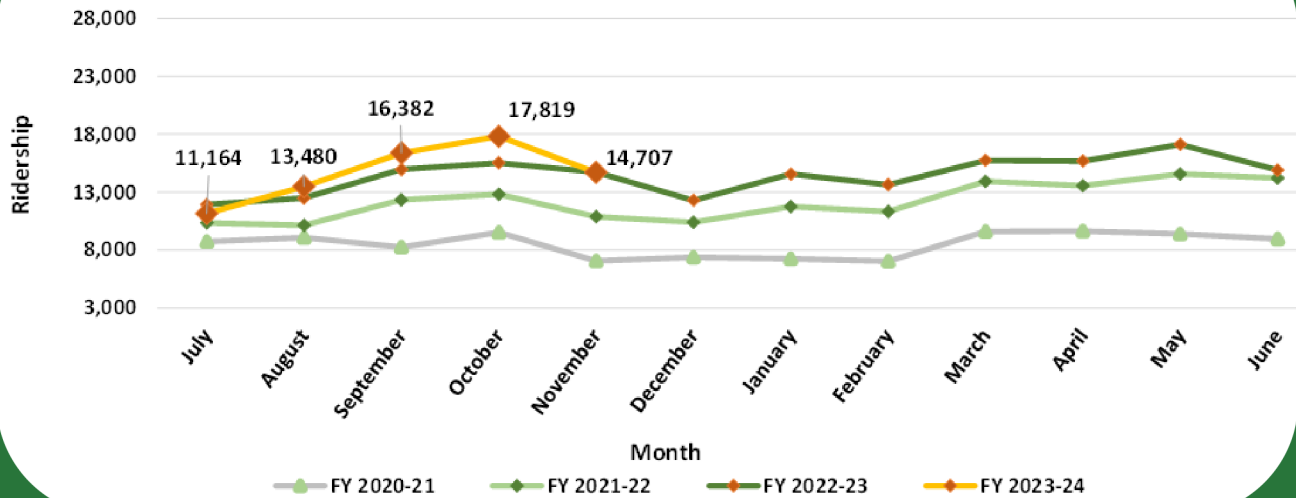


DECEMBER 2023 | PAGE 2

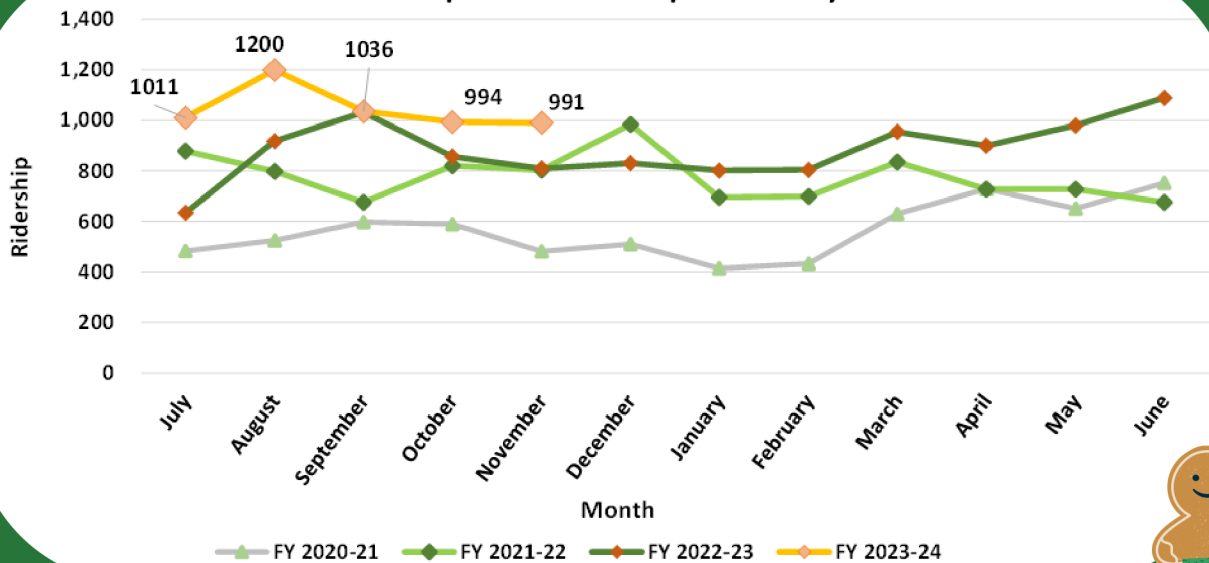
# RIDERSHIP TRENDS

Anne MacCracken

Fixed Route Ridership Trends by Month



Demand Response Ridership Trends by Month



# GRANTS & PROGRAMS

*Kelsey Lewis*

This December I attended trainings on federal procurement and several ODOT trainings on grant management, financial management, and procurement related to our state funding. While this is not the most exciting material, it is helpful and necessary to keep our grant programs running smoothly. We also participated in the City-wide records clean-up day by reviewing and destructing many grant files that have met their retention schedule and retiring old event signage from our warehouse space.

## FLEET SERVICES

*Scott Simonton*

We recently purchased new equipment to help Public Works crews better handle tree removal tasks. A hydraulically operated log splitter arrived in early December, and has been installed and tested. This equipment will allow an operator to split logs into halves or quarters, depending on size and need. The splitter attaches to our existing Bobcat utility vehicle, and will increase the speed, as well as the safety of tree removal projects.



# COMMUTE OPTIONS

Michelle Marston

During December, efforts were focused on utilizing our edisplays with static messages on the *Info* button.

Display units now have active transportation programs advertised as we move through different dates of the year.

In addition, this gives us another method to let the riding public know about holiday closures or any potential road closures that may effect service. Shown are the ereader displays of holiday closures & other connecting transit provider closures.

## Happy Holidays!

### Dec 25 - Christmas Day

- SMART No Service
- TriMet buses on Sunday Schedule
- WES No Service
- Cherriots No Service
- Canby CAT No Service

### Jan 1 - New Years Day

- SMART No Service
- TriMet buses on Sunday Schedule
- WES No Service
- Cherriots No Service
- Canby CAT No Service

## Felices Fiestas!

### 25 de diciembre - Navidad

- SMART Sin servicio
- Caminoes TriMet en horario del domingo
- WES Sin servicio
- Cherriots Sin Servicio
- Canby CAT Sin servicio

### 1 de enero - Año Nuevo

- SMART Sin servicio
- Caminoes TriMet en horario del domingo
- WES Sin servicio
- Cherriots Sin Servicio
- Canby CAT Sin servicio

# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

*Patty Tiburcio*



Northwest Housing Alternatives and SMART staff continue to lead the Walking School Bus (WSB) during the winter.

The Walking School Bus from Autumn Park Apartments to Boones Ferry Primary started at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. Whether it's rainy or foggy, the WSB "keeps on stepping" every Wednesday while school is in session.