



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Metropolitan Planning • Public Transportation & Operations • Engineering & Construction

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Washoe County, Nevada

MEETING DATE: July 16, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 4.4

From: Mark Maloney, Director of Public Transportation and Operations

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Public Transportation and Operations Activity Report.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Highlights

RTC to Receive Low No Emissions Program Funding – The Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County will receive \$6,488,000 in funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to purchase hydrogen fuel cell-electric buses and construct a hydrogen fueling facility to improve service reliability and air quality for residents in the Reno-Sparks metropolitan area. The project also supports RTC's efforts to transition its aging diesel bus fleet to zero emission vehicles to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in an area where ozone levels currently exceed air quality targets.

RTC Washoe-Uber Rides Pilot Program Update – On August 2020, the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) entered into an agreement with Uber for a one-year pilot program to provide Reno-Sparks rider's greater flexibility and more options for their transportation needs. The RTC Washoe-Uber Rides pilot transportation program was modeled after the existing RTC Washoe Senior Ride program but instead of taxis, RTC partnered with Uber. Through this program, RTC subsidizes 75% of the fare (up to \$9) for trips on Uber that start and end in the Reno-Sparks area. Given the pilot program was launched during the pandemic, registering individuals to sign-up and join the program proved to be challenging. As of June 2021, 39 individuals have enrolled in the pilot program and approximately 288 trips have been made. This is an average of 7 trips per rider. Beginning July 1, 2021, the pilot program will be transitioning into a regular program, as RTC entered into an agreement with Uber for three years.

RTC RIDE Key Highlights –

- On June 16, 2021, a fire causing 580 & 395 to close, affected the Regional Connector service. Keolis was able to salvage service and transport passengers safely to and from Carson City with minimal delay and impact via an alternate route.
- Hired a new Manager On Duty (MOD) and two new dispatchers and a road supervisors.
- The shop technicians completed BAE Systems training on the New Flyer hybrid buses.

- Keolis celebrated Safety Week June 14th-18th. The Theme of the week was BE PRESENT. BE FOCUSED. BE SAFE. Physical and psychological safety play an important role in our relationships with our Keolis team members and with our ability to bring our safest, most productive, best selves to work every day. During safety week the Keolis staff were able to enjoy the following activities:
 - Games including a Safety Word Search and a Scavenger Hunt for prizes, drinks and sweet treats were provided daily with safety messages attached.
 - Lessons learned on how to Develop a Safety Culture:
 - Defensive Driving Awareness (Flyers passed out/safety messages broadcast to all drivers); prevention of on the job injuries, including proper bending at the knees; security of facility and vehicles; know who belongs on the bus and property and who does not; vehicle safety overview before repair and before leaving the repair shop
 - The week wrapped up with ice cream and a random drawing for two grand prizes for the Safety Word Search entries.
- In honor of our Keolis Mothers and Fathers, Keolis hosted an employee luncheon for “Parent’s Day” where pizza and a variety of drinks and desserts were shared with all of our Keolis parents and staff at both the Villanova and 4th Street Station locations.



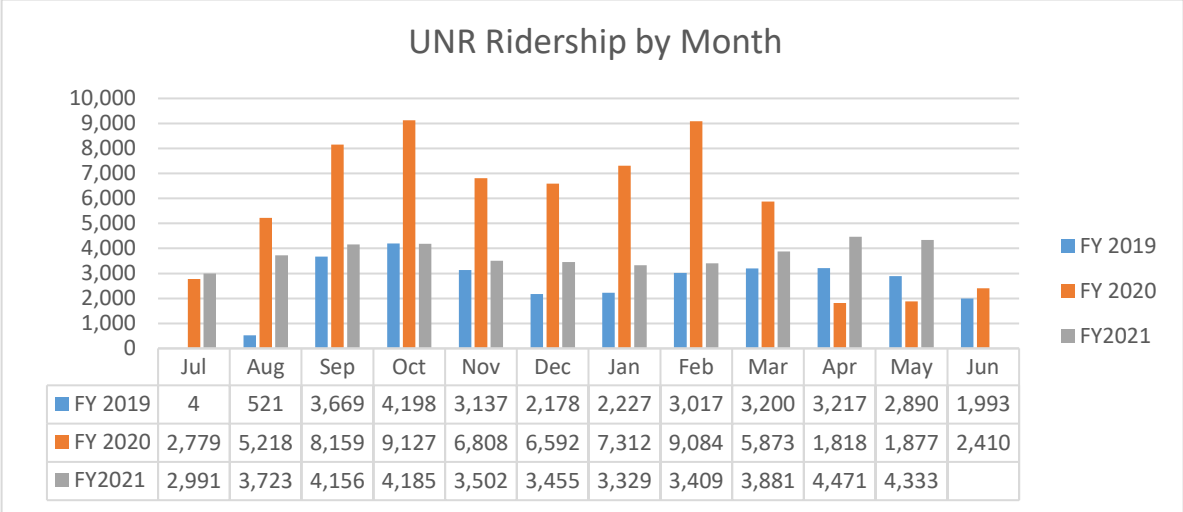
RTC ACCESS Key Highlights -

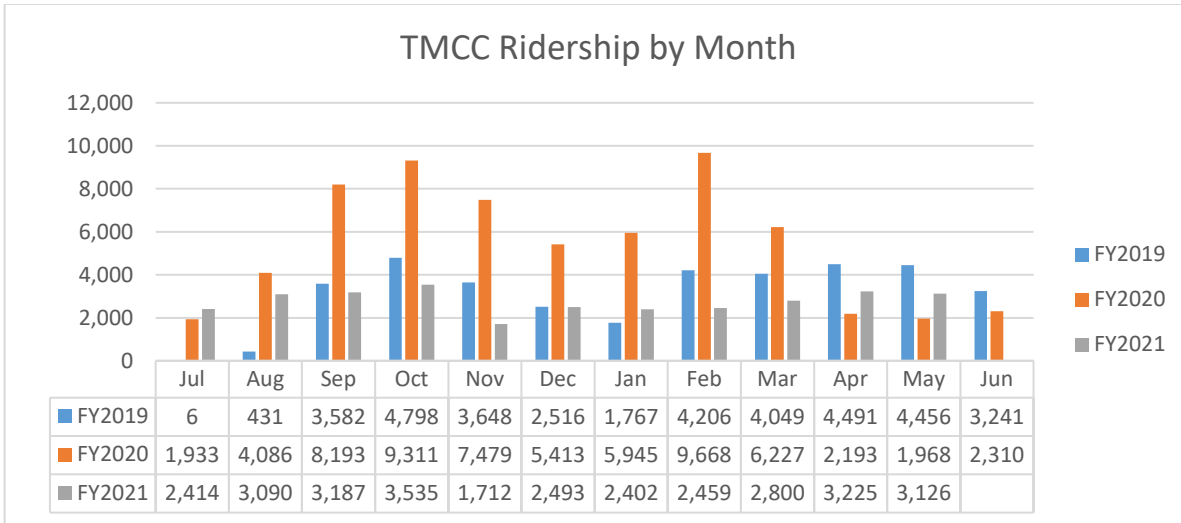
- Achieved 129 days – Accident Free
- RTC FlexRIDE Incline/Tahoe demonstration service has been doing great.
 - The service has had a lot of positive feedback.
 - As of June 23, 75 boardings were completed.
- Token Transit validators were installed on all RTC ACCESS vehicles.
- MTM is hiring, and offering a \$1,000 sign on bonus (\$500 paid after 45 days and another \$500 paid upon 90 days for new employees.)
- Existing employees are eligible to receive \$500 for referring new employees who make it to their 90 days.
- With the social distancing requirements lifted, MTM was able to conduct Safety training in its courtyard. June training focused on:
 - Blood borne Pathogens
 - Treat all blood and bodily fluids as if they are contaminated
 - Use proper PPE
 - Properly clean up and decontaminate
 - Dispose of all contaminated material in the proper manner



TRANSIT DEMAND MANAGEMENT (TDM) Update

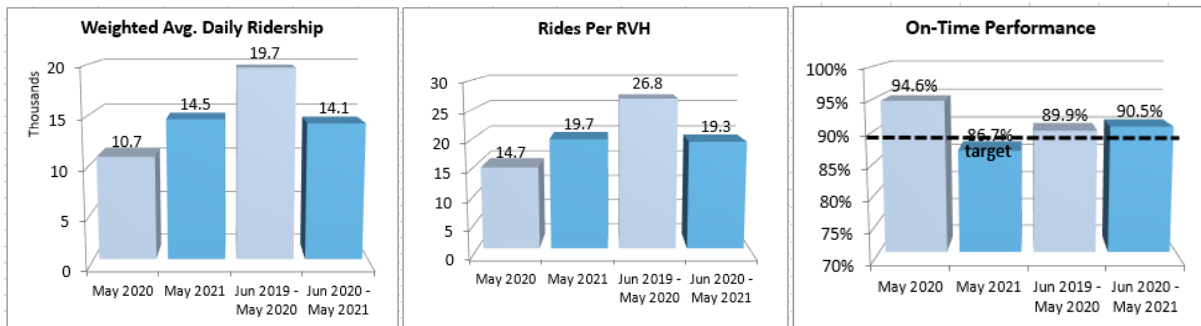
- Vanpools increased to 265 from 255 with over 190 of those serving the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center (TRIC). Vans are still running to the Army depot, the prisons and Air National Guard. Tesla continues operations with Covid-19 precautions. We are working with several companies who could join the vanpool program this summer or fall.
- On June 7, staff met with the Sustainability team at UNR to discuss the ED Pass Program. UNR staff presented great ideas as to how to market the pass to their students and will be working with RTC’s Public Relations division on advertising for the university. Working with the university, staff will be back on campus for the fall semester hosting a table at least once per week.
- Staff met with *Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful* on June 18, and set them up with their own Smart Trips program.
- May was both Bike month and RTC’s Commuter Challenge month. Smart Trips tracked all trips and provided both groups the air quality benefits and costs savings. Bike month reduced 6,825 pounds of greenhouse gases.
- Staff continues to work with developers to include bus pass subsidy programs in redeveloped apartment complexes in Reno. Staff is also putting together packets of transportation options that are site specific for new developments that the development sales offices will provide to new home buyers.
- Ridership numbers from the ED Pass Program through May 2021:



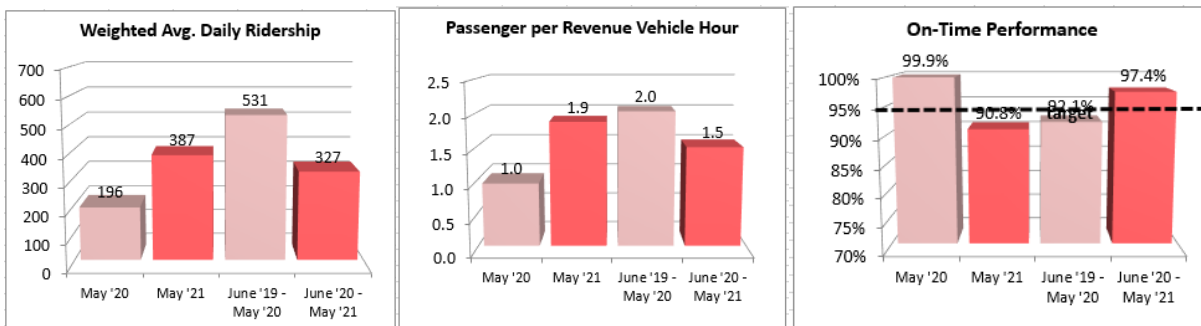


MAY 2021 TRANSIT PERFORMANCE

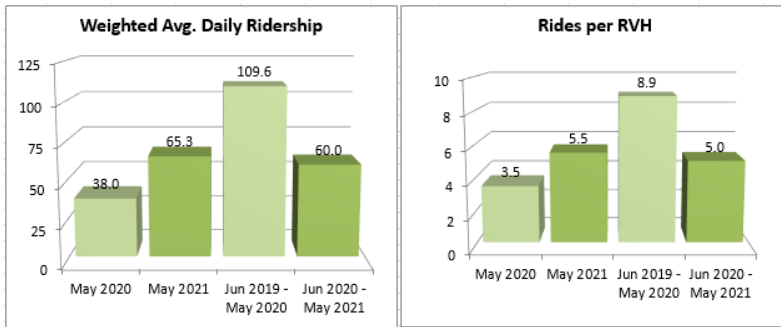
RTC RIDE



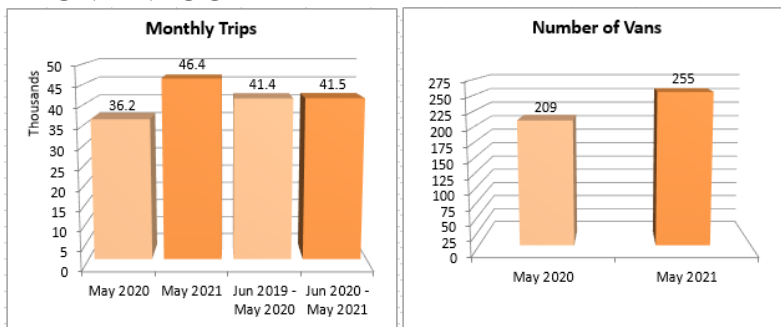
RTC ACCESS



TART



RTC VANPOOL



ATTACHMENTS

- A. RTC RIDE Performance Statistics Table
- B. RTC ACCESS Performance Statistics Table
- C. TART Performance Statistics Table
- D. RTC RIDE Fiscal Year Comparison Charts
- E. RTC ACCESS Fiscal Year Comparison Charts
- F. TART Fiscal Year Comparison Charts
- G. RTC Vanpool Fiscal Year Comparison Charts