

# SMART

SOUTH METRO AREA  REGIONAL TRANSIT

## November 2023 REPORT

Transit/Fleet



The month for giving thanks is upon us once again, but what do we really know about Thanksgiving? Contrary to popular belief, the holiday of Thanksgiving is not exclusive to the United States. A number of other countries also believe it is important to give thanks. Thanksgiving is a national holiday celebrated in Canada, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Liberia. Thanksgiving traditions vary from country to country. For example, the United States is the only country where the turkey is placed front and center on the Thanksgiving table. Experts believe that the turkey has become synonymous with the United States Thanksgiving Day feast because in the early days, wild turkeys were quite plentiful. Also, since turkeys were readily available, most early US farms raised turkeys to eat year-round. Though the countries that celebrate Thanksgiving may differ in how they actually observe the holiday, the singular thing all these countries seem to have in common is that Thanksgiving Day was initially rooted in each country's belief that they needed and wanted to give thanks for an abundant harvest.

Thanksgiving in the United States has evolved since that October day in 1621, when the Pilgrims and Native Americans sat down together to give thanks. What hasn't changed, however, is our belief that we all have so much to be thankful for.

Happy  
Thanksgiving.

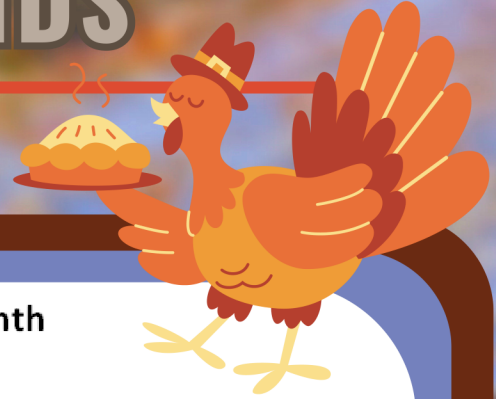
Dwight Brashear  
Transit Director



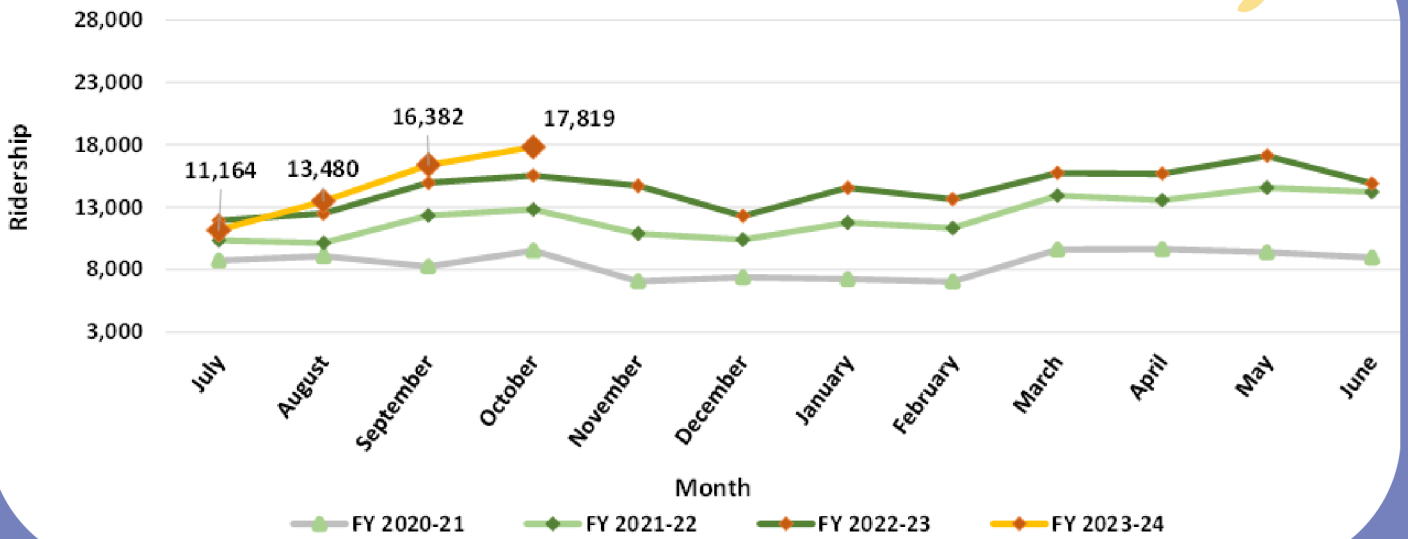


# RIDERSHIP TRENDS

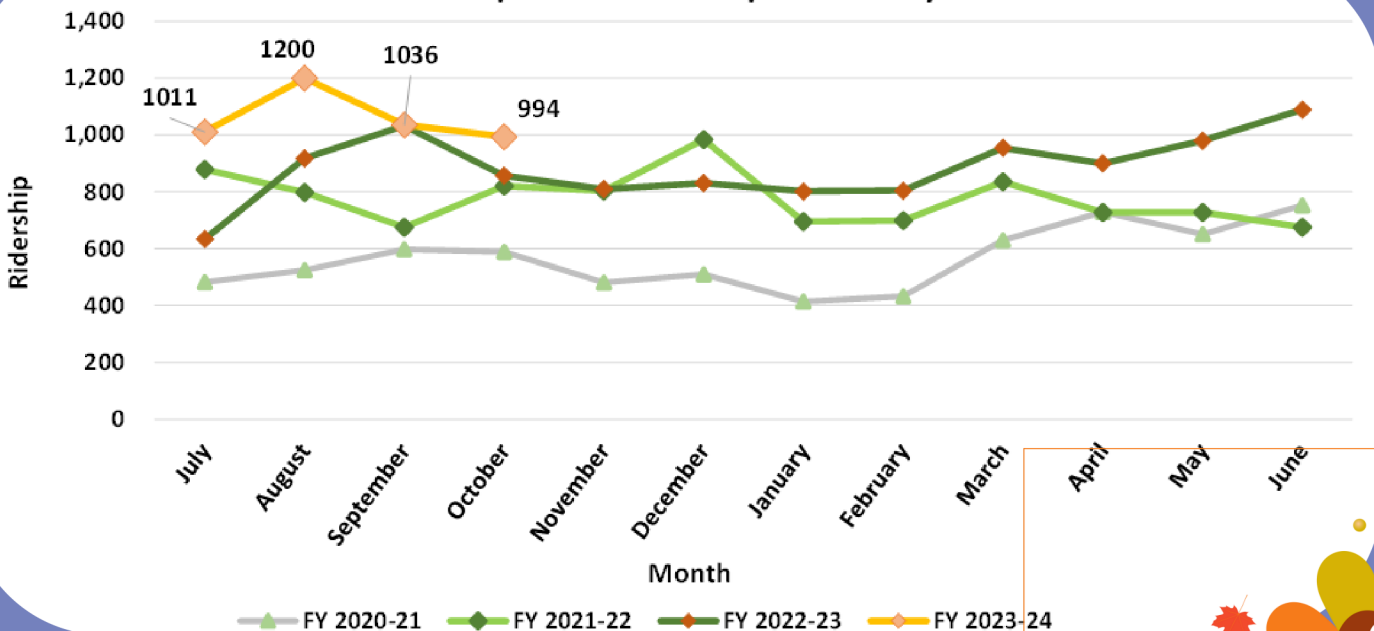
Anne MacCracken



### Fixed Route Ridership Trends by Month



### Demand Response Ridership Trends by Month





# GRANTS & PROGRAMS

*Kelsey Lewis*

In the last few months SMART staff has worked a lot on improving our electronic communications, both directly to customers with the new displays at bus stops, as well as in general on the internet.

RideClackamas.org is now live and includes our trip information so that transit riders can get trip planning around Clackamas County on SMART as well as all the other transit services. In addition, we have cleared up some confusion over our General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS), so that the basic information about SMART service hours, routes and schedules is now updated correctly on Google, transit apps, and trip planning pages.

I am grateful for new staff coming in to ask great questions about how we do things. Their curiosity provides the opportunity to view operations through fresh eyes.



# FLEET SERVICES

Scott Simonton

Availability of vehicles and equipment appears to be slowly improving. We just took delivery of a new towable air compressor for Public Works. This is a replacement of an existing unit, which has been in service for many years.

While this is a versatile piece of equipment which can be utilized for a wide variety of maintenance and repair tasks, it is specifically key to our Roads Maintenance staff in pothole repair and crack sealing operations.



*The City's new 150 PSI portable air compressor*





# COMMUTE OPTIONS

*Michelle Marston*



## Be Seen. Be SMART.



On Monday Nov. 6, and Wednesday Nov. 8, during commute hours SMART was out promoting safety and visibility for commuters and residents by handing out safety lights/strobes and reflective leg/arm bands (while supplies lasted).

These items were made available at the Wilsonville Transit Center, City Hall front desk, and at the Charbonneau Country Club. Safety items were made possible through support from Metro and the Federal Transit Administration.

Brighten Up  
With  
Lights &  
Reflectors





# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

*Patty Tiburcio*

In November, SMART supported local schools with Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day (RBWSD).

In Louisiana, on November 14, 1960, six-year-old Ruby walked to an all-white elementary school for her first day of school, marking an important milestone toward integration.

RBWSD is the perfect opportunity to teach children about the civil rights movement and make connections to today's collective efforts for change.

- Students from Wilsonville High School's Black Student Union joined Meridian Creek Middle School during their walk.
- The West Linn-Wilsonville School District created a short video of Meridian Creek's walk. View here:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZ1ujMARXtk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZ1ujMARXtk)



*Lowrie Primary students walking around the perimeter of the school.*



*Wilsonville High School's Black Student Union speaking about Ruby Bridges.*

- Boeckman Creek Primary participated in their first event and had an impressive turnout.
- At Lowrie Primary teachers led their students around the school and a special morning assembly was held.

