

EARTH MONTH SMART

SOUTH METRO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT

2026 April Report Transit/Fleet

My advice to emerging leaders is you must first be the type of leader you yourself would want to follow. So, what ingredients make for a great leader? An effective leader is supportive, caring, forthright, creative, resilient, intrepid, empathetic, adroit, authentic... Place all these attributes into the same pot and what you have is truly transformative; a leader who inspires, encourages and brings the best out of others. I have been truly blessed in my career to work with and for some incredible leaders; leaders replete with a unique set of characteristics. Each of them has made me not only a better leader, but a better person. Each of them has challenged me to go beyond what I believed myself capable of. Through my leadership journey, I have come to understand that a leader should always endeavor to be the transformation they want to see in others.



Dwight Brashear
Transit Director



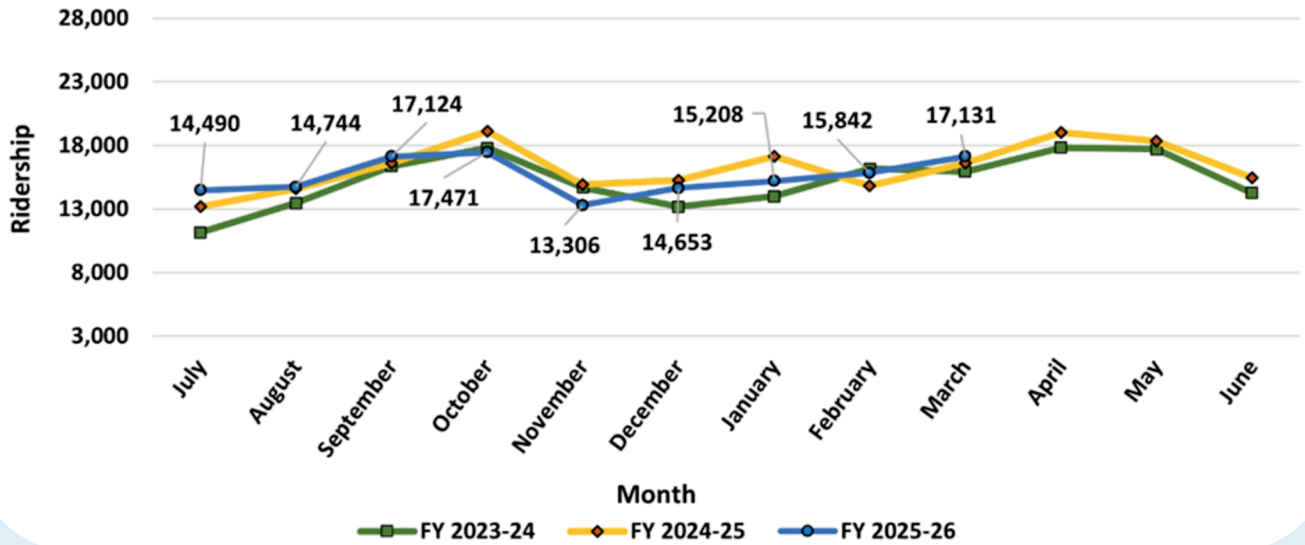


RIDERSHIP TRENDS

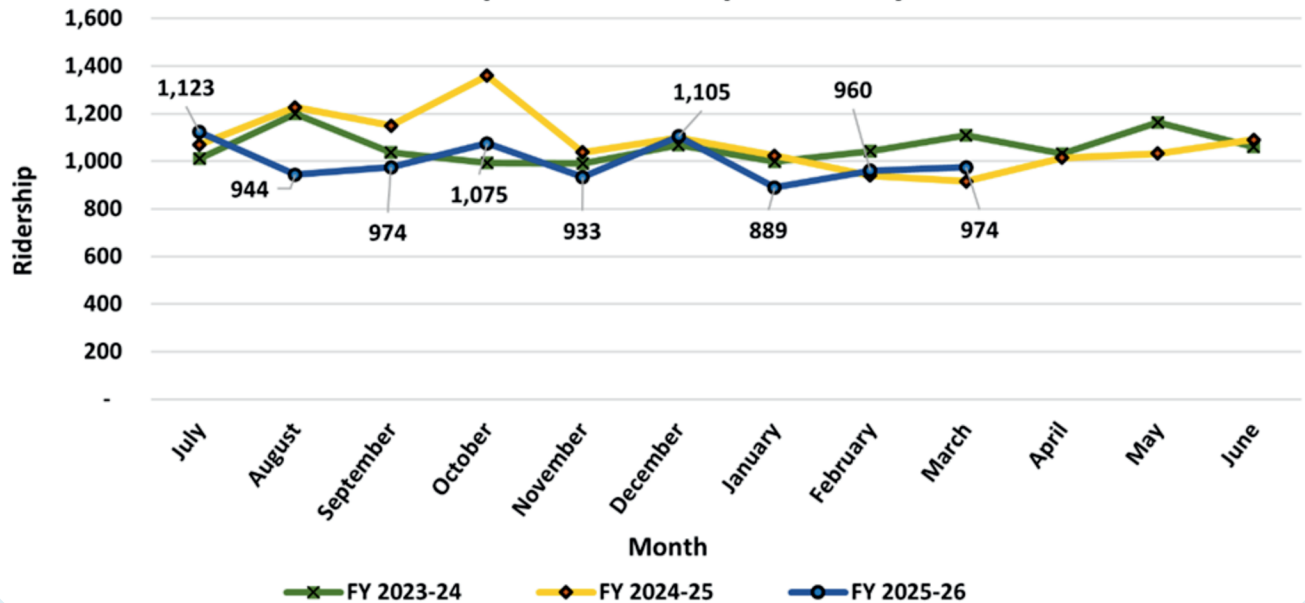


Anne MacCracken

Fixed Route Ridership Trends by Month



Demand Response Ridership Trends by Month



OPERATIONS

Diana Kotler



April has been a busy and exciting month at SMART:

- Preparations for the opening of the Wilsonville Transit Center (WTC) are in full swing
- Two new Customer Service Representatives have joined SMART and will help welcome riders when WTC opens its doors in early May 2026
- Service planning for the new SMART Clackamas Town Center 10X Route is now complete. This route will include stops at:
 - **Riverside High School** – providing an additional transportation option for students and faculty
 - **Rolling Hills Community Church** – improving access to the Community Food Bank, medical services, and women’s and children’s assistance programs
 - **City of West Linn** – strengthening connections to neighboring cities
 - **Oregon City Shopping Center** – offering access to social services and regional bus connections
 - **Clackamas Town Center** – connecting riders to MAX and regional transit services

This route includes **Bus on Shoulder Operations** – driver training in coordination with Oregon Department of Transportation to support reliable, on-time performance.

In addition, starting Monday, May 4, all SMART transit services will connect at the Wilsonville Transit Center, including Saturday service. This operational enhancement is designed to expand transportation access for Vuela residents, helping connect them to the library, parks, community programs, and local events throughout our City.

The Wilsonville Transit Center will serve as both a literal and figurative hub, bringing our community together and strengthening connections across the City of Wilsonville.

FLEET SERVICES

Scott Simonton



In preparation for the May 4th launch of SMART's 10X route, Fleet has been preparing signage and bus stops for the new service. We recently installed a new bus stop in West Linn to support the new route.



COMMUTE OPTIONS



Michelle Marston



SMART celebrated Earth Month by hosting a community-wide Earth Month Challenge throughout April, in partnership with the statewide GET THERE Challenge. Participants were encouraged to switch up their commute by walking, biking, scootering, carpooling, or taking transit, anything that helped leave the single-occupancy vehicle at home.

To keep things exciting, anyone who logged just one trip in April was automatically entered to win a \$100 e-gift card of their choice. Participants who were feeling extra motivated could log 10 trips during the statewide challenge (April 13–26) to be entered for a BONUS \$100 prize.

GRANTS & PROGRAMS

Kelsey Lewis

For the last year or so, SMART has been participating in a process to add SMART bus routes into TriMet's regional trip planner. This month, the regional trip planner is live on TriMet's website <https://trimet.org/home/planner/>. This allows the user to search for a start and end point anywhere in the Portland metro area and be able to find transit options from all the smaller providers as well as TriMet and Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area Authority, (CTRAN which serves Vancouver, WA). This could be a trip with several transfers between providers.

It will also show the fares for each segment of the trip. For regular SMART users, this may not be a big change. However, for those who are new to the area, using this trip planner will expose new potential users to SMART services who may not be aware of them. Our SMART trip planner <https://www.ridesmart.com/transit>, and the Ride Clackamas planner <https://rideclackamas.org/map/> are still active and quite useful for folks traveling around Wilsonville and Clackamas County. The regional trip planner provides another option for looking at a longer trip, like Wilsonville to Vancouver, WA. Check it out!

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Wyle O'Neill

In April Safe Routes to School (SRTS) continued to lead the weekly Autumn Park Walking School Bus and Lowrie Bike Bus programs. Participation remains strong, and these programs continue to build community while encouraging active transportation habits among youth.

Community programming also continued to thrive, highlighted by the successful Pollinator Pedal Community Bike Ride. This event brought together riders of all ages to celebrate the season, promote biking as a viable transportation option in Wilsonville and connect participants with each other as well as local pollinator landscapes.

In celebration of Earth Day, we hosted a special Lowrie Bike Bus event, which included participation from local Senator Courtney Neron Misslin. Additional outreach efforts included after-school engagement with a basic bike maintenance offering, aimed at reducing barriers to participation and increasing student involvement.

Finally, we brought the first Dolores Huerta Walk+Roll to school day to life at Meridian Creek Middle School. Where SRTS staff lead a walk and learn to school for students to learn more about Dolores Huerta and the impact one can make on their community. This activity combined active transportation with educational engagement, encouraging students to explore their community while learning about civic leadership and social impact.

On the funding front, we successfully submitted the grant application for the Metro Regional Transportations Options 2026–2029 program cycle, positioning the program for continued growth and long-term sustainability.

Overall, this month demonstrated continued progress in building a culture of active transportation, fostering community connections, and advancing key initiatives that support safe, sustainable travel options.

Earth Day

