

AGENDA

Transit Advisory Board Meeting

5:30 pm-7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Meeting will be in person.

Operations Center

16610 Champion Way

Sandy, Oregon 97055

If you prefer to attend remotely click on the link below

[Zoom Link](#)

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4. NEW BUSINESS	
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5.2. Operations Contract Negotiations	
5.3. Infrastructure Bill	
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5. OLD BUSINESS	
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6.2.1 STIF Funding	
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8.1. Next Meeting	
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	
Wednesday, March 16, 2022	
Operations Building (Possible Virtual)	
16610 Champion Way	
Sandy, Oregon 97055	



MINUTES*

Transit Advisory Board Meeting

5:30 pm-7:00 pm

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Virtual Meeting

*For detailed minutes please view the Zoom video.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Andi Howell, Berenice Tynan, Caren Topliff. Heather Michet, Kristina Babcock, Muna Rustam, Nancy Payne, Robert Giesbrecht.

2. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2021 MINUTES AND SEPTEMBER 2021 AGENDA

Motion by Berenice Tynan and second by Caren Topliff.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

No News

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Proterra Presentation

Proterra gave a presentation on electric buses, demonstrating the benefits of moving to electric buses.

5.2 Surveys

A brief rundown of the survey results was presented, along with customer comments.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1 Ridership

Ridership numbers continue to grow from 2020.

6.2 Funding Updates

There has been no loss in funding.

6.2.1 STIF Funding

SAM received a slight bump in STIF funding. A plan has been put in place to use funds.

6.2.2 FLAP Funding

The FLAP application has been postponed until October 7, 2021. This will determine next 3 years of funding. We requested funding to add extra runs to the Estacada route which will interline with MHX service.

6.3 Covid

The TSA updated the mask mandate on public transportation and it will remain in effect until January 2022.

6.4 Transit Vans

Sandy Area Metro has received two new Ford transit vehicles for the ED service. They will be wrapped with SAM rides logos by the end of the week.

7. NEIGHBOR UPDATES

As of August 1, 2021, MHX has started collecting fares again.

8. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Berenice Tynan and second by Caren Topliff.

8.1. Next Meeting

5:30 pm -7:00 pm
Wednesday, December 15, 2021
Transit Operations Building (Possible Virtual)
16610 Champion Way
Sandy, OR 97055



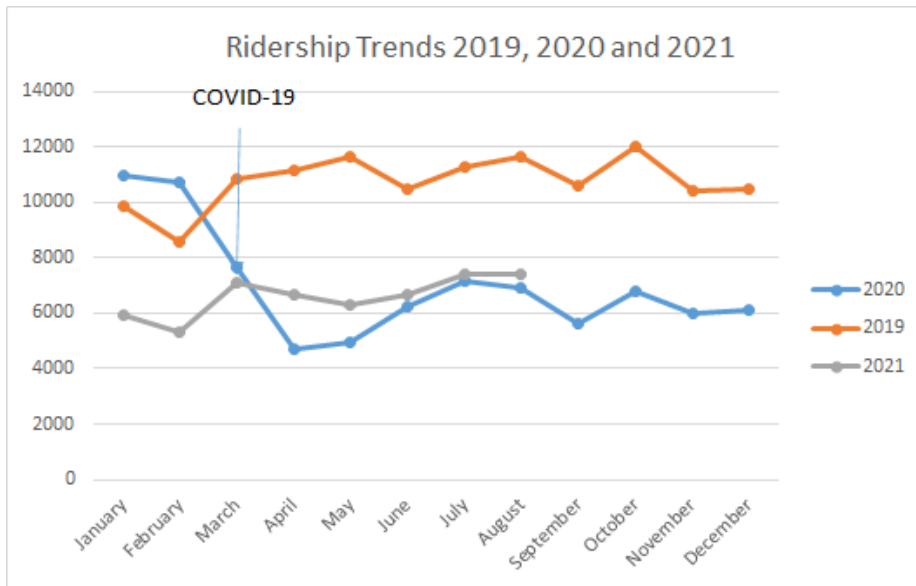
Chair, Heather Michet



Chair, Joseph Lowe

Sandy Transit Staff Report – August 2021

In August, SAM carried 7,398 passengers. Ridership increased 7.08% over August 2020 and is 36% lower than pre-COVID levels. Considering many transit agencies continue to experience a 50% reduction in ridership, SAM’s 36% reduction and gradual increase in ridership are a great indication that our ridership will rebound.



SAM staff continue to participate in many committees statewide. Andi, SAM’s Director, is a member of the Region 1 Area Commission on Transportation and has joined the Toll Work Group subcommittee to stay informed about tolling of I205 and how transit will be implemented with the tolling changes. Additionally, Andi sits on the rulemaking committee regarding the consolidation of the Special Transportation Fund (STF) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF). Both fund sources are vital to transit across Oregon, including Sandy, and it is very important that the new rules for combining the two funding streams do not negatively impact Sandy Transit or rural transit in general.

Two new vehicles arrived in August for use on the elderly and disabled program. They are Ford Transits and the drivers have given them great reviews on how they ride. Once wrapped they will be launched into service. Unfortunately, our wrap installer has come down with COVID and will not be available until late September.

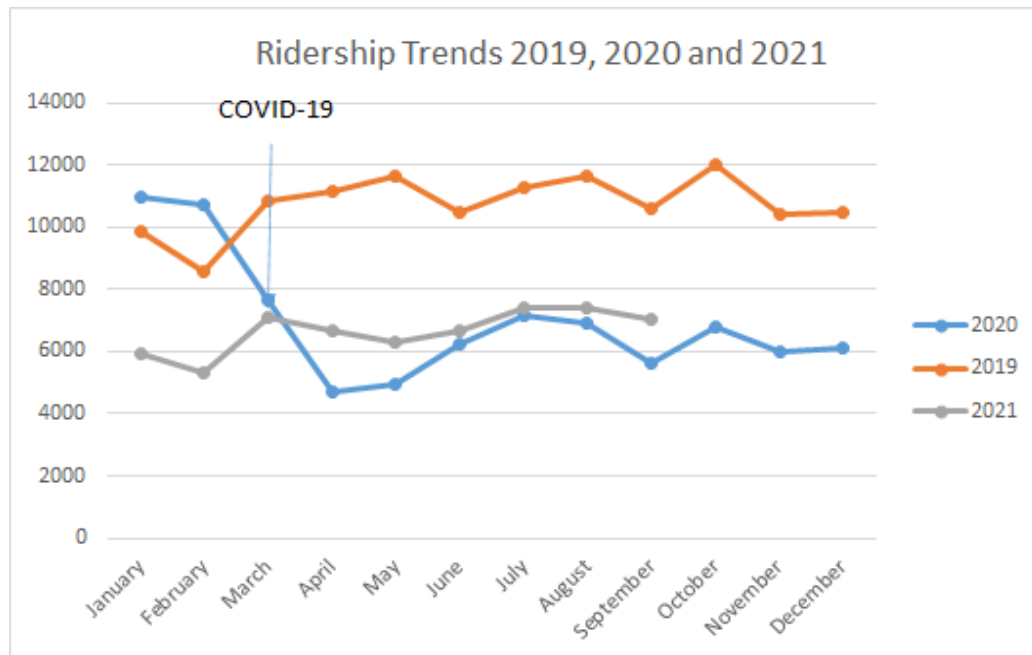
In September, SAM and MHX will begin our annual on board surveys. These surveys give us valuable information regarding ridership patterns, our passengers and their needs. While surveying is never an easy task, we always look forward to the data collected.

Andi will be out of town in September. Muna Rustam, the program administrator, will oversee the Transit Department. Muna will also be available for the Council meeting agenda item, a renewed Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Clackamas County. This is the third updated IGA with very few changes from years prior.

Sandy Transit Staff Report – September

Posted on [November 15, 2021](#) by [ahowell](#)

In September SAM carried 7,054 passengers. Ridership increased 25.2% over September 2020 and is 33% lower than pre-COVID levels. As shown in the ridership chart, September is typically a low ridership month. This September SAM did not experience a significant drop however.



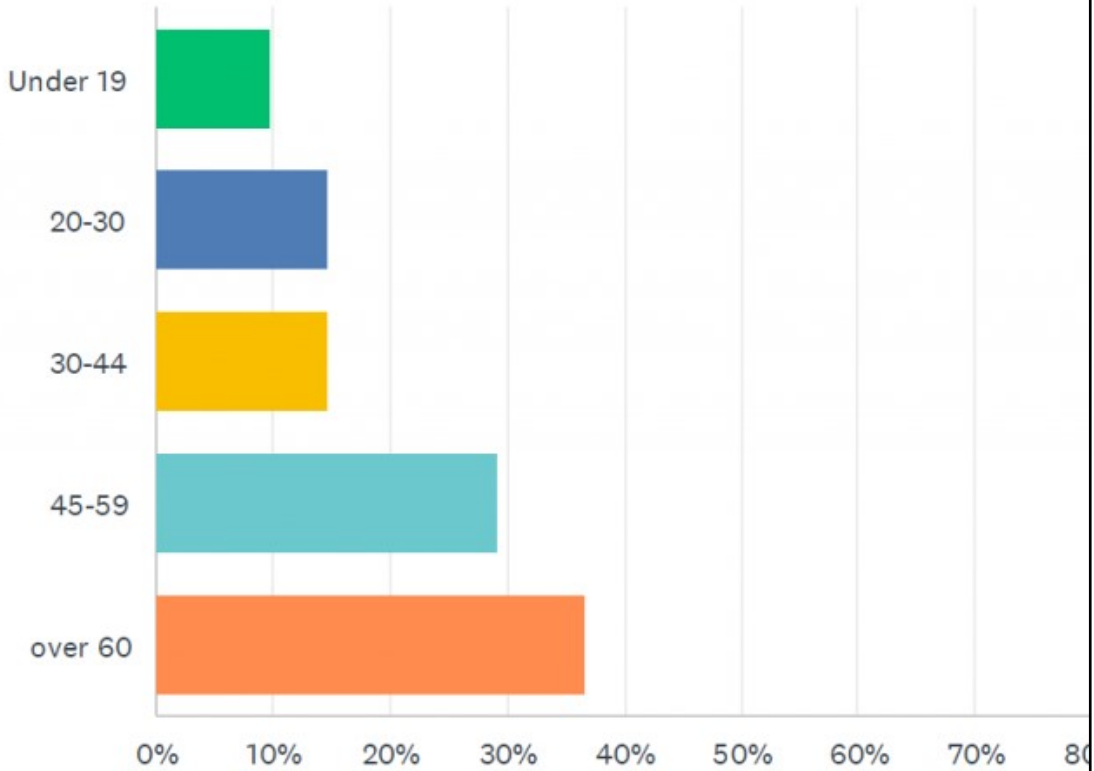
SAM's new Ford Transit Vans are on the road and receiving great feedback from drivers and passengers alike. SAM has one more Ford Transit Van on order, using CARES ACT funds.

SAM staff conducted on board surveys of both SAM and MHX services in September. Survey collection has been different since COVID. Previously, SAM staff rode all services on various days, which also required the use of drivers and volunteers, to collect surveys in person. Since COVID, SAM has collected survey data onboard by leaving surveys on the buses and the drivers inform passengers to fill them out if they'd like AND surveys are conducted online. While these methods do not elicit the same response rate as an on board surveyor, it does still collect some necessary information.

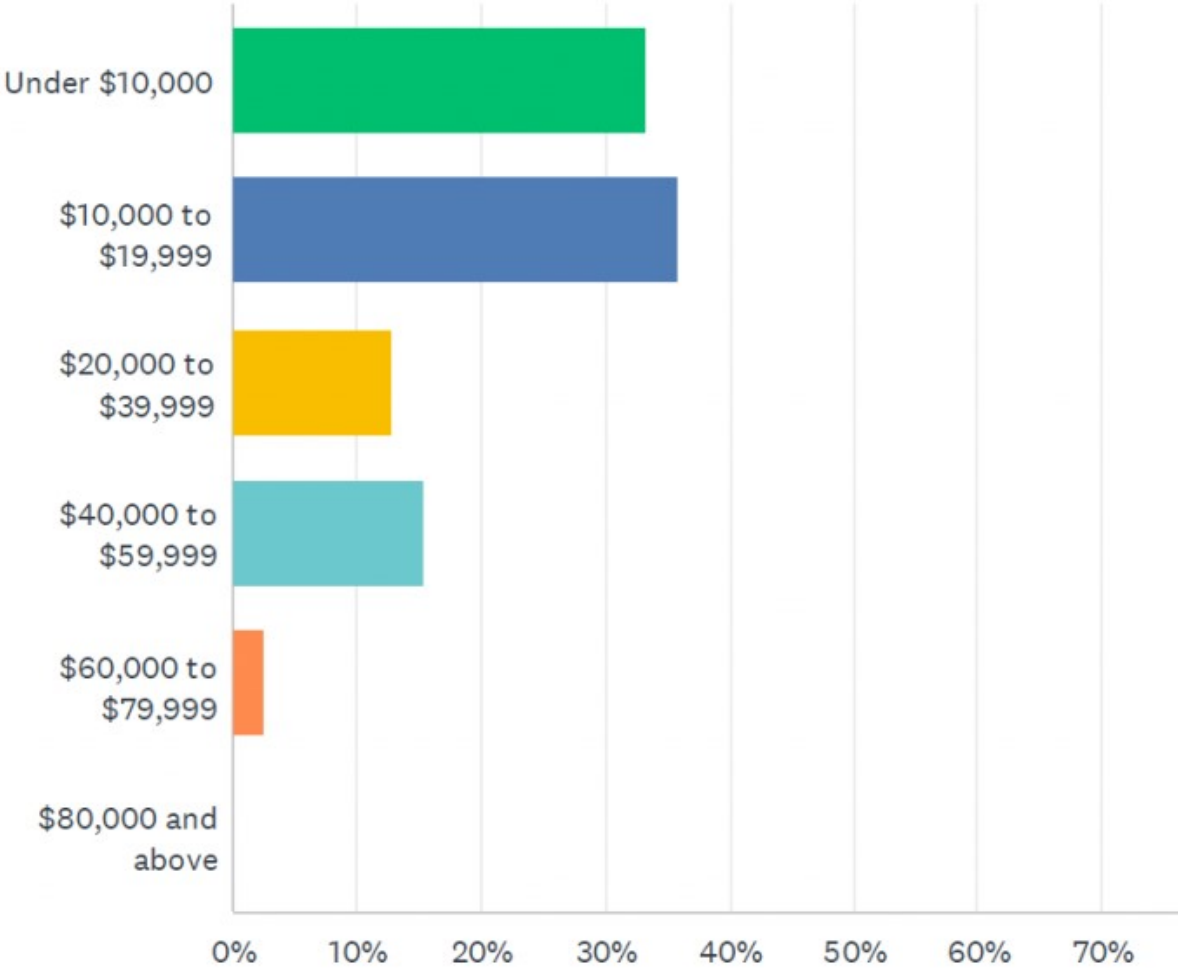
Of those surveyed on board, 62% began their trip in Sandy with 61% choosing Sandy as their destination. Approximately 59% will use 1 bus for their trip while 35% will use 2-3 and 5% will use 4 or more buses or trains to get to their final destination. 42% use transit almost daily with another 32% use the bus 3-4 times weekly, ultimately 74% use the bus at least 3-4 times

weekly. Over half (at 53%) use the bus to commute. Shopping/running errands is the next most common purpose (24%). As illustrated in the chart, the 45 to over 60 population are the highest demographic.

Q6 What is your age?



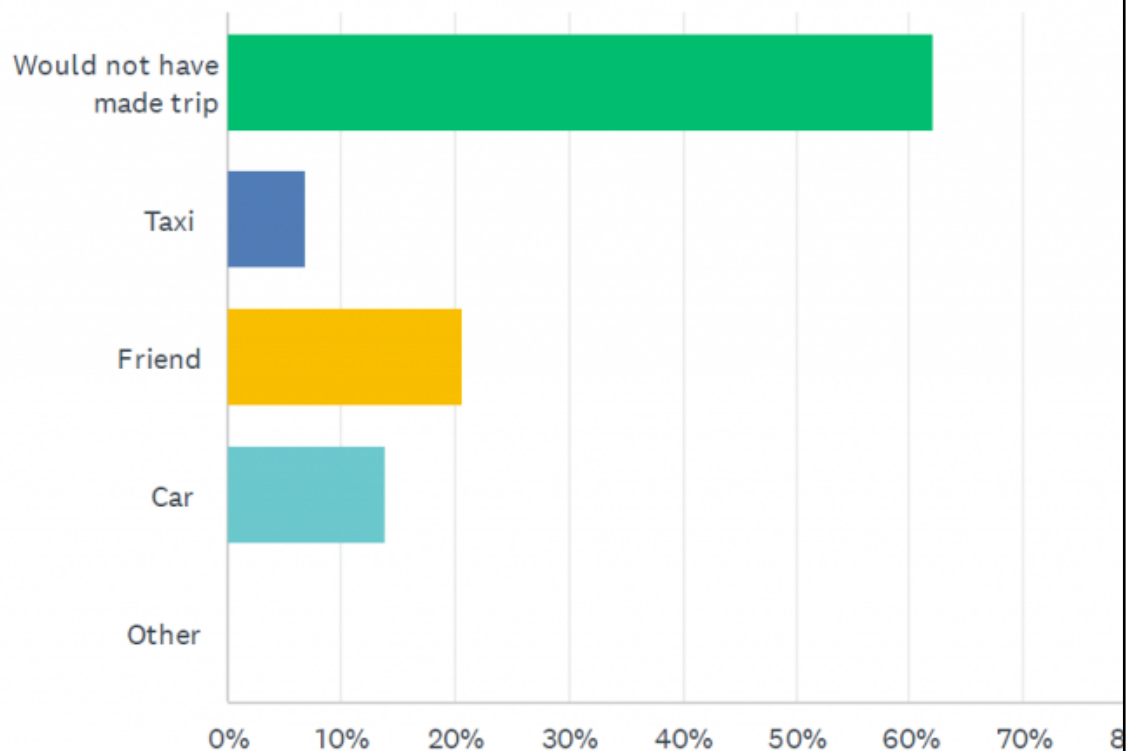
Q10 What is your household income



Of those surveyed on board, 69% earn under \$19,999 per year and 82% earn less than \$39,999 per year.

Finally, of those who responded, 62% would not have been able to make the trip if public transit were not available.

Q12 If you had not used public transportation, how would you have reached your destination?



In summary, SAM's passengers are heavily transit dependent. They tend to be older, female (chart not shown, 54% female), with lower earnings and no other way to make their commute trip, shopping or errands if public transit were not available. They generally believe the service is very good (highest option) or Satisfactory (next highest) as 97.5% answered as such for buses on time 82% for convenient schedules and 94% for easy to read schedules. Where SAM needs improvement seems to be on the website and the mobile. For the website, 76% answered very good or satisfactory and the mobile app received the lowest very good/satisfactory ratings at 63%.

The most requested improvement to the service was more frequent service with 57% responding very important and 26% somewhat important (83%). More Sunday service was the

next most requested improvement with 78% responding very important or somewhat important.

The following are comments from the September survey, *there were zero negative comments:*
Love SAM bus just wish there were more rides on weekends!

Love SAM. They're really reliable and the drivers are kind.

I have been using public transit for many years and the Sandy Transit is by far the best I have ever used.

I know most of the drivers from riding and the operators that do the scheduling. These are hard working people. I have also found that if I am time and everyone could be, their day would run smooth. I would like to thank each and every one for their service. I have trouble with my balance and I am helped often getting on and off with my walker and groceries. They become friends. Thank you people.

Super grateful for the servie you (SAM) provide. Sincerely!