



TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 5:30 PM
The Operations Center

AGENDA

TO ATTEND THE MEETING IN-PERSON:

The Operations Center, 16610 Champion Way, Sandy, OR 97055

TO ATTEND THE MEETING ONLINE VIA ZOOM:

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89194045106>

Or by phone (253) 215-8782; Meeting ID: 85290684685

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF JUNE MINUTES AND DECEMBER AGENDA

- [1.](#) Attachments

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

NEW BUSINESS

4.1. New GM

4.2. The Clackamas Town Center Launch

4.3. Grants

4.4. Building Design

4.4.1. Intent to Award

4.4.2. Planning

OLD BUSINESS

5.1. Shift Change Vehicle

NEIGHBOR UPDATES

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

The Operations Center

16610 Champion Way

Sandy, OR 97055

Americans with Disabilities Act Notice: Please contact Sandy City Hall, 39250 Pioneer Blvd. Sandy, OR 97055 (Phone: 503-668-5533) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time if you need an accommodation to observe and/or participate in this meeting.



MINUTES

Transit Advisory Board Meeting

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Click [here](#) for Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

1. **ROLL CALL**

Andi Howell, Berenice Tynan, Heather Michet, Khrys Alexander, Muna Rustam, Teresa Christopherson, Tim Williams

Via Zoom: Joseph Lowe, Roxy Lowe

2. **APPROVAL**

The October Minutes and the December Agenda were approved.

3. **CITY COUNCIL LIAISON**

None

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

4.1. New GM - Introduction

4.2. Routes

4.2.1. Shopper Shuttle Changes-The discussion centered on changing the route into one loop, eliminating the need to stop at the shopping centers twice and adding the Cinema as a stop. The times will be changed to allow for students who participate in after school activities to have transportation options. Public input will also be gathered from the Longest Day Parkway event and on Facebook.

4.2.2. The Farmers Market Route – The trolley will run June-October, every Friday from 2 pm-6 pm to decrease congestion and parking issues.

4.2.3. The Mountain Festival Route -The trolley will run a loop on Saturday and Sunday to accommodate festival participants.

4.2.4. The Town Center Route – This has been delayed so that the route can be properly established and marketed.

4.3. Grants

4.3.1. STIF/STF Consolidation-The consolidation is complete. Some of our funding was utilized to create a county wide informational website about public transportation options. The website is <https://rideclackamas.org/>.

4.3.2. STIF Discretionary- We have been awarded funds for technology assessment and efares.

4.4. Design RFQ-The RFQ was released and we have had eight responses. The selection committee is ready to begin the selection process.

4.5. Longest Day Parkway- The Longest Day Parkway is on June 22nd. Transit will have a station there.

4.6. Sandy Mountain Festival Parade-Transit has entered the parade and everyone is invited to join us on the trolley.

4.7. Ridership-Ridership is on the rise.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1. Capital Projects

Not discussed.

6. NEIGHBOR UPDATES-The County is currently working on a transportation hub in the Government Camp area.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

8. ADJOURN

8.1. Next Meeting
5:30 pm -7:00 pm
Wednesday, September 21, 2023
The Operations Center
16610 Champion Way
Sandy, OR 97055

Transit Staff Report – July 2023

From the Director

SAM and our Clackamas County partners (Canby, Clackamas County, South Clackamas and Wilsonville) have a new Transit webpage! In partnership, the “Clackamas Coalition” secured a STIF Discretionary grant to provide a one stop website to the public regarding how to get around Clackamas County. A firm was hired to create and maintain the site. Our new page is called Ride Clackamas and can found [here](#).



Select Language

Map

Menu



Going by bus in Clackamas County is easy as 1 ... 2 ... stress-free!

Ride Clackamas is your ticket to ride. Here you can [view bus routes](#), [plan your trip](#), and track current locations for six different bus systems.

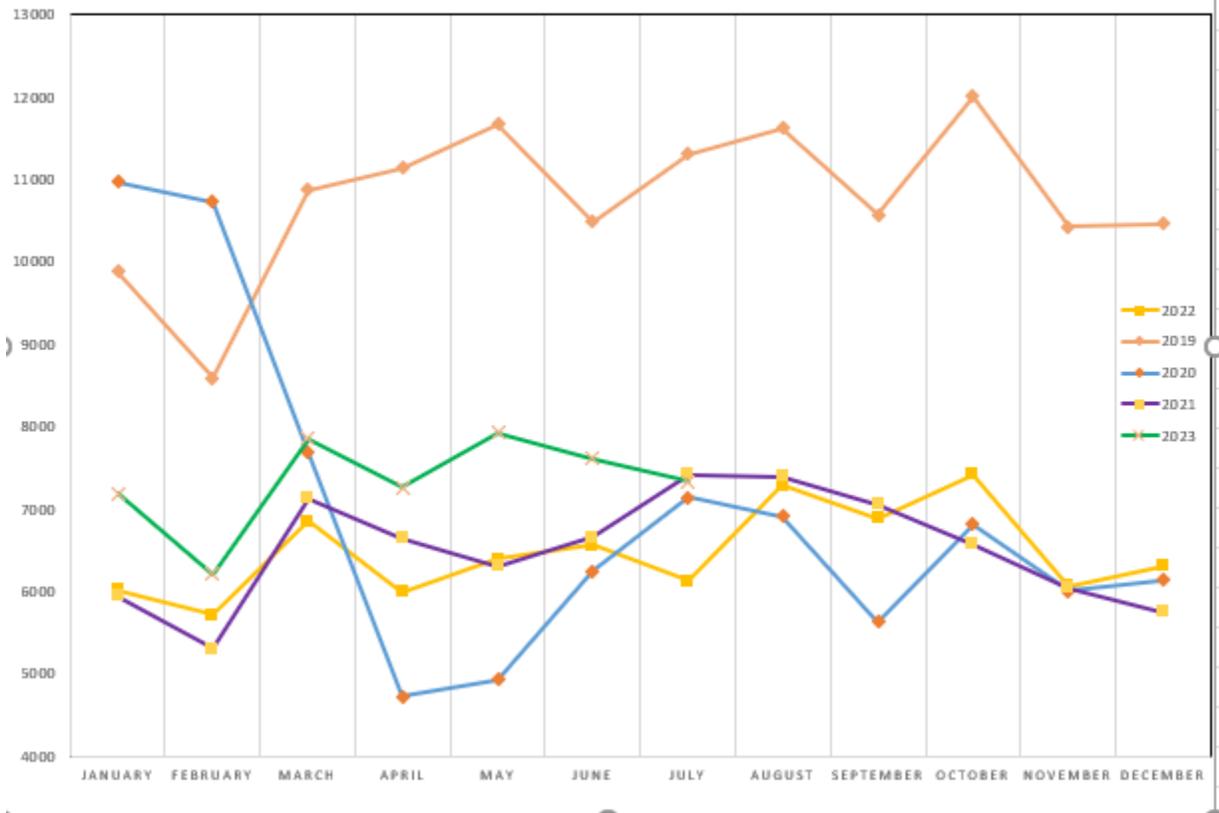


The General Manager for MV Transit Services that has been with SAM since January has resigned. He lived in Salem and took a position closer to home. Upon request, MV sent an HR team to interview employees to see if a restructure of positions is necessary, sent a recruiter to the Mountain Festival and sent an Interim GM. The Interim GM, Tamara Darnell is doing a great job. We have encouraged her to stay and it looks like she is interested.

In August SAM staff and Board members will be in Vancouver at the Washington County Transit Association/Oregon Transit Association Joint Conference. This is the first time the two organizations have partnered for a conference and will be a great opportunity to learn about the latest transit trends, funding opportunities, audit changes and more. As the President of the Oregon Transit Association, I look forward to representing Sandy as I give opening remarks Monday morning and facilitate the banquet and annual meeting Tuesday. This year, ODOT is reimbursing 100% of the travel and board expenses to encourage Oregonians to attend the conference.

From the Program Administrator

SAM RIDERSHIP PATTERNS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2019 - 2023



Ridership Statistics

SAM's overall July 2023 ridership increased by 19.78% compared to July of 2022. SAM-Gresham provided 5,598 rides, an increase of 18.4%. SAM-Estacada experienced a slight decline of 6.6%, providing 340 rides. The Shopper Shuttle continues to increase ridership with a 5.03% increase from July 2022.

SAM rides experienced a large increase of 64.88%, providing 709 rides in July 2023. ED also increased ridership by 200%, providing 87 rides in July 2023 compared to 29 rides in July 2022.

Sandy Mountain Festival Parade



"Come one, come all! We saved you a Seat!" The SAM Transit Team, along with Board members and family enjoyed participating in the parade alongside other City departments!!!

Sandy Mountain Festival Service

SAM and MHX offered fareless service all weekend to encourage carless transportation to the Sandy Mountain Festival. SAM also offered a shuttle to the Mountain Festival that began at the Sandy Operations Center. In 2022 the shuttle provided 50 rides and in 2023 we provided it provided 88 rides, a 76% increase. SAM plans to continue working with the Sandy Mountain Festival Committee to offer transportation options during Mountain Festival Days.

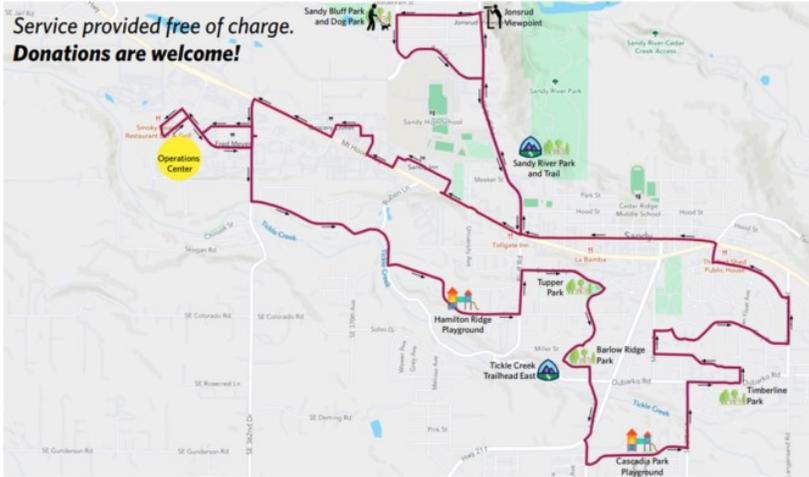
Shopper Shuttle Improvements

Using STIF funds (STIF Plan FY24-25) the Shopper Shuttle now operates on Saturdays, providing intracity transportation 6 days a week! Community members who work during the weekdays now have an option to ride the trolley! Within the first three weeks the Saturday Shopper had 39 riders!

We listened! Due to public input, SAM is changing the Shopper Shuttle route and times. Beginning August 14th, the Shopper will add a run — offering six times a day! The new times maintain service during the peak demand while also allowing middle and high school students who participate in afterschool activities to utilize SAM to get home or into town. Along with all the regular stops, we will also stop at the cinema and local parks!



SAM has a new & improved Shopper Shuttle Route!! We now offer 6 runs and a Saturday Shopper Shuttle!!! Same great service with an additional run and an additional day.



Service provided **free of charge.**
Donations are welcome!

Beginning August 14th

Monday—Saturday

12:30 pm—3:20 pm

4:00 pm-4:50 pm

5:30 pm—7:20 pm

2 NEW STOPS

The new route begins at the Operations Center, 16610 Champion Way and ends at the Sandy Cinema!!!

OPS Center Sandy Hts Cascadia Park Evans St Gary McCormick Cedar Ridge Sandy HS Safeway Sandy Mkt Fred Meyer Cinema

12:30	12:35	12:43	12:47	12:51	12:54	1:01	1:08	1:14	1:16	1:18	1:20
1:30	1:35	1:43	1:47	1:51	1:54	2:01	2:08	2:14	2:16	2:18	2:20
2:30	2:35	2:43	2:47	2:51	2:54	3:01	3:08	3:14	3:16	3:18	3:20
4:00	4:05	4:13	4:17	4:21	4:24	4:31	4:38	4:44	4:46	4:48	4:50
5:30	5:35	5:43	5:47	5:51	5:54	6:01	6:08	6:14	6:16	6:18	6:20
6:30	6:35	6:43	6:47	6:51	6:54	7:01	7:08	7:14	7:16	7:18	7:20

Drug and Alcohol Training

SAM staff attended a 2-day ODOT training that included Drug and Alcohol Program Management and Compliance training as well as Reasonable Suspicion Determination training. This instruction is essential to ensure that staff are knowledgeable and compliant regarding Drug and Alcohol testing and requirements and accurately assessing fitness for duty.

Transit Staff Report – August 2023



SANDY AREA METRO

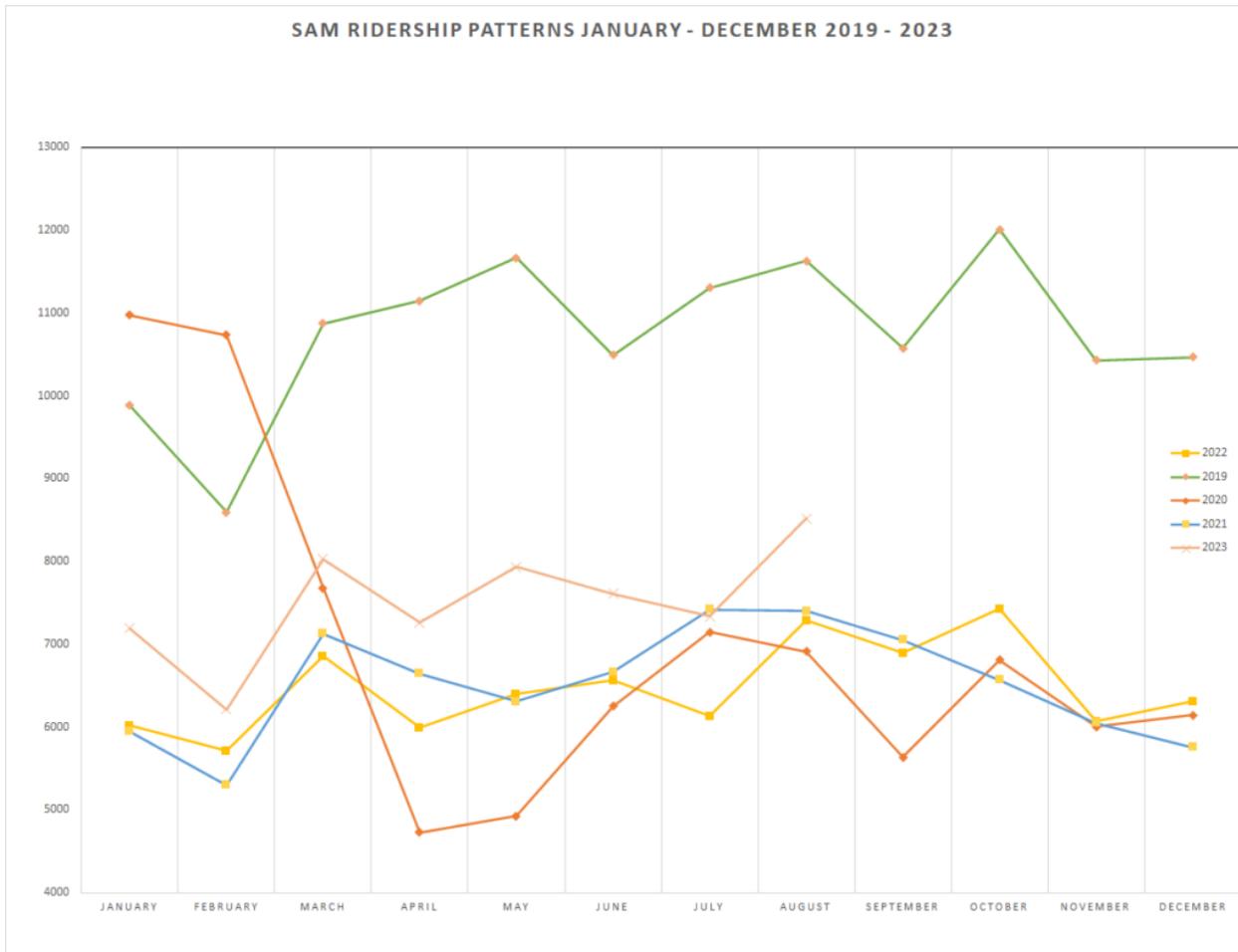
SAM's Corner – VIP Highlight



SAM contracts with MV Transportation to provide the City with a professional driving staff. They are the engine that makes our service top notch!! SAM would like to take a moment to recognize one of those exceptional employees. Alan McGuire-Nash is one of the outstanding employees that make up the team. Alan has been with SAM since 2015. He started out driving Mt. Hood Express but moved to the SAM-Gresham and SAM-Estacada routes. He quickly showed an ability to lead, strategize and troubleshoot so he was soon promoted to the dispatch office. Throughout several changes to the

organization, SAM has been able to rely on Alan's leadership. Alan was recently promoted to Operations Manager. In this role Alan creates the weekly schedules for drivers, handles customer service, covers driver shifts as needed and provides overall support to the staff. He is the go-to-guy to analyze best practices. When Alan is not working, he is helping his husband Dennis with their nursery or playing with his dog Myrtle. If you see Alan out and about give him a warm hello and thank him for all he contributes to making everything flow smoothly!

Ridership Stats



SAM's overall ridership rose 16.9% in August, compared with August of 2022. SAM-Gresham provided 6,096 rides, an increase of 11.65% compared to last year. Estacada had an increase of 7.21% with 476 rides. The Shopper Shuttle provided 750 rides, increasing 41.51%.

SAM rides grew from August of 2022 by 7.6%, with a total of 878 rides. ED provided 321 medical rides

(including a special travel training noted below) for an increase of 723.08%. Without the additional travel training ED increased by 135.9%.

SAM is Travel Training with Ant Farm!

On August 21-22, SAM had a travel training session for the Ant Farm youth! We provided a total of 168 rides to and from the Mt. Hood Community College where they were able to tour the facility. On August 25th we also provided transportation to another 61 students for the end of season work recognition. SAM is pleased to be able to assist young adults in learning life skills. Travel training is a service that SAM provides to anyone who is unfamiliar with public transit. It educates individuals or groups on how to board, ride and deboard safely; bus rules and etiquette; understanding schedules; making connections to other buses and the many benefits of public transit. Along with lots of learning, a great time was had by all! Although a SAM rule is that music can only be played with headphones, there may have been a sing-a-long to a few songs played by the appointed DJ. Check out the City's Facebook and Instagram for the videos. SAM looks forward to partnering with Ant Farm and others in the future.





Oregon Conference

This year the Oregon Transit Association (OTA) and the Washington State Transit Association (WSTA) partnered together to provide a conference. Two Sandy staff and 3 board members were in attendance thanks to the generous scholarships through ODOT! Classes included trainings on compliance, contract and grant management, microtransit, customer service among many others. These conferences provide an opportunity to learn and stay up to date with the newest trends. It also provides an opportunity to network with other professionals and brainstorm. At the end of the conference the OTA recognizes individuals and agencies who have made a considerable contribution to the transit industry. As President of the OTA, Andi Howell was the presenter at the Awards Banquet.



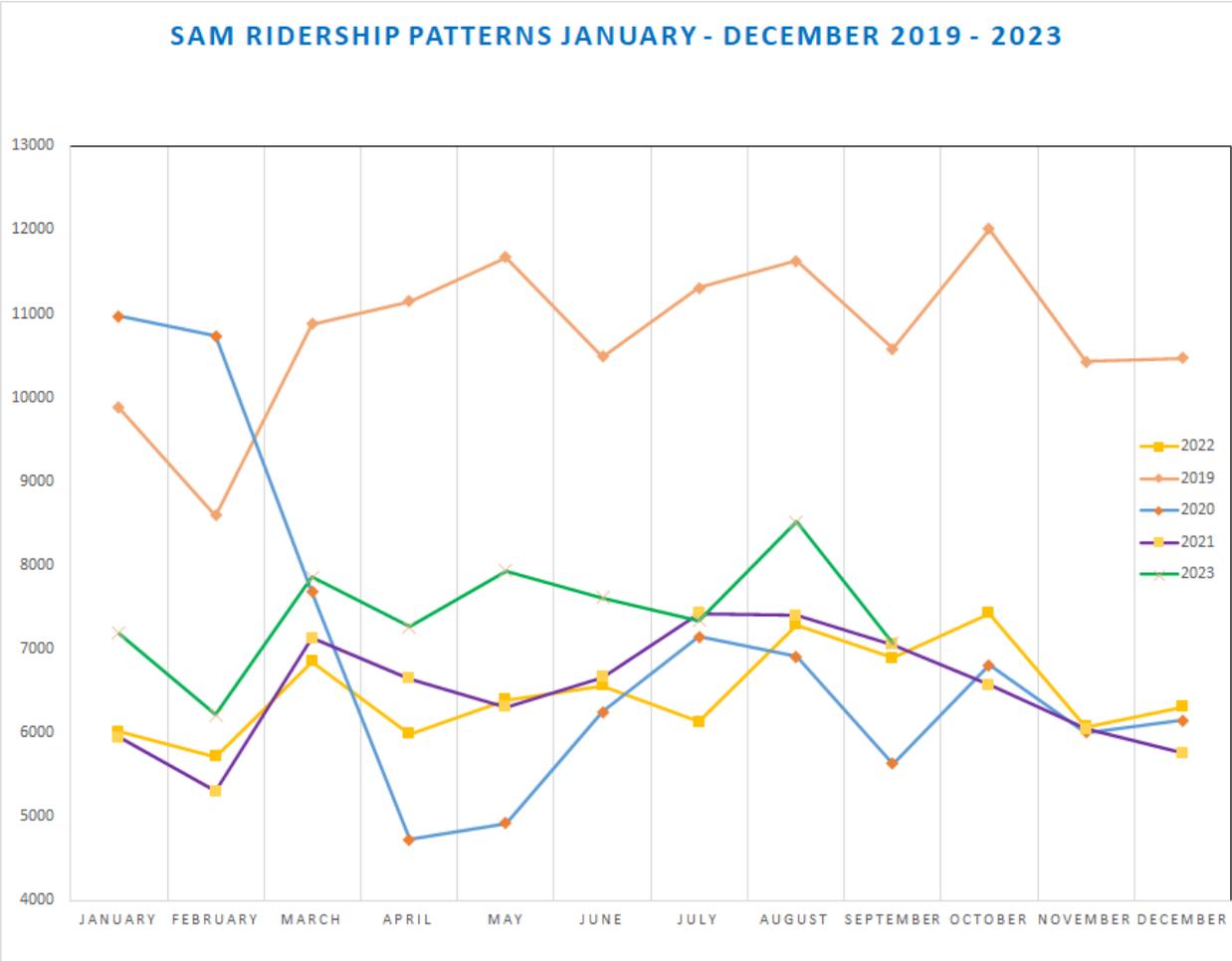
Transit Staff Report – September 2023



SANDY AREA METRO

From the Program Administrator

Ridership



Overall September 2023 ridership is up 2.6% compared with September 2022. Historically, ridership has always declined during September. Although overall service has gained, there are some small dips in certain routes. This temporary dip can be attributed to the return of school and schedule changes.

SAM-Gresham provided 5,361 rides in September, a slight decline of 0.48%. SAM-Estacada experienced a 3.8% decrease in ridership with 354 rides. Conversely, the Shopper Shuttle experienced a 20.94% increase when compared to September 2022. Typically, when a route changes times and/or path, as the Shopper Shuttle recently did, ridership declines. However, this route remains a very popular one for Sandy residents.

SAM rides provided 655 rides in September 2023, an increase of 4.97%. ED ridership increased dramatically with a 330.77% increase. The increase in drivers has allowed SAM to increase service to those needing to get to their medical appointments.

Annual Bus Surveys

SAM has begun our annual surveys. They are available online as well as on the bus. All community members are encouraged to fill them out! If you would like to share your thoughts

please click [here](#). Surveys provide a wealth of information on ridership and rider needs. SAM also receives important feedback on what we do well and where we can improve.

Transit Staff Report – October 2023

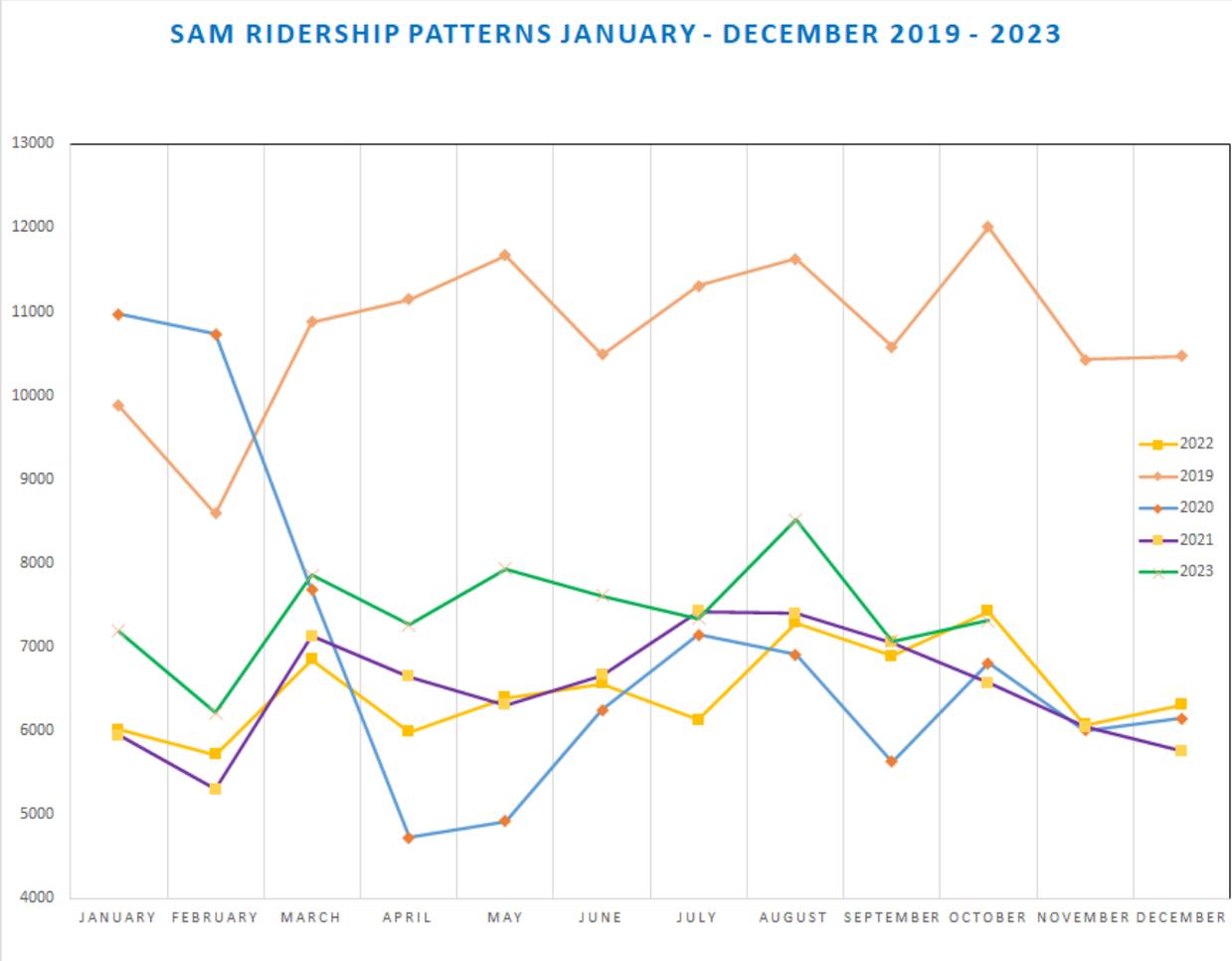
Posted on [November 7, 2023](#) by [ahowell](#)



SANDY AREA METRO

From the Program Administrator

Ridership



Overall ridership only experienced a slight decrease of 0.15%, providing 7,315 rides in October 2023 compared to 7,424 rides in October 2022. SAM-Gresham experienced a 4.4% drop in ridership, serving 5,472 passengers. SAM-Estacada provided 320 rides, a 29.82% decrease. The Shopper Shuttle provided 643 rides compared with 509 rides in October 2022, an increase of 26.33%. While we have experienced some decline, SAM service continues to provide autonomy and opportunity for many in the Sandy community. The survey results below highlight the importance of public transportation.

SAM rides provided 731 rides, an increase of 7.66% increase from last year. ED also experienced ridership growth. SAM provided 149 medical rides in October 2023 compared with 56 rides in October 2022, an increase of 166.07%.

Annual Survey

In October, SAM conducted annual surveys. This communication allows us to hear what riders need and what level of service SAM provides. We received 99 onboard responses across all SAM services.

Of those 99 respondents, 50.5% began their journey in Sandy and 69.89% will end their journey in Sandy. Over half were frequent users, 38.54% utilizing it daily and 30.21% using it at least 3-4 times a week. Commuters comprise 46.34% of the surveyed ridership. The bulk of

the ridership consists of 20-30 year old (23.71%) and 31-44 year old (37.11%). The majority of riders, 59.34%, live in Sandy.

While our ridership has incomes from every walk of life, 40.23% earn less than \$10,000 and 20.69% earn between \$20,000-\$39,000. 69.15% do not own a vehicle and 52.05% would not have made the trip if SAM was not available.

Although we typically highlight the need for service it is also important to recognize that SAM also serves a discretionary riders within the community. 30.85% of riders have access to a car and 26.03% the respondents owned a vehicle.

The most important needs focused mainly on additional service. 56.32% of riders would like more frequent service, 52.5% would like later service and 67.47% would like more service on Sundays. 47.5% requested more benches/shelters.

Although it is hard to pick from the many compliments, below are a few comments from respondents. All the credit goes to our driving staff who make the service what it is!

“Excellent public transportation in the state of Oregon. Very impressed with safe driving, organization and citizen safety. I’m grateful for efficient system. And think many other places in the world can learn from this service to apply to their communities. Again, thank you!”

“SAM between Portland and Sandy has been so helpful now that family lives out there and I choose to not have a car in PDX.”

“SAM has been a literal lifesaver in that I was able to travel to Sandy to acquire my medication.”

“You guys have the most friendly bus drivers I have ever seen!”

“I am pleased & grateful today to be on such a nice, clean, safe, friendly atmosphere bus. The driver was just the right kind of right for a restful, beautiful Sunday trip.”

“The drivers have always gone above and beyond with helping. They make sure we are safe and will be able to get home. Just amazing people.”

“Love, love, love your people.”

“We <3 SAM (goes straight to Grandma’s house :))”

Clackamas County Partnership

The partnership with Clackamas County continues to prove itself as a practical and financial benefit. While partnering with the County on equipment and resources we continue to save money. This includes equipment such as tablets and radios, contracted staff and maintenance. October financials include 80 medical rides on their behalf earning SAM \$5,600.22. Earnings for operating the Mt. Hood Express service were \$4,422.34. Total earnings \$10,022.56.