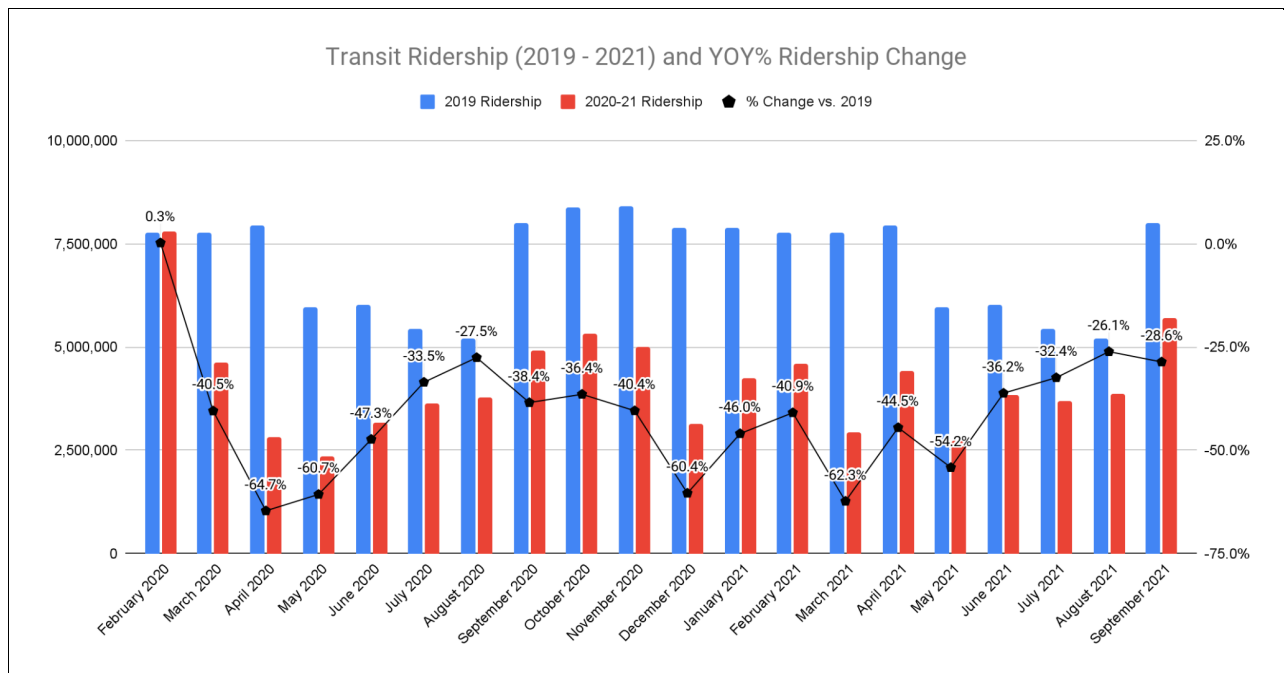


ETS Branch Highlights Report

Date: October 25, 2021

1. RIDERSHIP



ETS ridership increased in September 2021 despite the 4th wave of Covid-19 cases in Alberta. This is largely due to post-secondary students returning to in-person instruction. A number of organizations, including the City of Edmonton, postponed their return-to-work plans due to the 4th wave which has likely put downward pressure on ridership.

The percentage of ridership compared to September 2019 (black line) ridership decreased slightly from August, measuring the percentage compared to the same month in 2019. Ridership in August tends to be lower in summer months due to schools and most postsecondary classes not being in session, which means the seasonal decrease was less substantial in 2021.

2. ETS UPDATES

ETS Stuff a Bus (November 24 to 28)

The ETS Stuff a Bus campaign started in 1995, in partnership with Save-On-Foods, to support Edmonton's Food Bank. Since its inception, this campaign has grown into one of the largest annual third-party fundraising campaigns for Edmonton's Food Bank and is one of the most visible ETS-led community initiatives and positively received by the public.

In 2020, the in-person collection was suspended with the rise in Covid-19 numbers. Although the impact of Covid-19 is still prevalent, such measures, including mandatory vaccination and/or negative Covid-19 test required for volunteer participants (per the City of Edmonton and Edmonton's Food Bank respective Covid-19 vaccination policies), in addition to masking and physical distancing, should in person collection to resume. Volunteers will be at the following locations:

(Peace Officers)

- Wednesday, November 24 - Namao & Ellerslie Save-On-Foods (1200 - 1700)
- Thursday, November 25 - Mayfield and Stadium Save-On Foods (1200 - 1700)
- Friday, November 26 - 50th Street Market and Jagare Save-On-Foods (1100 - 1500)

(ETS Buses)

- Saturday, November 27 - all Edmonton Save-On-Foods (0830 - 1600)
- An ETS bus will also be at the Spruce Grove Save-On-Foods (0830 - 1600) to collect food for Parkland Food Bank.

(LRT)

- Sunday, November 28 - Clareview LRT Station (0900 - 1600)

Online donations directly to Edmonton's Food Bank and at the cashiers at Save-On-Foods will also be accepted. For additional information, visit edmonton.ca/StuffaBus.

Community Outreach Transit Team

The City of Edmonton has partnered with Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society's 'New in Town' program to support individuals in need by connecting them to community support and resources within the transit system.

Together, Transit Peace Officers and Bent Arrow outreach workers are helping individuals in the transit system access resources to address concerns such as housing, mental health, substance use and financial assistance. The Community Outreach Transit Team operates from 8am -10pm, Monday to Friday. More teams will be added in 2022, building on the learning and evaluation from this year.

3. ETSAB INFORMATION REQUESTS

Seating Arrangements on LRT

The seats configuration is designed to have a mix of set-ups to accommodate more than one traffic direction (bi-directional movement) and to facilitate a higher seating capacity. These seating arrangements were determined in the 1970's with the original LRV orders, based on what was being used in other locations. The SD160's were ordered to be consistent with the U2's

ETS will be reviewing the seating configuration as part of the specifications development for the next round of LRV purchases (replacement and growth).

4. ETS COUNCIL REPORT TRACKING - 2020-21

SIRE	Report Title	Meeting Date	Committee
CO00607	Mass Transit System - Sustainable Funding and Service Growth	Q1 2022	EC
CO00803	Bus Network Expansion Opportunities	Q1 2022	EC
CO00574	Access to Supports and Services Within Transit Stations - Program and/or Delivery Proposal(s)	Q1 2022	CPSC
CO00576	Transit Fare Fines - Repayment Options	Q1 2022	CPSC

*Not an ETS lead report

AC = Audit Committee

CC = City Council

CPSC = Community and Public Services Committee

Exec = Executive Committee

IRCD = Inter-municipal and Regional Development Committee

UPC = Urban Planning Committee