



Mountain Rides Transportation Authority

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 1:00pm

Hailey City Hall

115 Main St South, Hailey, ID 83333

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 218 184 559 244

Passcode: qtxHi6

Mountain Rides Board of Directors

Chair Melody Mattson (at-large); Vice-Chair Tom Blanchard (Bellevue); Secretary Grady Burnett (Sun Valley); Kathleen Kristenson (Blaine Co.); Martha Burke (Hailey); Kristin Derrig & Neil Bradshaw (Ketchum); Peter Hendricks (Sun Valley)

Agenda

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Comments** from the Chair, Members, and Staff
3. **Public Comment** re: Items not on the Agenda (and questions from the press)
4. **Action item:** Consent Agenda (p.2)
 - a. Approve/file: Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, September 20, 2023 (p.3-5)
 - b. Receive/file: Performance Dashboard, September 2023 (p.6-23)
 - c. Receive/file: Report from Director, Maintenance, Director, Communications; Director, Transit Operations; Director, Finance & Administration; Manager, Executive Director (p.24-31)
5. **Action item:** Approve the surplus of two diesel buses (p.32-33)
6. **Discussion item:** JPA Bus Wrap (p.34)
7. **Discussion item:** Expiring Board seats (p.35)
8. **Discussion item:** Items of Interest to the Members (p.36)
9. **Adjourn**

Public information regarding agenda items is available from the Mountain Rides' office at 800 1st Ave. North, Ketchum, or 208-788-7433. Any person needing special accommodation to attend the above-noticed meeting should contact Mountain Rides two days prior to the meeting at 208-788-7433.

Mountain Rides Consent Agenda Item Summary

Date:

From:

Action Item:

Committee Review: Yes No Committee Purview:

Previously discussed at board level: Yes No

Recommended Motion:

Fiscal Impact:

Related Policy or Procedural Impact:

Background:

- a. Approve/file: Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, September 20, 2023.
- b. Receive/file: Performance Dashboard, September 2023.
- c. Receive/file: Report from:
 - 1) Director, Fleet, Maintenance and Facilities (Carlos Tellez)
 - 2) Director, Communications (Kim MacPherson)
 - 3) Director, Transit Operations (Jamie Canfield)
 - 4) Director, Finance & Administration (Tucker Van Law)
 - 6) Executive Director (Wally Morgus)



RECORDED

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MOUNTAIN RIDES TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Wednesday, September 20, 2023, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Call and in person, Hailey City Hall, Hailey, ID**

The Mountain Rides Transportation Authority's Board of Directors met in a Regular Meeting in person and on a conference call.

PRESENT: Chair Melody Mattson (at-large), Vice-chair Tom Blanchard (Bellevue), Neil Bradshaw (Ketchum), Martha Burke (Hailey), Grady Burnett (Sun Valley), Peter Hendricks (Sun Valley), Kathleen Kristenson (Blaine County) and Kristin Derrig (Ketchum)

ALSO PRESENT: Mountain Rides Executive Director, Wally Morgus
Mountain Rides Director, Finance, Tucker Van Law
Mountain Rides Director, Communications, Kim MacPherson (online)
Mountain Rides Director, Operations, Jamie Canfield
Mountain Rides Manager of Human Resources, Jerry Garcia
Mountain Rides Director, Maintenance, Carlos Tellez
Brian Yeager, City of Hailey (online)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Melody Mattson called to order the meeting of Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 1:04 pm via conference call and in person at Hailey City Hall, Hailey, ID. Secretary Grady Burnett took roll and determined that a quorum was present.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR, BOARD MEMBERS, and STAFF

Kathleen Kristenson said she is sad to be leaving the board but will stay on until they find a replacement. She was glad to have the opportunity to serve on the board.
Kristin Derrig brought up that some people have been left at bus stops.
Jamie Canfield said that riders do need to be visible to the drivers.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (incl. questions from Press)

No comments.

4. ACTION ITEM: Consent Agenda

- a. *Approve: Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, August 16, 2023*
- b. *Receive/file: Minutes of Planning & Marketing Committee Meeting, Sept, 6, 2023*
- c. *Receive/file: Minutes of Finance & Performance Committee Meeting, Sept 6, 2023*
- d. *Receive/file: Performance Dashboard report for August 2023*
- e. *Receive/file: July 2023 Operating Fund Financial Statements and Bills Paid*

f. *Receive/file: Reports from Director, Maintenance; Director, Communications; Director, Transit Operations; Director, Finance & Administration; Manager, Human Resources; Executive Director*

g. *Approve/file: Owner’s Rep Agreement*

Wally Morgus stated that we have received \$1.7M funding from our local partners for FY24. We requested \$1.35M and still have \$155,000 still pending from that request. We are prepared to go into the contingency fund to get us through. We may go back to the JPA’s for FY25 to get the remaining \$200,000 of the funding to replenish the contingency funding.

Peter Hendricks wanted to confirm that it was Ketchum who did not give the full ask for the building. He asked if we would be asking the City of Ketchum for that amount next year and Wally confirmed that as a yes. Peter is concerned about the contingency fund being dedicated to the building fund and it doesn’t seem equitable to the rest of the JPA’s.

Neil Bradshaw said the City of Ketchum is very supportive of the project and the \$400,000 (of the \$600,000) that they are giving is the largest amount. He remains confident that they will be able to find the remaining amount.

Grady Burnett said he checked out Destry Simpson, Square D Construction, and he got a 5 star rating from Magleby whom he used to work for.

Wally Morgus stated that ridership is still very good and rising.

Peter Hendricks asked if we needed to have increased service to accommodate the increase ridership and Wally agreed that we need to look at it. It’s a mixed blessing so we need to plan ahead and increase our resources.

Neil Bradshaw moved to receive, approve, adopt, and file the Consent Agenda. Kristin Derrig seconded. The motion passed.

5. ACTION ITEM: Approve FY24 Service Plan

Wally Morgus said this is the same service plan that we brought in front of the board early in the summer. We will be up about 1700 hours in FY24.

Peter Hendricks moved to receive, approve, adopt, and file the Consent Agenda. Neil Bradshaw seconded. The motion passed.

6. ACTION ITEM: Approve Org Chart and Payscale

Neil Bradshaw moved to receive, approve, adopt, and file the Consent Agenda. Melody Mattson seconded. The motion passed.

7. ACTION ITEM: Approve FY24 Budget

Kristin Derrig moved to receive, approve, adopt, and file the Consent Agenda. Tom Blanchard seconded. The motion passed.

8. DISCUSSION ITEM:

Mountain Rides Role in County-wide Transportation Planning

Wally Morgus said that Mountain Rides has taken a back seat to the county wide planning, and it has come to the fore. Transportation planning is very important for the future and people are looking to us as the authority in this process. It is essential that we get involved in the bigger picture planning process.

The board suggested that we stay on the sub committee for the Blaine County sustainability group.

Wally said we will monitor what the land use/transportation committee creates the aspirational goals. He let Andrew know that we do have constraints and financial limits that we have to be aware of. There are a variety of non-profits and citizens at large that have a seat at the table.

Peter Hendricks suggested being mindful of the time that we spend on this committee.

9. DISCUSSION ITEM:

Workforce Housing Option for Mountain Rides’ New BEB Facility in Bellevue

Wally Morgus said that we had thought about adding work force housing infrastructure on the top floor eventually. We cannot include housing in FTA funded structures currently. At this point, Wally said we should build an electric bus facility and focus on that.

Neil Bradshaw said he is supportive of being focused on the facility for electric buses. Not everything has to be housing focused.

Tom Blanchard would be supportive of being able to add solar panels to the new building.

10. DISCUSSION ITEM:

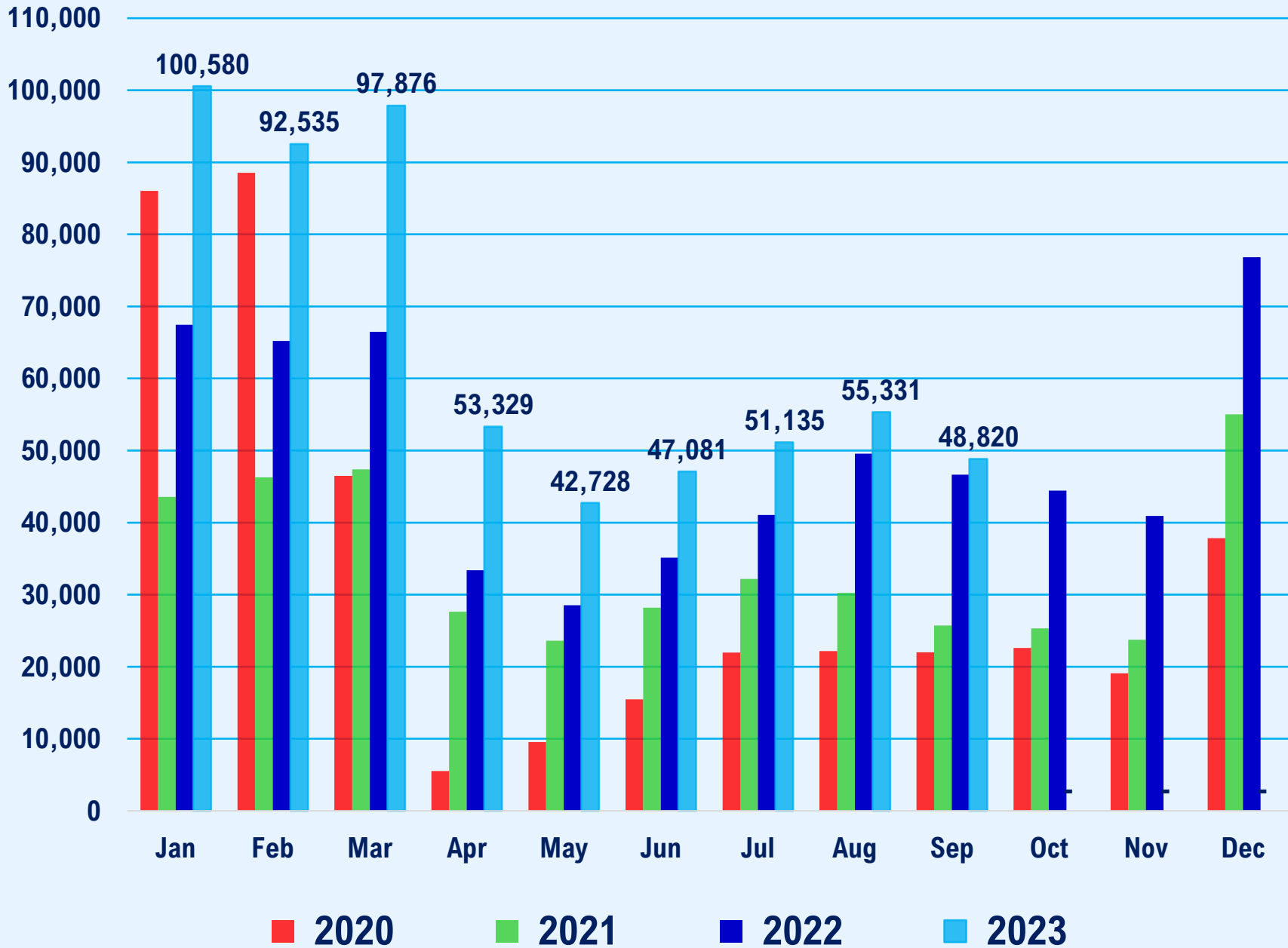
Items of Interest to the Members

11. ADJOURNMENT

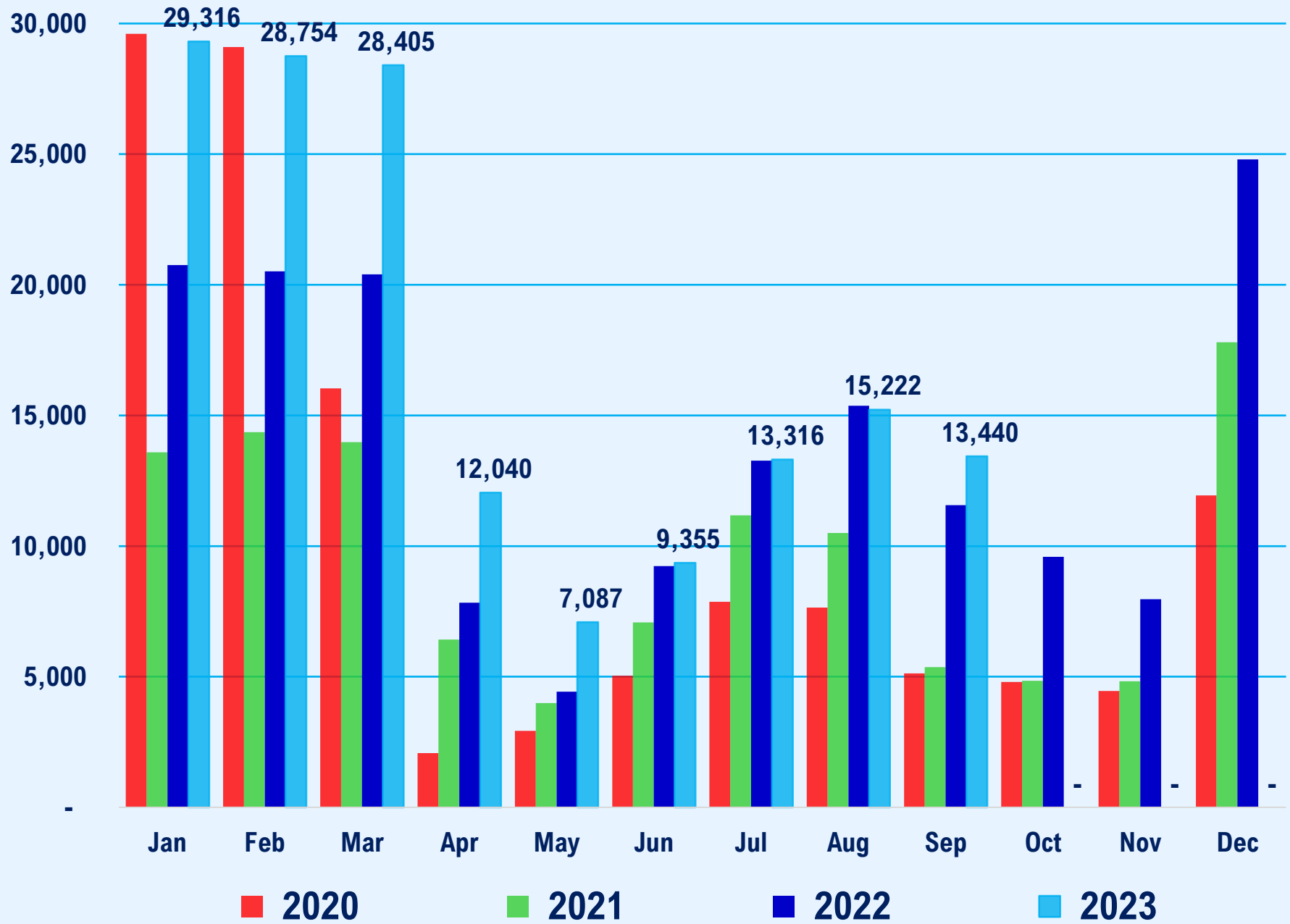
Martha Burke moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:49pm. Tom Blanchard seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Melody Mattson

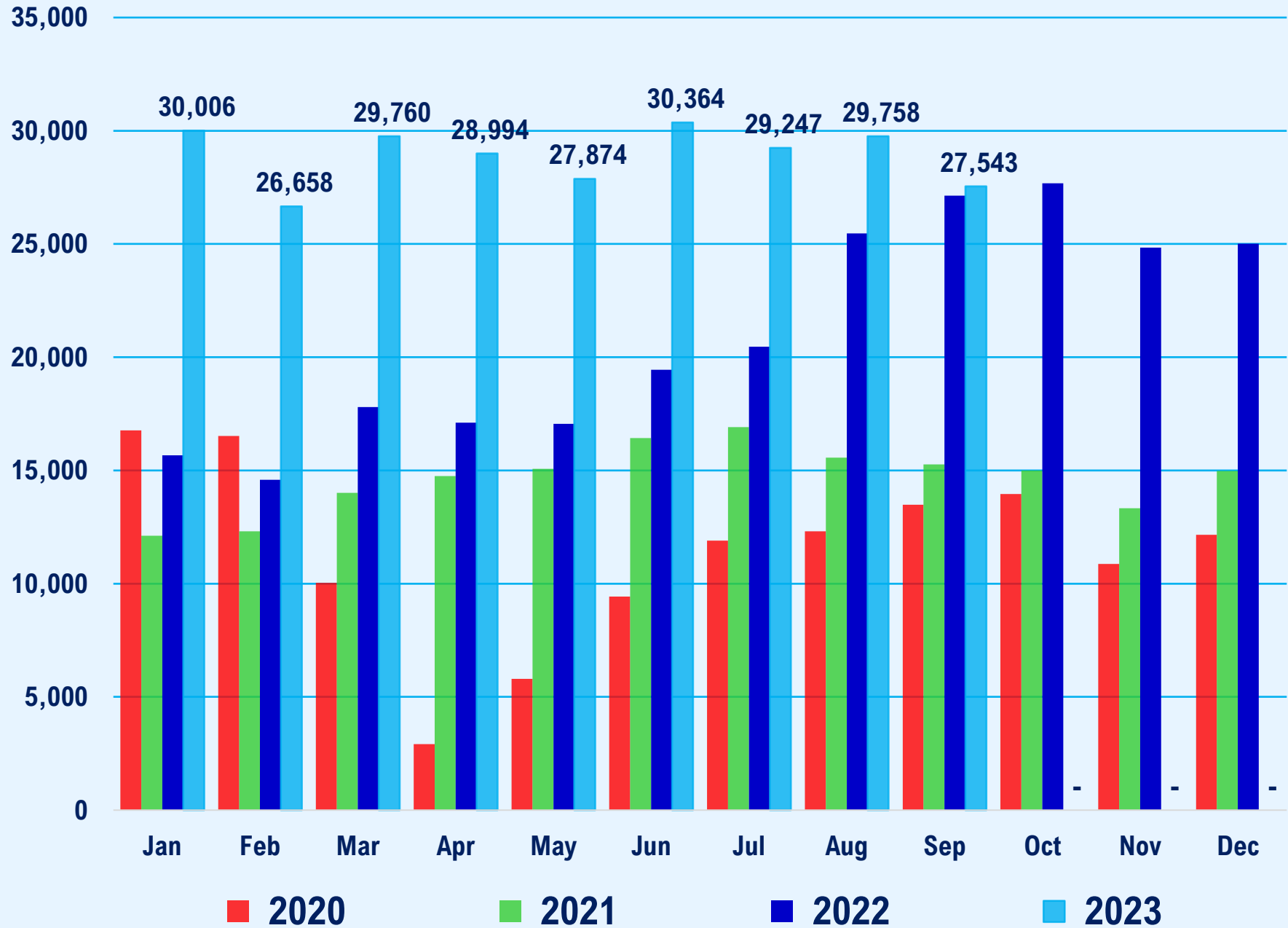
MRTA Total Riders



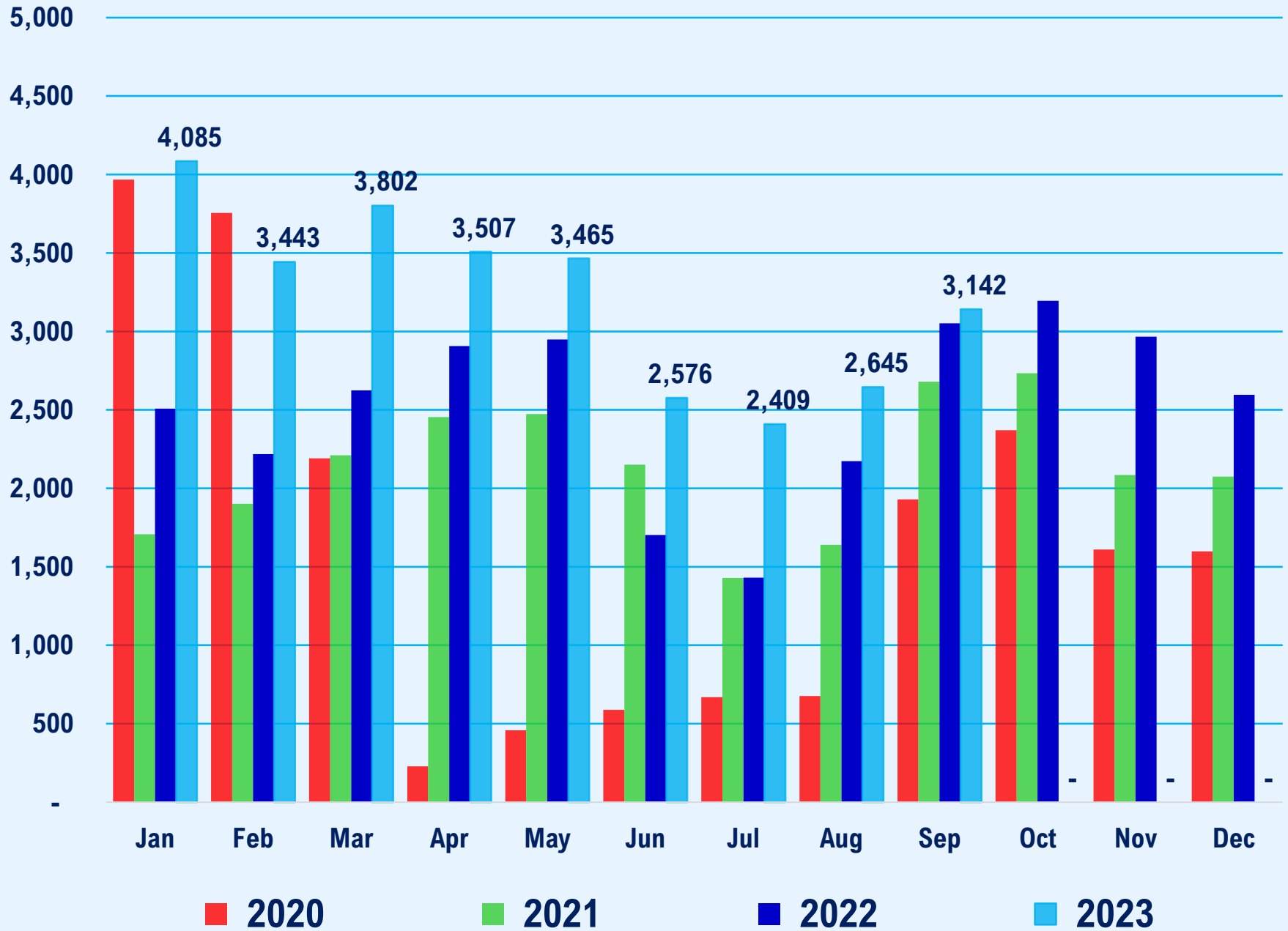
MRTA Blue Route Riders



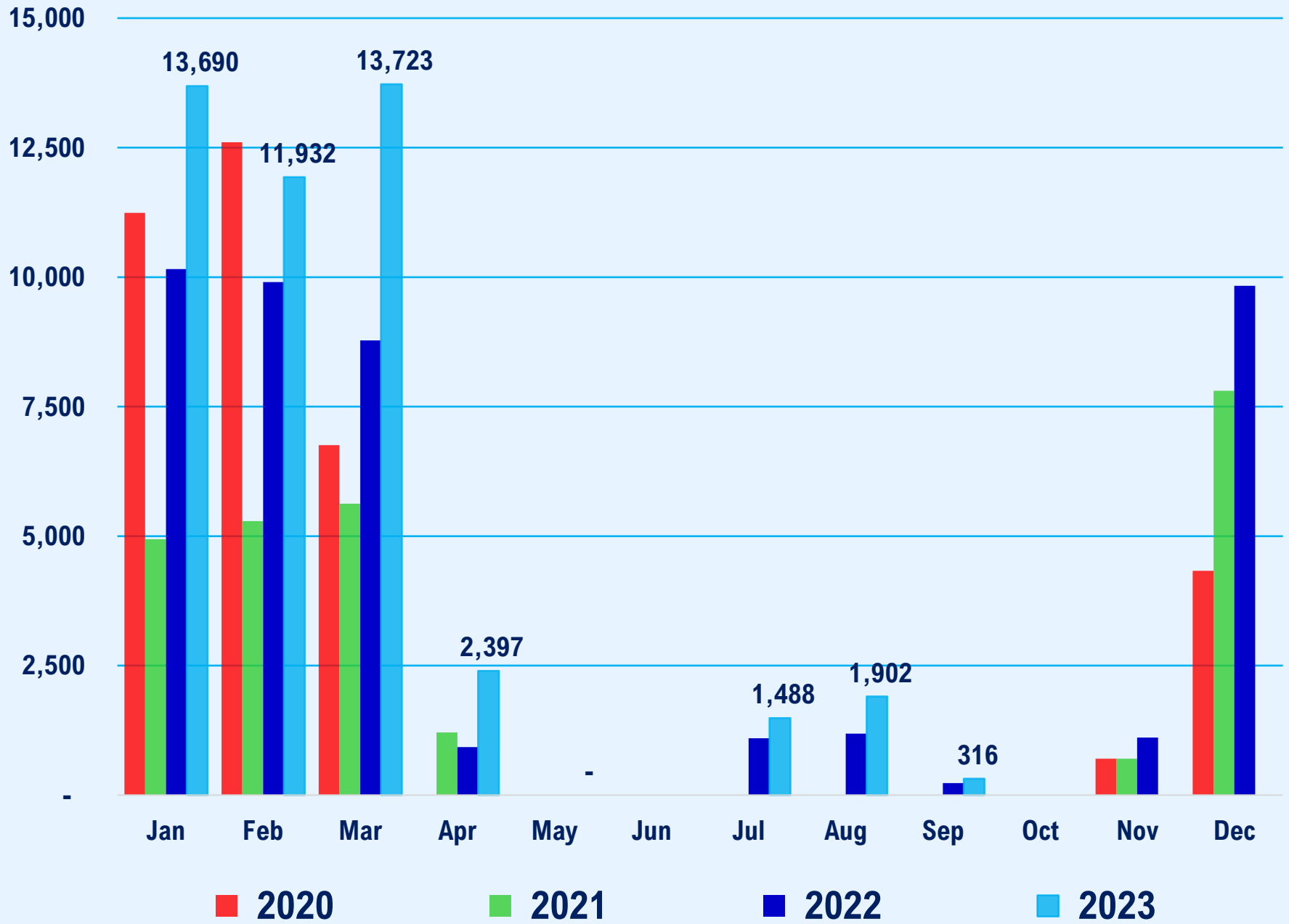
MRTA Valley Route Riders



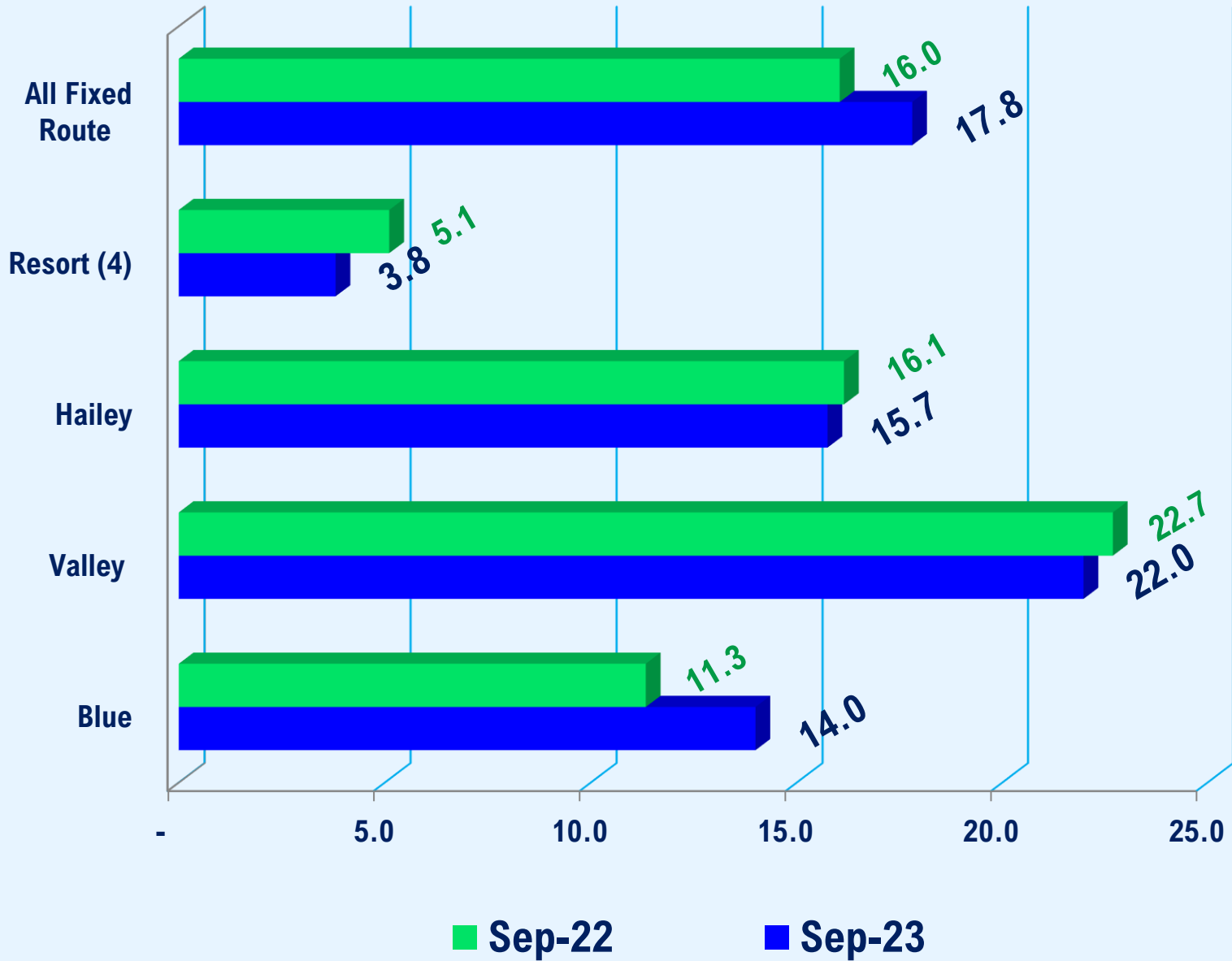
MRTA Hailey Route Riders



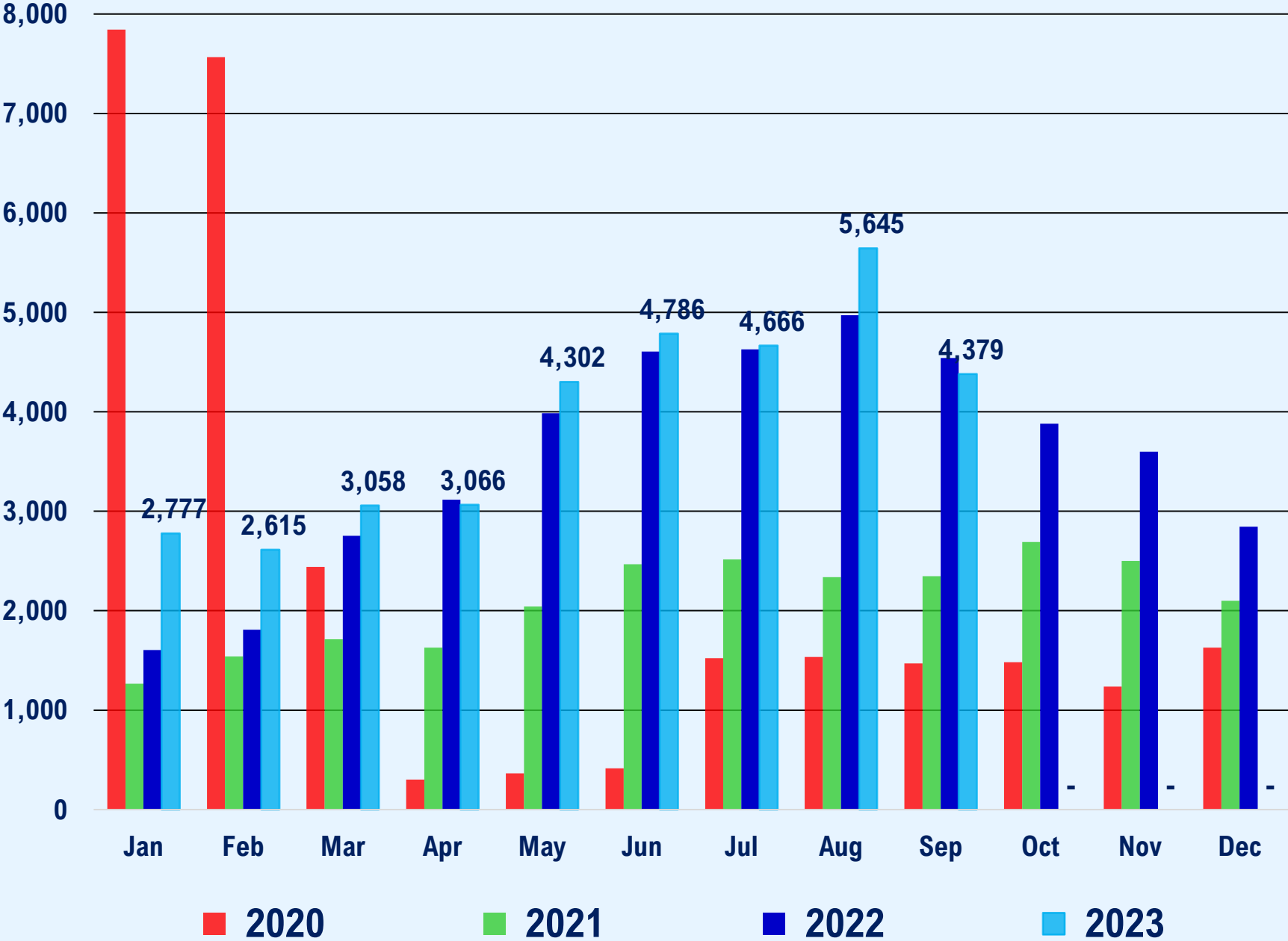
MRTA Silver Route Riders



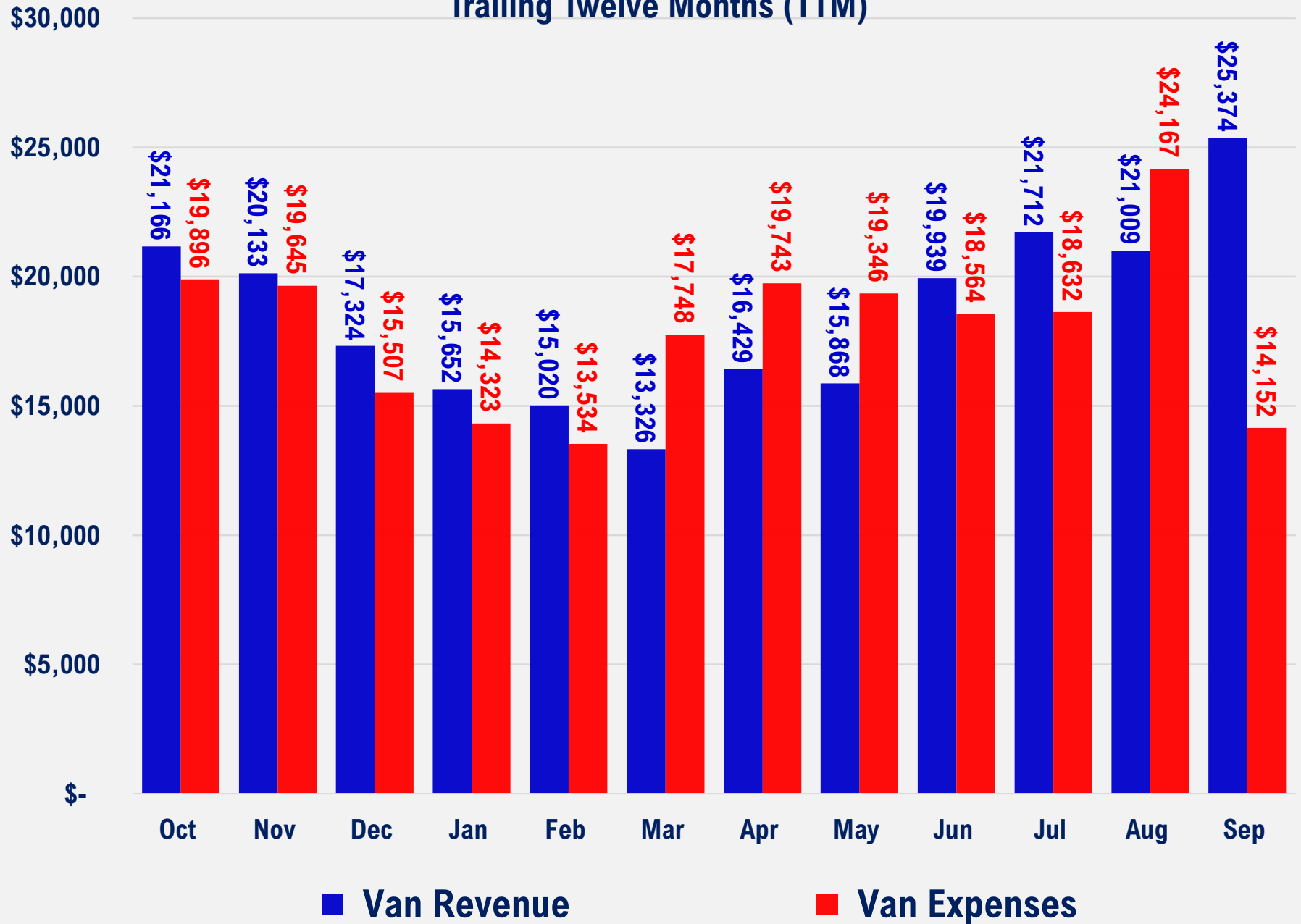
MRTA Riders per Hour



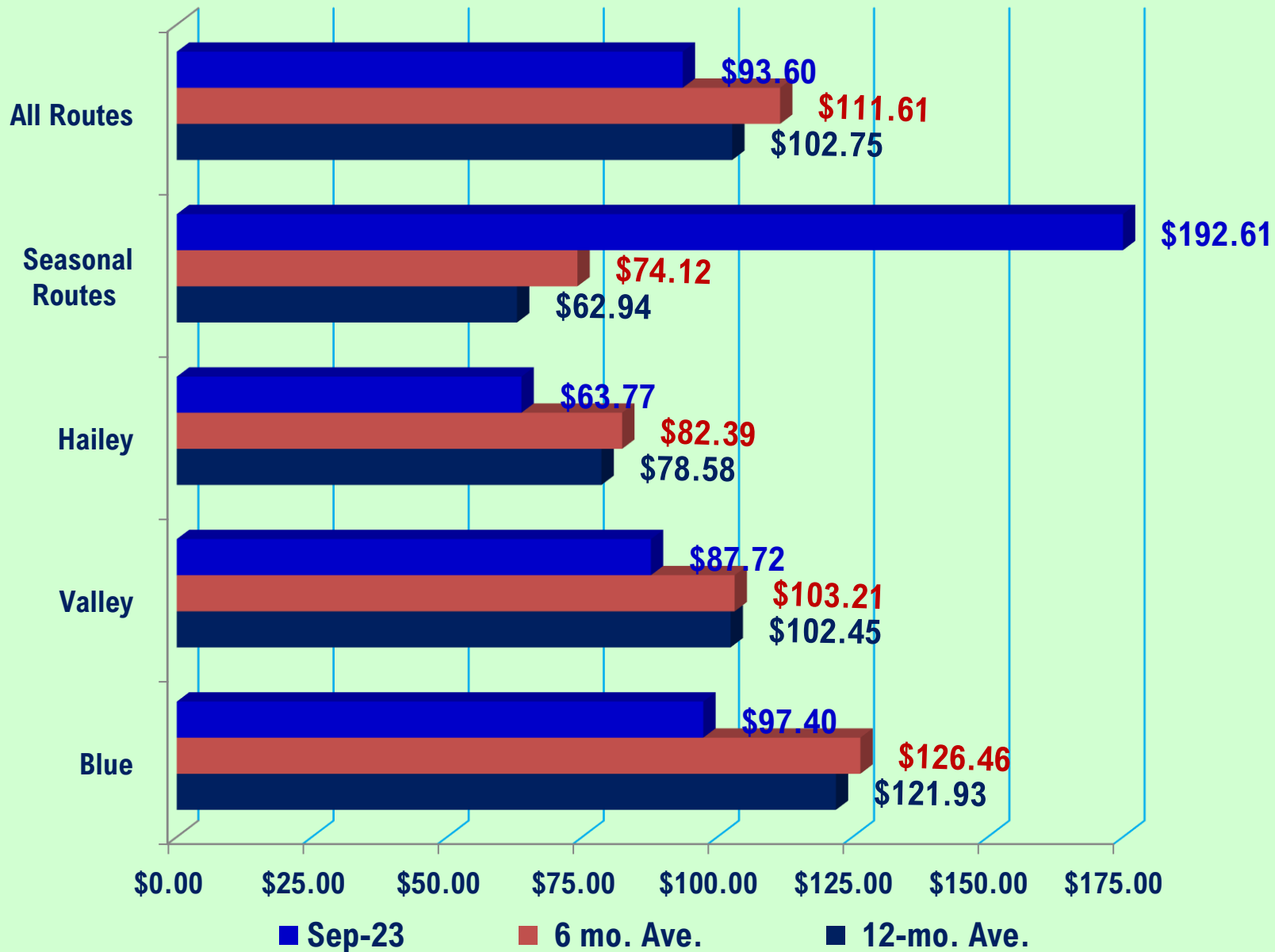
MRTA Vanpool Riders



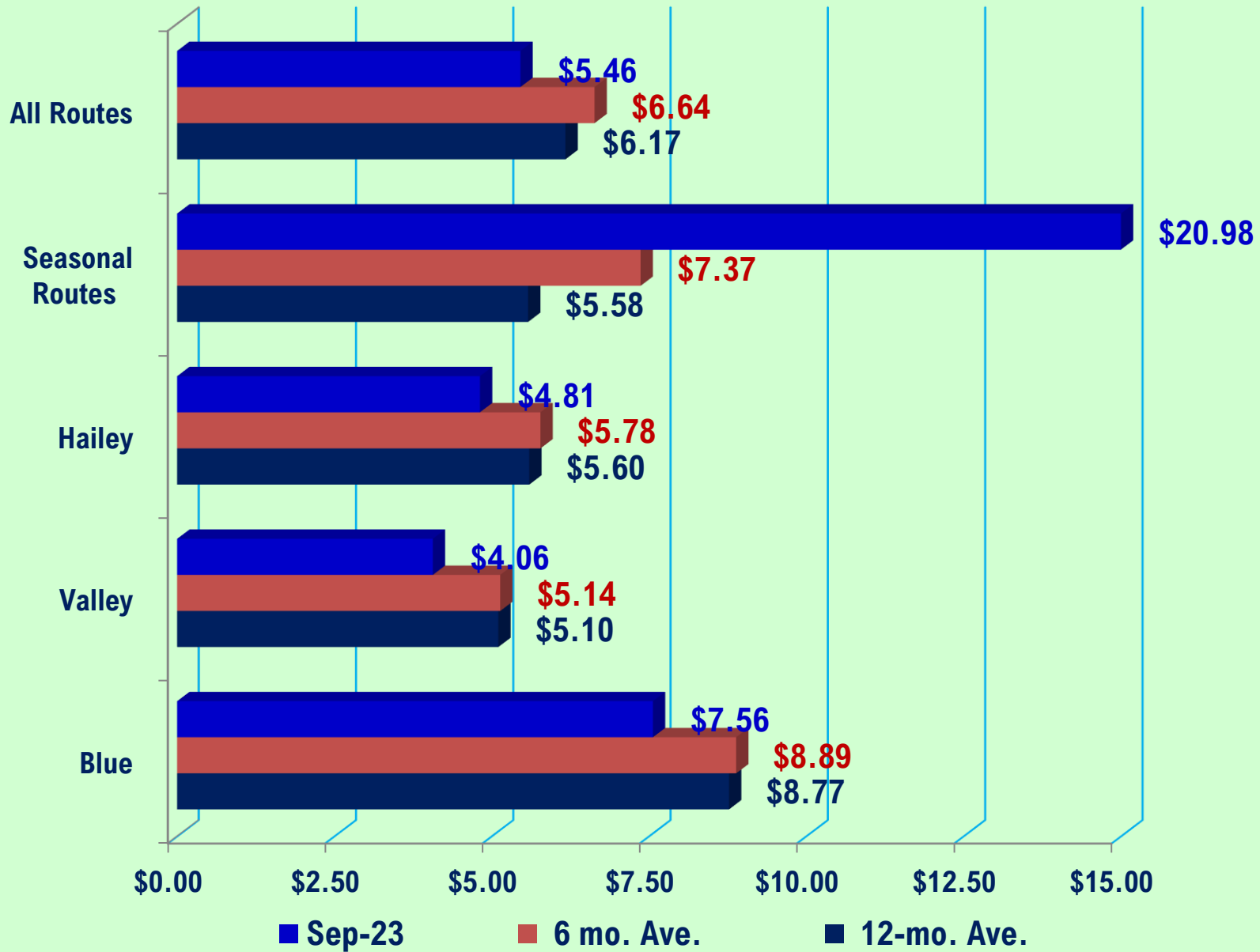
Vanpool Revenue & Expense Trailing Twelve Months (TTM)



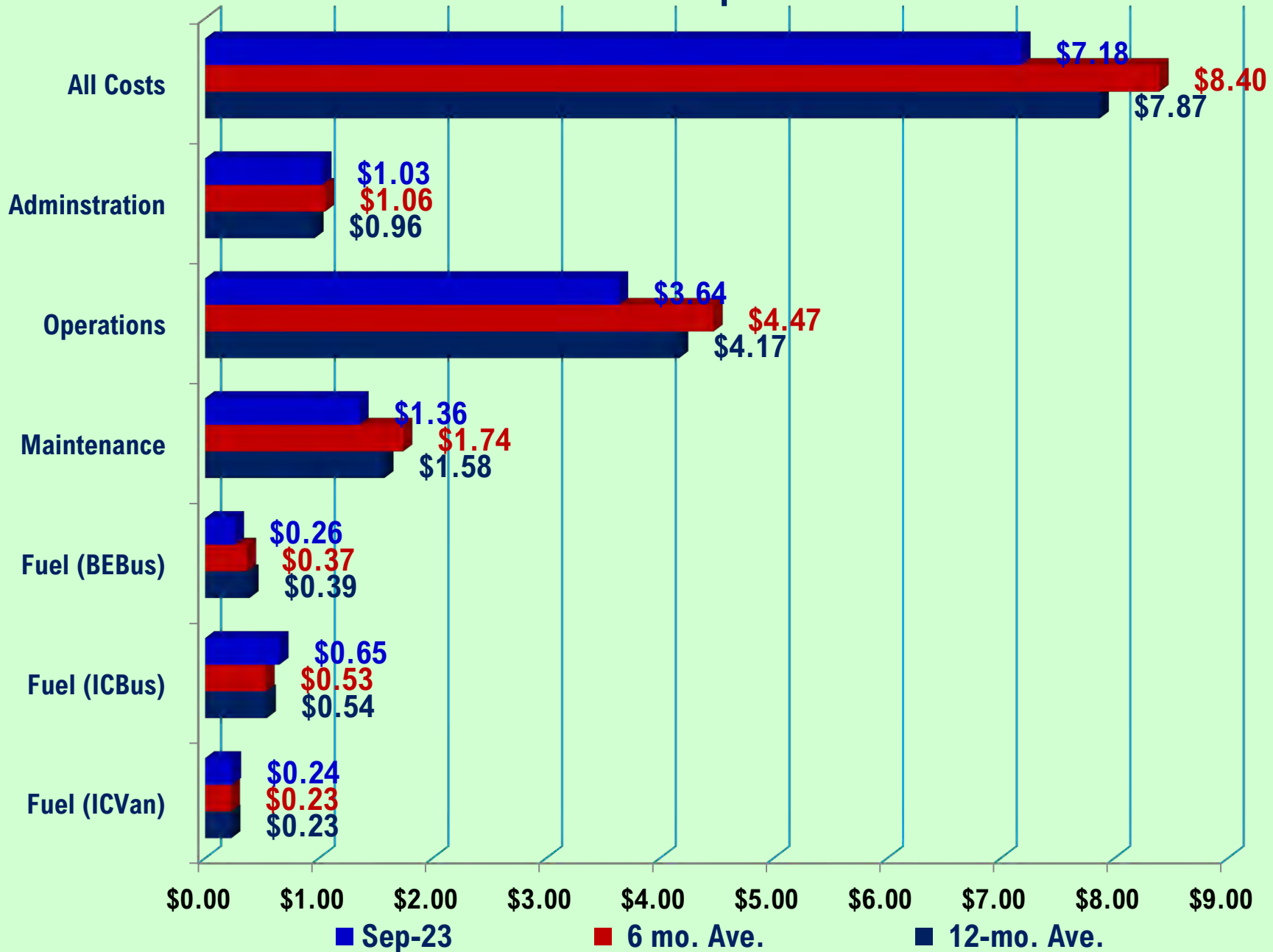
MRTA Cost per Hour of Service



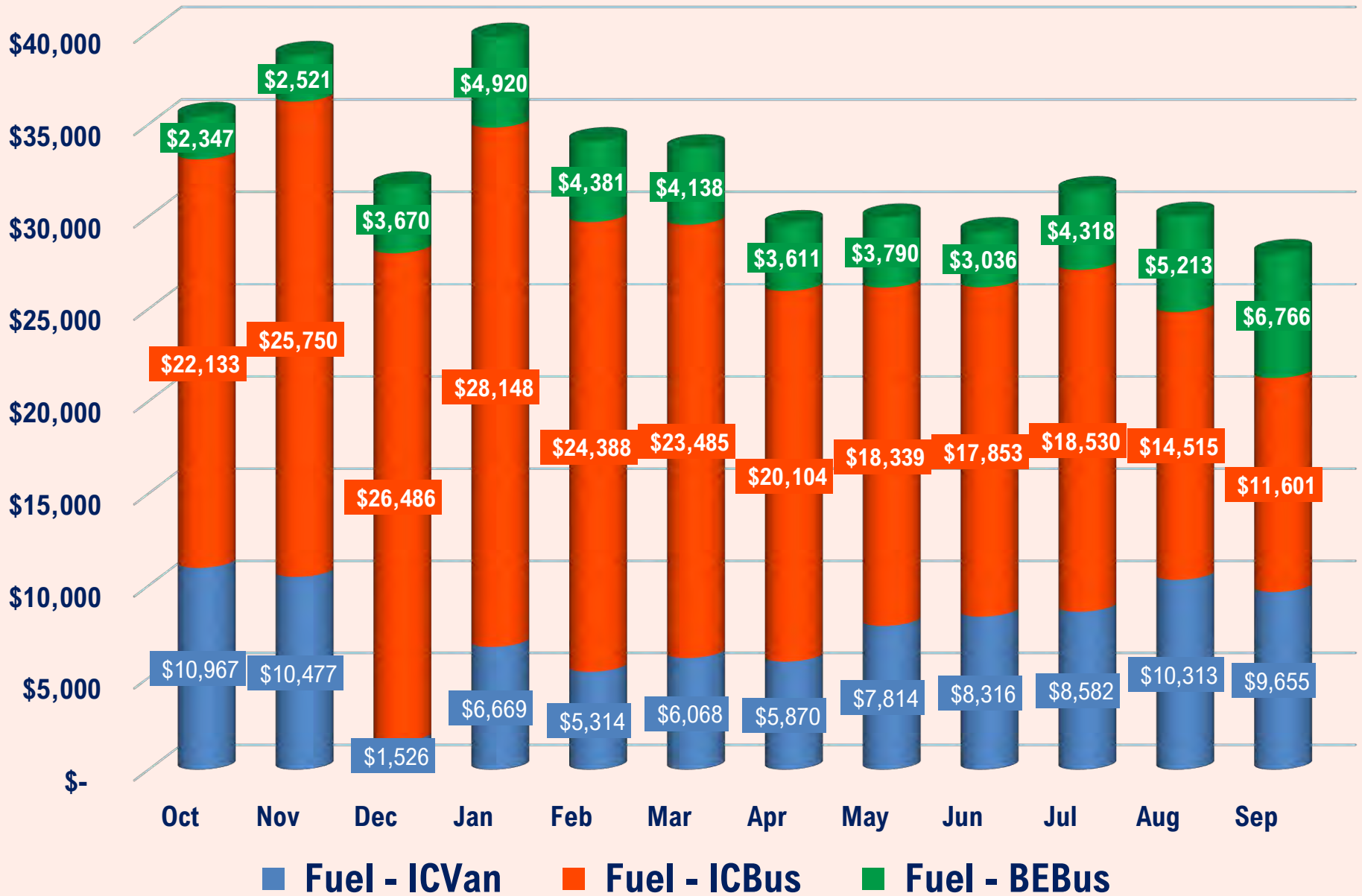
MRTA Cost per Mile of Service



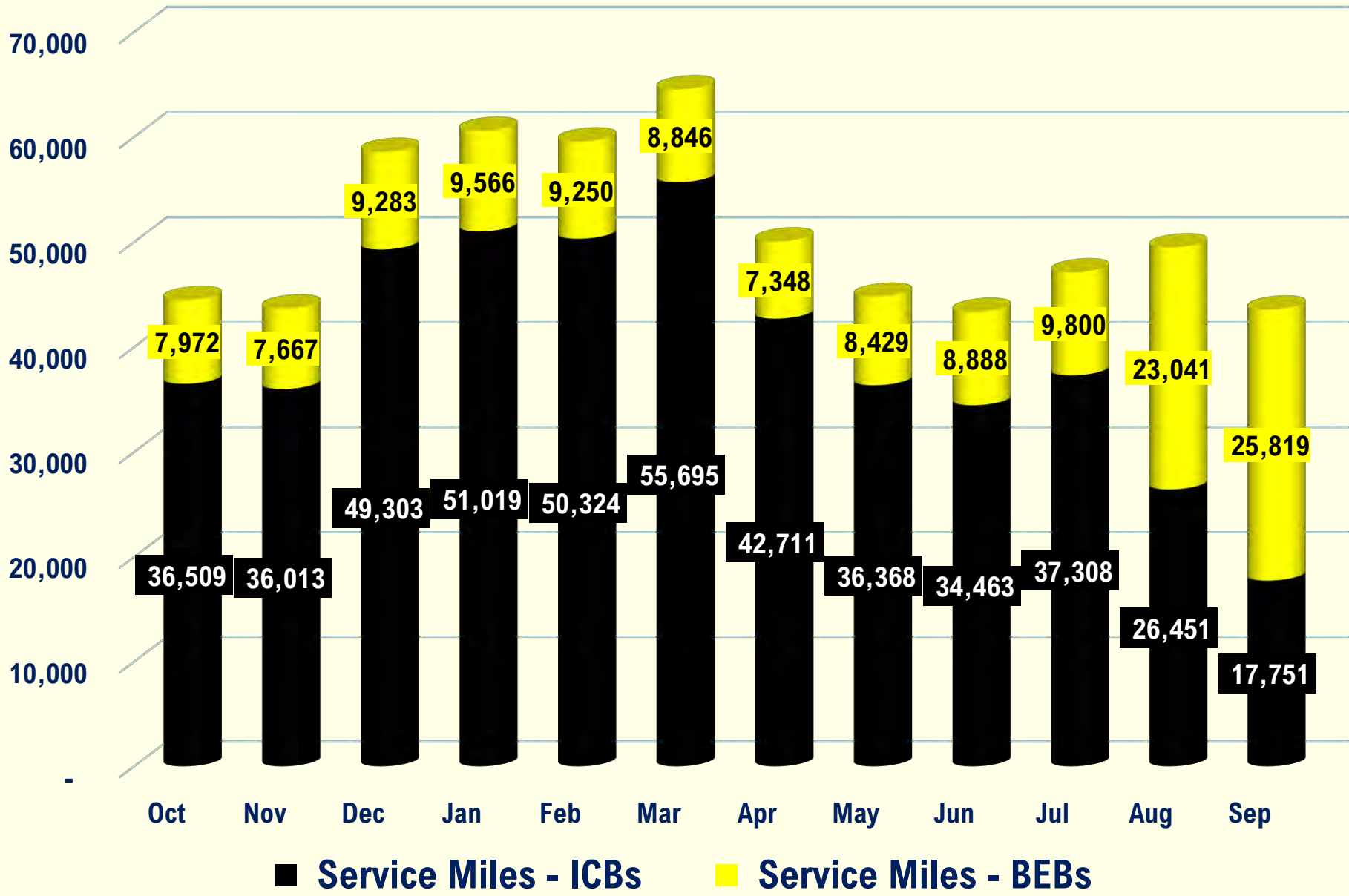
MRTA Cost per Mile



Fuel Expense Trailing Twelve Months (TTM)

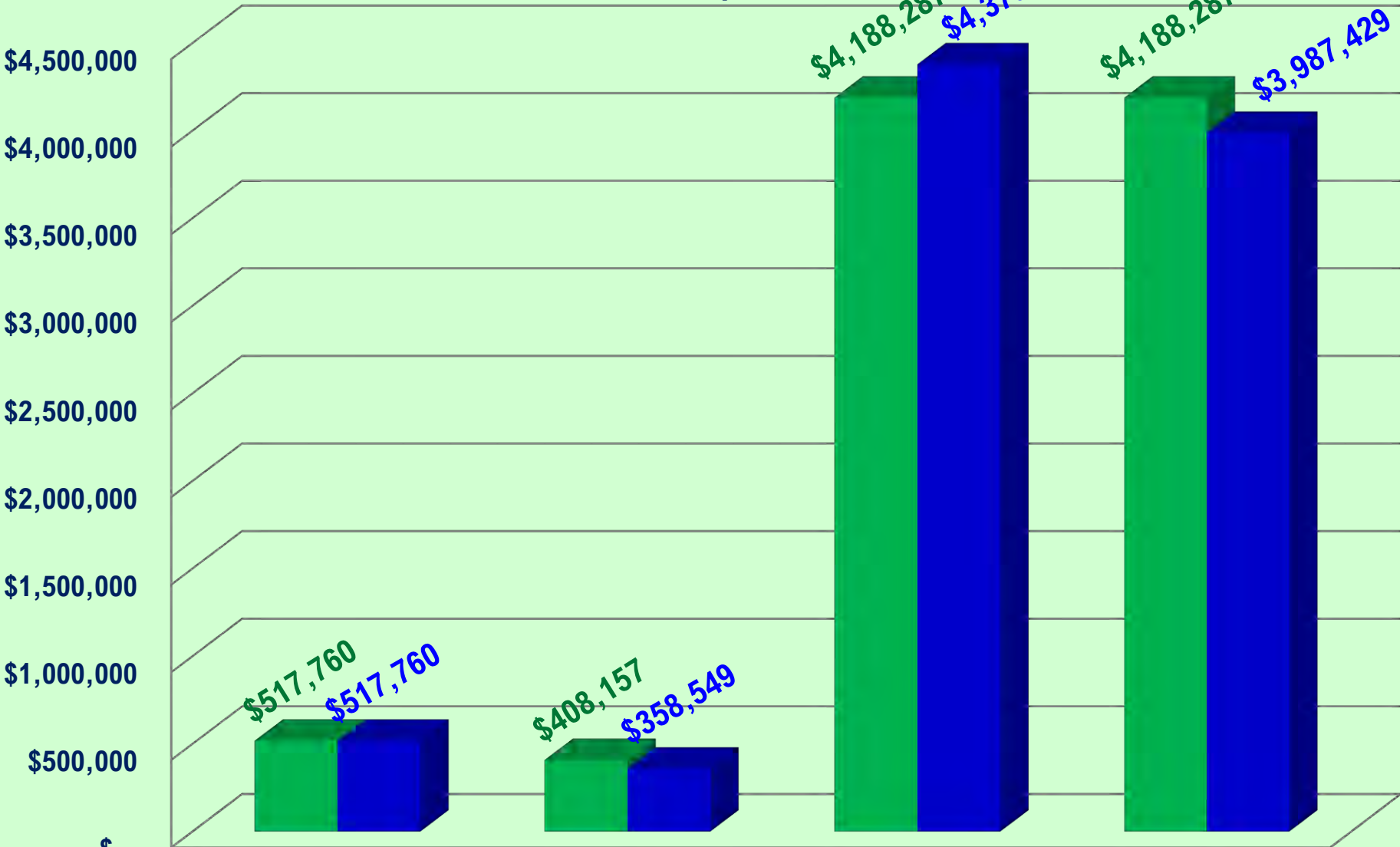


Service Miles by Vehicle Type Trailing Twelve Months (TTM)



MRTA Revenue & Expenses, Budget v Prelim Actual

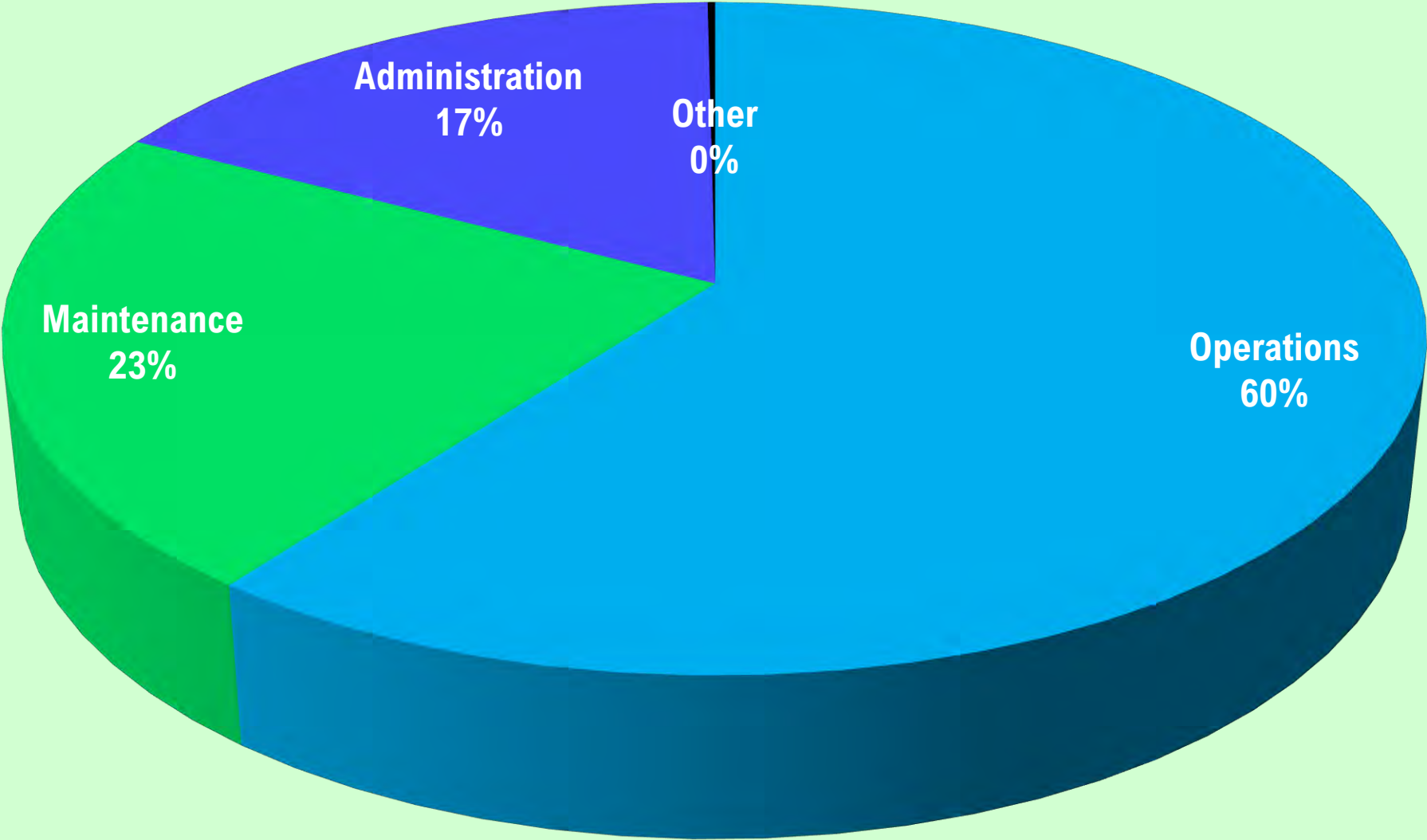
September 2023



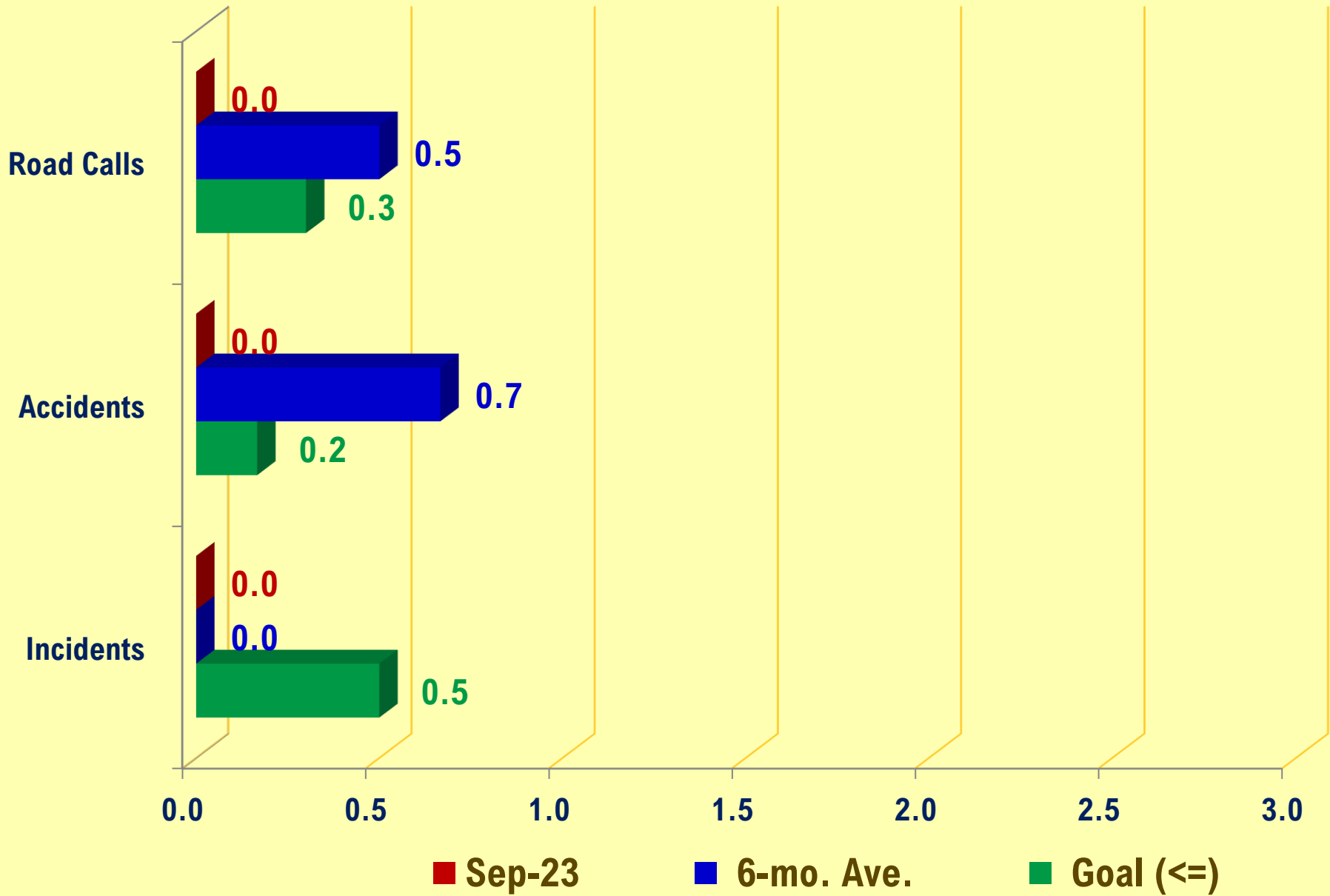
	Revenue (Mo.)	Expenses (Mo.)	Revenue (FYTD)	Expenses (FYTD)
■ Budget	\$517,760	\$408,157	\$4,188,287	\$4,188,287
■ Actual	\$517,760	\$358,549	\$4,378,453	\$3,987,429

MRTA Cost by Department

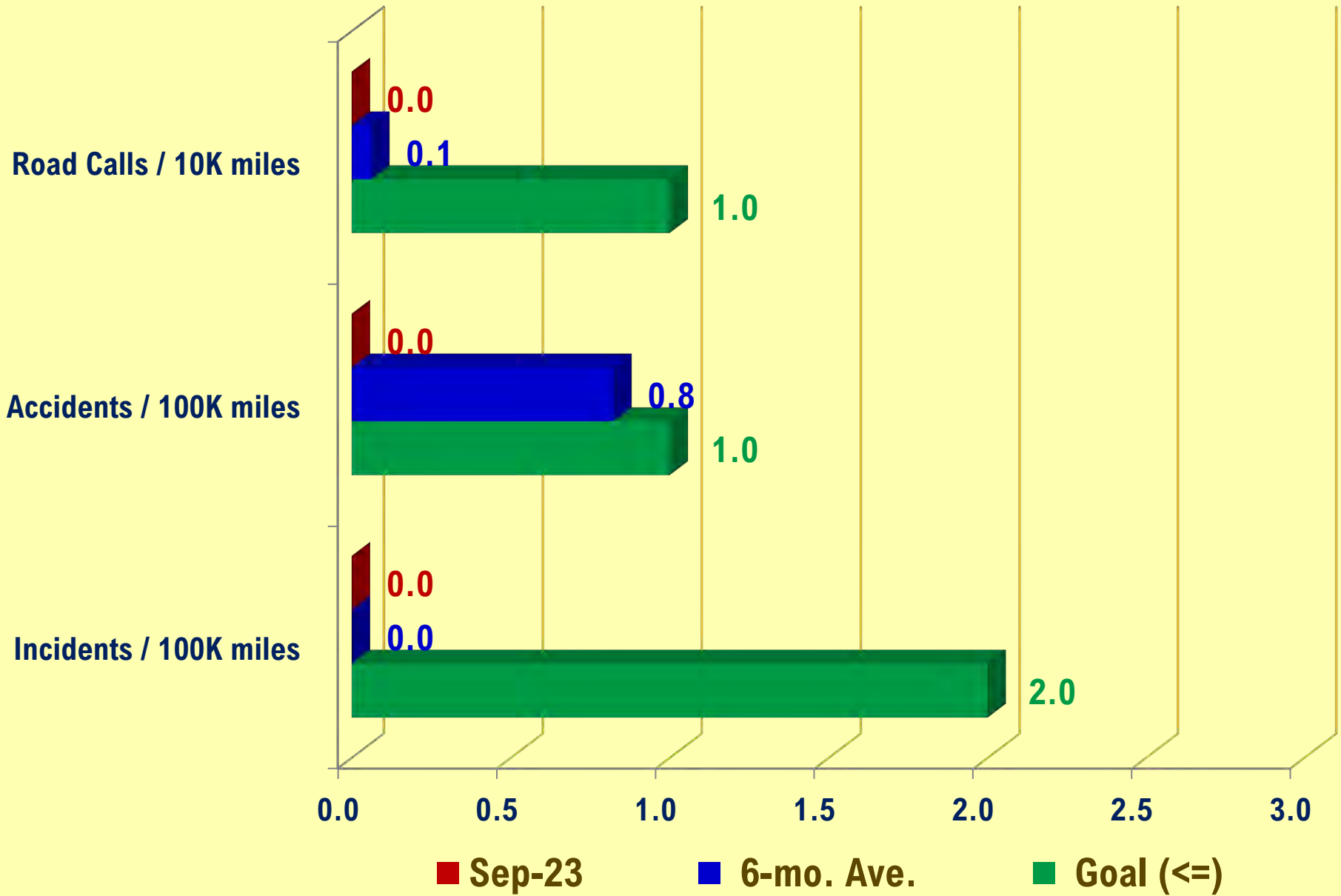
September 2023, Total = \$358,549



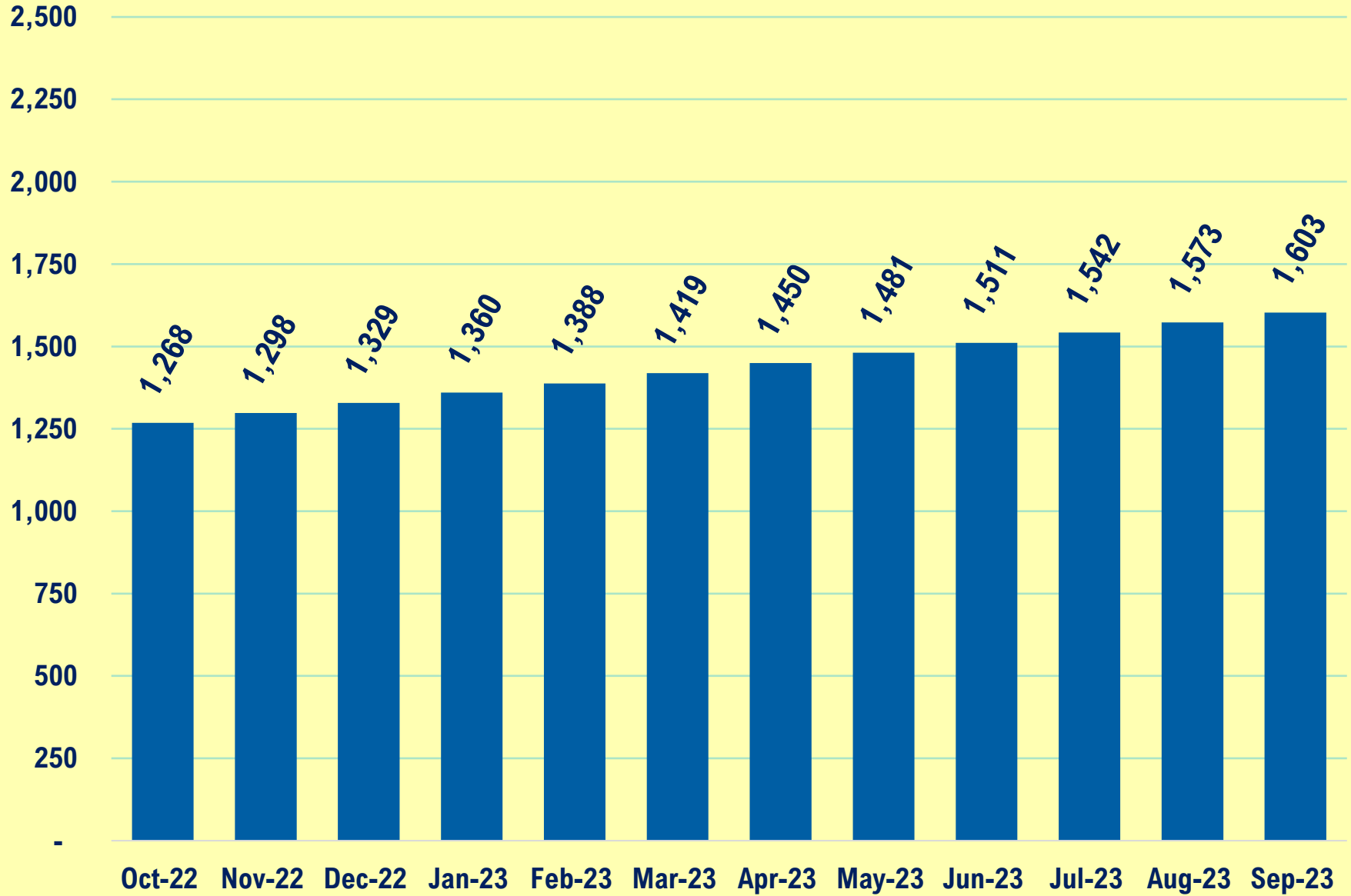
MRTA Operations Safety (Nominal Data)



MRTA Operations Safety (Standardized Data)



MRTA Maintenance Safety



■ Days Since Last-time Accident

Mountain Rides Staff Report

Date: 10/18/2023

Staff Member: Carlos Tellez

Department: Maintenance, Fleet and Facilities

Department Highlights from the Previous Month:

Maintenance team is working on winter preparedness.
We have been working on using only BEB on all routes including the Valley route, and finally; we have accomplished our goal. We are currently using BEB on all routes.

Progress on projects/initiatives:

The shelter at Main & Spruce St in Bellevue will be installed very soon.
We are close to finishing the design stage for the new building in Bellevue.

Challenges/ Opportunities:

Maintenance still looking for a mechanic. The last one unfortunately didn't work out and we were force to let them go.
We still waiting to hear from New Flyer for bus 2208 repairs.

Mountain Rides Staff Report

Date: 10/18/2023

Staff Member: Kim MacPherson

Department: Outreach and Communications

Department Highlights from the Previous Month:

The "new year" round bus schedule is ready and printed. This version features the Blue Route, the Valley Route and the Hailey Route which run year round.

Progress on projects/initiatives:

I started work on the ski edition of the bus schedule. This version will include the Winter Routes; Bronze, Silver and Gold as well as the Blue Route.

I am working with the NADTC for a pilot program to complete activities related to marketing/promotion of the Mountain Rides ADA/NEMT service. This is part of the grant we received so everything will be paid for out of this grant. They have started placing ads on Instagram, Facebook and locally in the Idaho Mountain Express. Please see attached.

I have also included an obituary of one of our ADA passengers that many of us had the honor to transport to her medical appointments. The family appreciated the help we gave to their mother.

Challenges/ Opportunities:

Elena Misquez Trujeque

Nov. 24, 1940 - Sept. 22, 2023

82 years young

Elena Misquez Trujeque, more affectionately known as "Nani," passed away on Friday, Sept. 22, at her home with her supportive and loving family by her side.

Nani was born on Nov. 24, 1940, in Sonora, Arizona, as the third of five children to Hilario Misquez and Celia Leija Misquez. Nani spent the first 10 years of her life in Arizona before her family moved to the Southern California area. Nani met the love of her life, Charles "Papa" R. Trujeque, at age 20, and they would marry two years later and have five children. Nani and Papa made a good, long, and healthy life together with a large extended family, and would remain happily married for 48 years until Papa's passing in 2011.



Nani was known, and will be most remembered as a loving and caring woman, one who always was willing to take care of others, which is attributed to her duties throughout her professional livelihood as a nurse and caregiver. Nani spent a large majority of her early adulthood in the Southern California area caring for underprivileged and at-risk infants and toddlers. Nani was also a caregiver to country music legend Merle Haggard's children for well over a decade in Redding, California, where she would travel with him. That long-term experience also turned into great storytelling with any new friends she met later in life. After working for Merle, Nani and Papa retired to Idaho to reside with family and made this mountainous paradise their home until their respective passings. Anyone who had the honor of knowing Nani knew she spoke ill of no one, and had a warm smile, a contagious laugh, and a welcoming hug, usually when you needed it most. Nani had such an unrivaled loving, caring, and peaceful disposition about her, such that one would be hard-pressed to match it.

Nani is survived by her children, Charlene (William) Colon, Susanne Trujeque, Rene (Delia) Trujeque, and Phillip Trujeque; sister, Filomena (John) Duarte; brother, Hilario Misquez; nine grandchildren, Christina, Bridgette, Teddy, Erika, Ciara, Rudy 11f, Jeremy, Trinidad, Xochitl; 10 great-grandchildren, Dominick, Fabian, Mariah, Brianna, Vivianne, Tristan, Dolores, Rudy (4th), Carter, Llewellyn, and a great-great-grandson, Luka Nikolai.

Nani is preceded in death by her parents and her husband; son, Theodore Trujeque; brother, Jose Misquez Sr.; sister, Chomena Cruz, and a great-great-granddaughter, Kahlani Leos.

All are invited to attend a service for Nani on Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2 p.m., at the Wood River Chapel, 403 N. Main St. in Hailey with a graveside ceremony to follow at the Hailey Cemetery.

Additionally, Nani's family would like to thank Mountain Rides and its wonderful drivers, and the caring personnel at Hospice & Palliative Care of the Wood River Valley.

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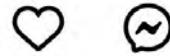
Mountain Rides offers fare-free
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in the Wood River Valley, ID.



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Mountain Rides Staff Report

Date: 10/18/2023

Staff Member: Jamie Canfield

Department: Operations

Department Highlights from the Previous Month:

The quiet time of the year is upon us, and we are preparing for the winter season with safety meetings and hirings.

Progress on projects/initiatives:

We have been able to fill some more spots in the roster for drivers for the winter. All drivers are returning with the exception of one, who moved out of the area.

Challenges/ Opportunities:

I believe we have enough drivers to make it through the winter without having to pull the amazing amount of overtime that we did last year. I will be working on a schedule for the winter in the next week.

Mountain Rides Staff Report

Date:

Staff Member:

Department:

Department Highlights from the Previous Month:

Fiscal year 2023 ended and barring something unexpected we will come under total total budgeted expenses by +100k. Excess operating funds can be used for future capital purchases.

Progress on projects/initiatives:

Beginning prep work for our fiscal year 2023 financial audit.
Workman and Company, CPA's, will be on-site November 13th - 15th.

Challenges/ Opportunities:

Mountain Rides Staff Report

Date: Oct 18, 2023

Staff Member: Wally Morgus, Executive Director

Department: Executive Director / Administration

Department Highlights from the Previous Month:

- 1) Weekly meetings re: design and details of new Bellevue BEB facility; collaboration includes Carlos Tellez, Tucker Van Law, Eric Humbach, Jolyon Sawrey (architect), and Destry Simpson (owner's rep). Goal is to submit drawings for design review in October.
- 2) Progress on funding (\$40,000) to fund our TWF-NEMT service (first 5+ months of FY24, until anticipated CARES funding is released by ITD-PT); contract is with SLHS Legal Department for final drafting. Anticipate execution of contract on or before Nov 15, 2023.
- 3) Attendance at and participation in annual ITD-PT Summit, which brings together transit officials from around the State for three days of engagement, learning, and networking.

Progress on projects/initiatives:

- FY24 Funding Requests status:
- Funding for ongoing FY24 ops/capital from JPs + other local partner: \$1,783,500 requested; \$1,783,500 granted.
 - Funding for BEB Facility construction (capital project) from JPs + other local partner: \$1,350,000 requested; \$995,000 granted.
- FY24 Grant Writing in-process:
- 5311 Operating Grant...2-year cycle...FY25 + FY26
 - 5339b Bus & Facilities Grants...FY25 + FY26 cycle
 - 5311 CARES (via ITD-PT)...one-time distribution of remaining CARES' funds

Challenges/ Opportunities:

- Replacing Director, Finance & Admin (Tucker Van Law), who resigned his post, effective Nov 1, 2023.
- Sustainable funding for the NEMT service to Twin Falls.
- RAISE Grant-funded transit infrastructure along SH-75, mid-valley.
- Transit infrastructure build-out, including funding for same.
- Fleet electrification.
- Mobility options for underserved neighborhoods (in the cities and county).
- Long-term capital investment plan, including underwriting thereof.
- Continuation (or not) of MRTA's zero-fare policy.
- Workforce recruiting, hiring, development, compensation, housing.
- Optimizing routes, routing, and bus schedules.

Mountain Rides Agenda Action Item Summary

Date:

From:

Action Item:

Committee Review: Yes No Committee Purview:

Previously discussed at board level: Yes No

Recommended Motion:

Fiscal Impact:

Related Policy or Procedural Impact:

Background:



Memo

To: Mountain Rides Board of Directors

From: Carlos Tellez, Director of Fleet Maintenance and Facilities

Date: 10/18/2023

Re: Surplus Bus 1 & 2

Mountain Rides purchased two low-floor heavy-duty buses in 2007 using 80% Federal Funds and 20% local funds.

Bus 1 & 2 are 16 years old. Bus 1 has 584,362 miles and Bus 2 has 615,015 miles on it. The buses had a 12-year FTA useful life.

The vehicles are beyond useful service life and are getting expensive to maintain. Mountain Rides can dispose of these vehicles without any service impact.

We are asking for the full Board to take action in October to allow staff to begin the surplus process.

Mountain Rides Agenda Discussion Item Summary

Date:

From:

Discussion Item:

Committee Review: yes
 no

Committee Purview:

Fiscal Impact:

Related Policy or Procedural Impact:

Background:

Currently, we have a few side panels for advertising available on the electric buses. We propose to create an ad that explains where the funding comes from for Mountain Rides.

Currently, in our bus schedule, we have a note that states: Mountain Rides is made possible by funding from Bellevue, Hailey, Ketchum, Sun Valley, Blaine County, Sun Valley Company and ITD.

Mountain Rides Agenda Discussion Item Summary

Date:

From:

Discussion Item:

Committee Review: yes
 no

Committee Purview:

Fiscal Impact:

Related Policy or Procedural Impact:

Background:

Mountain Rides Agenda Discussion Item Summary

Date:

Oct 18, 2023

From:

MRTA Board of Directors

Discussion Item:

8. Items of Interest to the Board

Committee Review:

- yes
- no

Committee
Purview:

Fiscal Impact:

Related Policy or
Procedural Impact:

Background:

The Board may discuss items of interest, if any.