Valley Metro
System Fact Sheet

Valley Metro is the regional public transportation agency providing coordinated, multi-modal transit options to residents of greater Phoenix. With a core mission of advancing a regional transportation network, Valley Metro plans, develops and operates the bus, vanpool and light rail systems and alternative transportation programs for commuters, seniors and people with disabilities.

HISTORY

In 1993, the name Valley Metro was adopted as the identity for the regional transit system in the metropolitan Phoenix region. Under this brand name, local governments set the policy for the regional system that operates throughout the Valley. In 2008, the first 20 miles of light rail began service and six additional miles were added in 2015 and 2016. Currently, six light rail extensions are planned or under construction to create a 66-mile system by 2034.

Valley Metro is governed by two boards of directors. The Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) Board consists of 18 public agencies that set the policy direction for all modes of transit except light rail. The Valley Metro Rail Board consists of five cities that set the policy direction for light rail high capacity transit. The boards and the agency work to improve and regionalize the public transit system.

REGIONAL FUNDING

Maricopa County voters approved Proposition 400 in 2004 extending the 1983 county-wide transportation tax. The half-cent on every dollar of goods purchased funds the Regional Transportation Plan, which includes basic transit services. Since 2004, transit receives one-third of the half-cent tax, which is used for regional bus services and high-capacity transit services such as light rail and streetcar; the remaining two-thirds goes toward freeways and streets. The half-cent sales tax, along with federal matching funds and other funding sources, is projected to provide $6.9 billion in public transportation improvements through 2026.

Fixed-route bus, light rail and alternative transportation programs also receive funding from the Federal Transit Administration, Arizona Department of Transportation, Maricopa Association of Governments and member agencies.

VALLEY METRO SERVICES

- Local, Express and RAPID bus service
- Light rail and streetcar
- Rural route and neighborhood circulators
- Paratransit/Dial-a-Ride
- Commuter vanpools
- Online commute matching system
- Employer assistance in creating and implementing travel reduction plans

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OPERATIONS STATISTICS – JULY 1, 2016 TO JUNE 30, 2017

DEMOGRAPHICS
Maricopa County population(1) 4,088,549
Maricopa County area(2) 9,224 sq. miles
People living within ¼ mile of a bus route(1) 2,103,266
Bus service area (¼ mile)(1) 518 sq. miles
Percent of population living within ¼ mile of a bus route(1) 51%

SERVICE CHARACTERISTICS
Number of bus routes 61 Local
6 RAPID and 14 Express
18 Circulators
1 Rural Route
Number of Dial-a-Ride systems 9
Annual revenue miles of service Bus 32,069,729
Rail 3,324,924
Vanpool 6,876,144
Annual revenue hours of service Dial-a-Ride 478,822
Number of vehicles Bus 880
Rail 50
Dial-a-Ride 167
Vanpool 424
Average age of vehicles Bus 6.49 years
Rail 8.5 years
Dial-a-Ride 4.46 years
Vanpool 4.30 years

FINANCIAL INFORMATION
Annual Operating Revenues
Bus fares $38,096,629
Rail fares $13,363,159
Dial-a-Ride fares $3,076,909
Vanpool fares $3,432,551
Federal, state and local funds $284,691,369
TOTAL $342,660,617
Annual Operating Expenses
Bus service $248,104,888
Rail service $41,487,087
Dial-a-Ride service $49,855,716
Vanpool service $3,212,926
TOTAL $342,660,617

ANNUAL RIDERSHIP DATA
Passenger Boardings
Bus 49,446,260
Rail 16,511,184
Dial-a-Ride 1,142,308
Vanpool 1,183,707
Bike-on-bus 1,363,131

CAPITAL FACILITIES
Transit centers 14
Publicly-owned park-and-rides 41
Joint-use park-and-rides 13
Bus stops 7,568
Rail stations 35
Publicly and privately-owned maintenance facilities 11
TOTAL 7,682

FINANCIAL DATA
Percent of operating cost covered by passenger fares
Bus 15.4%
Rail 32.2%
Dial-a-Ride 6.2%
Vanpool 106.8%
Operating cost per passenger
Bus $5.02
Rail $2.51
Dial-a-Ride $43.64
Vanpool $2.71
Operating cost per mile
Bus $7.74
Rail $12.48
Dial-a-Ride $104.12
Operating revenue per passenger (average fare paid)
Bus $0.77
Rail $0.81
Dial-a-Ride $2.69
Vanpool $2.90

PROGRAMMED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES
Facilities
Bus $7,341,146
Rail $83,580,345
TOTAL $90,921,491

Fleet
Bus $55,448,153
Rail $3,636,364
Vanpool $2,658,000
TOTAL $61,742,517

COMMUTE SOLUTIONS
Supported by Maricopa County Travel Reduction Program
Maricopa County residents 32.4%
Employers 641,790
Employer sites 1,204
Employees 2,942
School sites 127
Students 181,780

Alternative Modes Use (one day per week or more)
Carpool/vanpool 21%
Telework 17%
Compressed work week 9%
Transit (bus and light rail) 7%
Bicycling 2%
Walking 2%

Results
ShareTheRide.com active participants 35,707
Greenhouse gases saved by ShareTheRide.com 5,290,699 lbs.

(1) 2016 American Community Survey (ACS)
(2) Financial data for bus includes local fixed route, circulator and Express/RAPID service
(3) Programmed capital expenditures according to the draft MAG 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program