



**Peer Comparison: National Transit
Database
Community Oversight Panel**

What is the National Transit Database?

- Created in 1974 to serve as data repository for all US transit systems
- Collects data on financial, operating and asset conditions using consistent methodology for all agencies
- Statistics used by FTA to allocate Federal formula funding and provide a source for peer comparison.

Why do we do it?

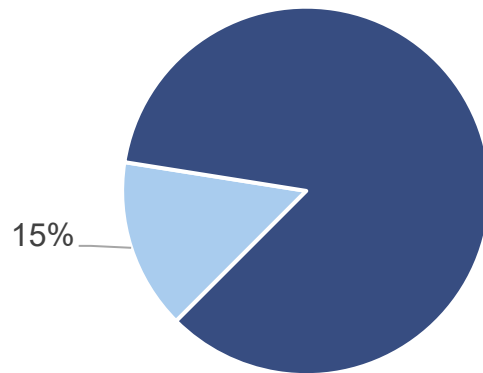
Sound Transit receives about

\$74 million annually

in Federal funds based on NTD data

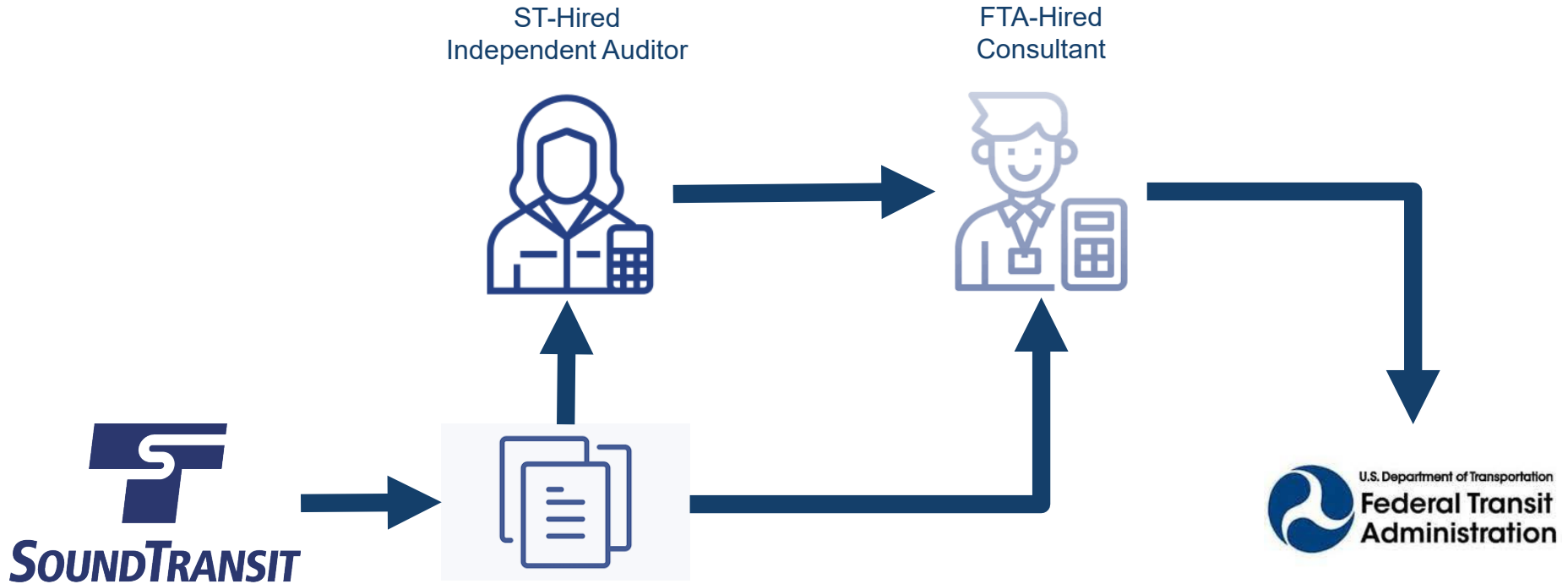
- From 2017 – 2046, FTA formula funds are projected to total just under \$2.7 billion
- This is about 18% of the total \$15.3 billion in grant funding in the financial plan

Sound Transit Operating Expenses

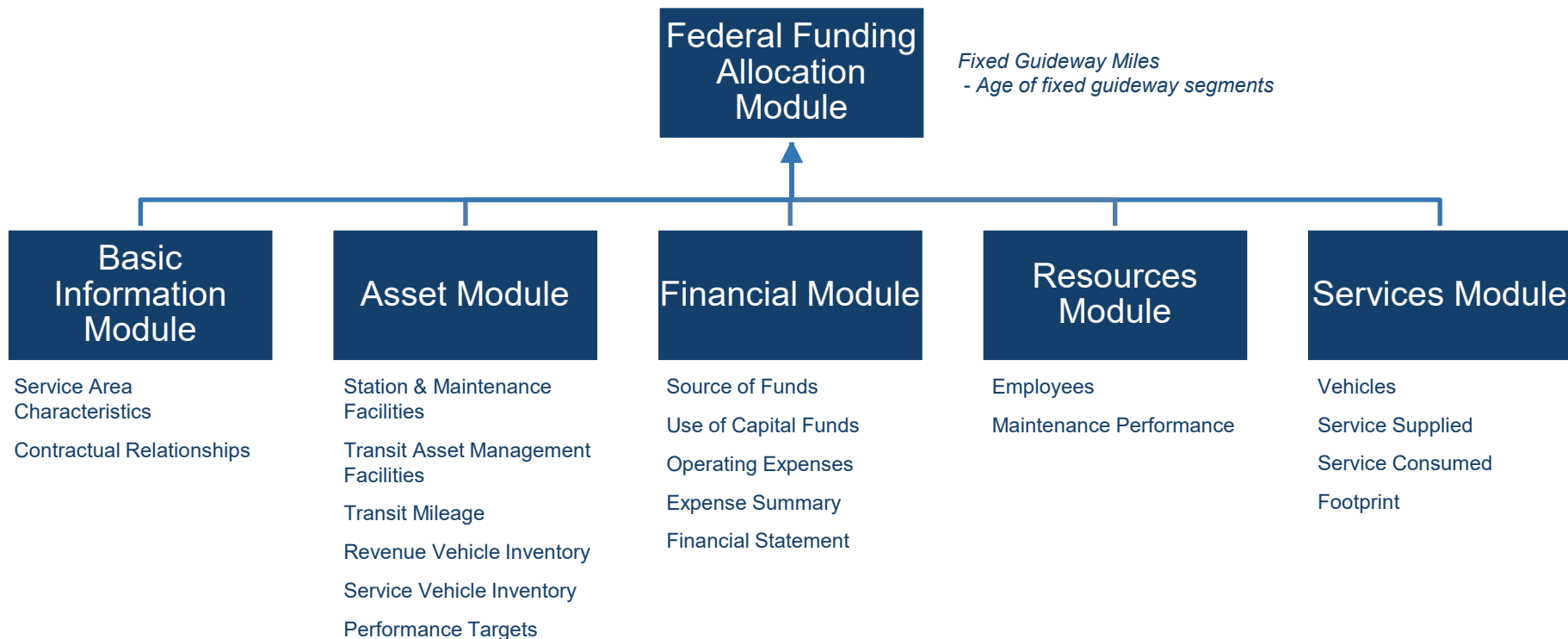


- NTD Generated Funding
- All Other Sources

How does the FTA ensure data is accurate?

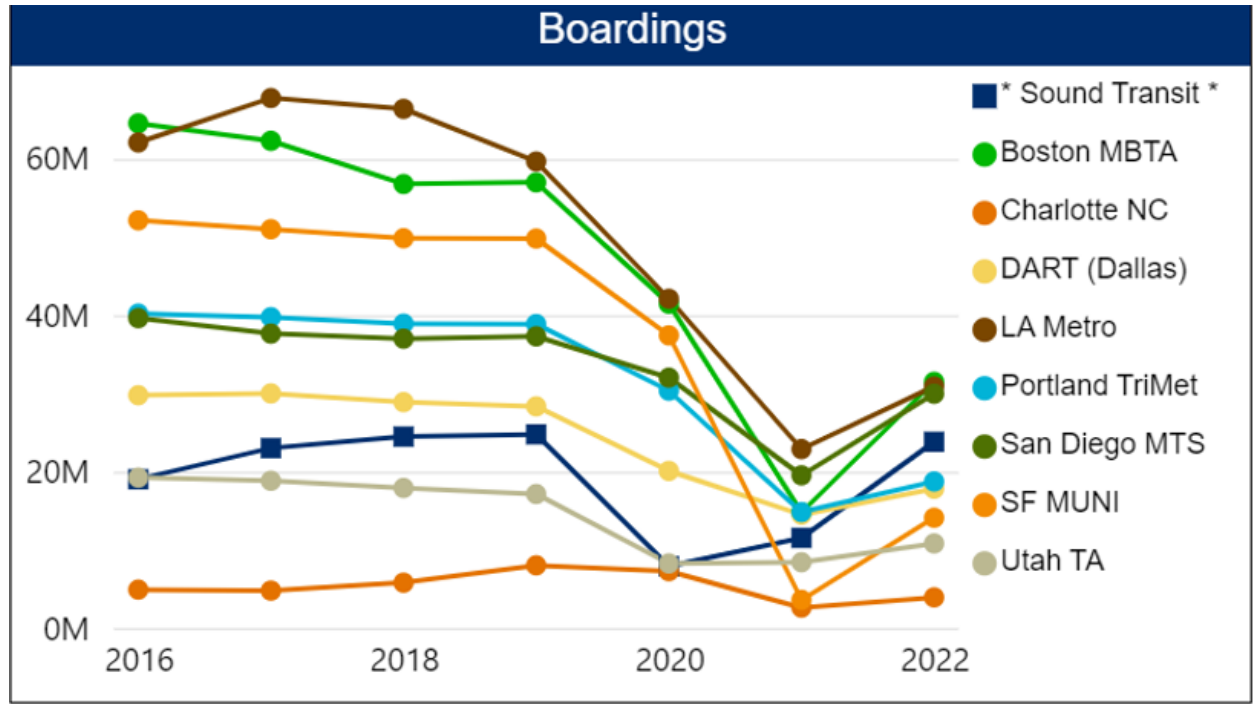


What data are we submitting?



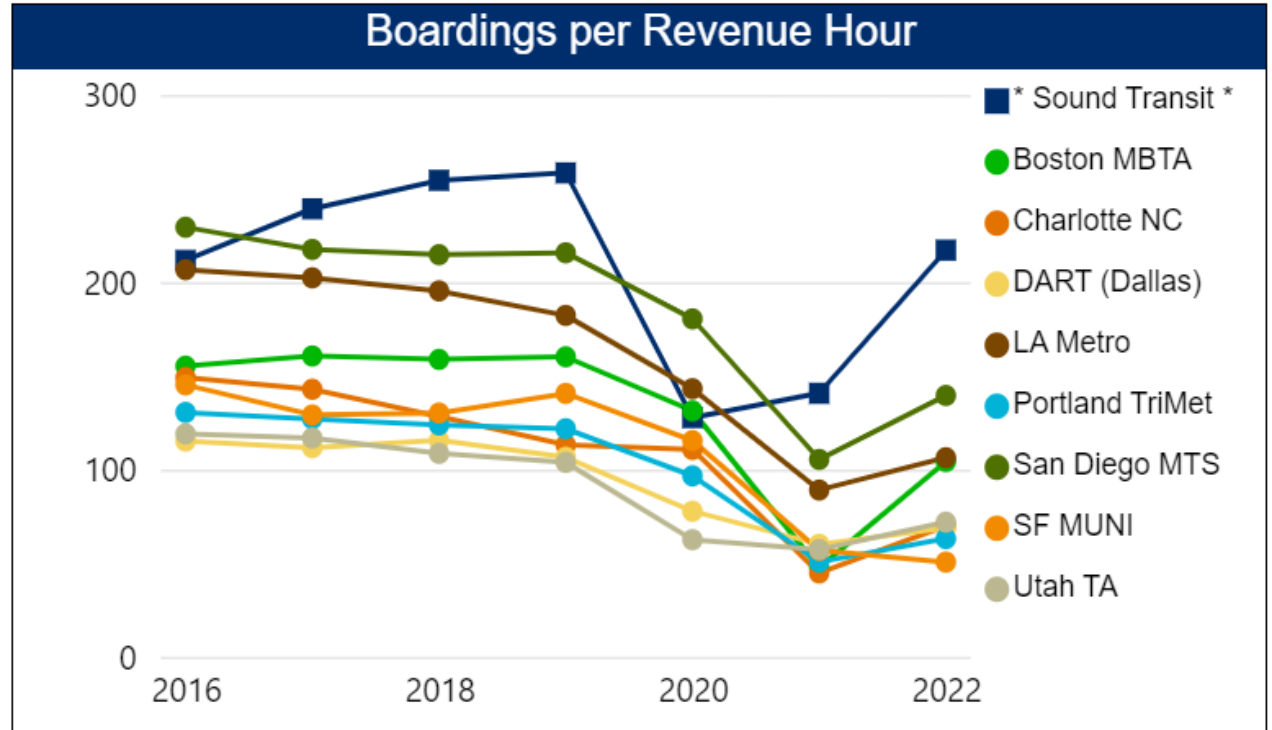
Link Rail Insights

- Nearly full recovery since 2019 (COVID) in terms of boardings
- Boardings doubled from 2021 to 2022



Link Rail Insights

- Consistently higher boardings per revenue hour than peers (outside of COVID)



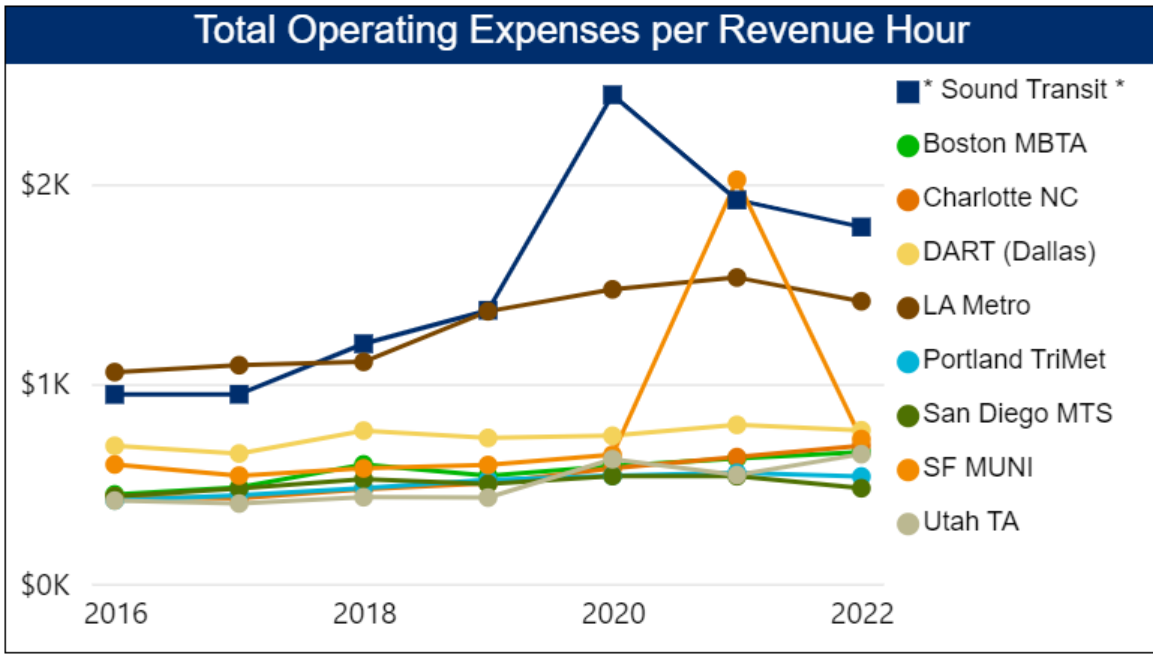
Link Rail Insights

Total Boardings

Year	* Sound Transit *	AZ Valley Metro	Boston MBTA	DART (Dallas)	MN Metro Transit	Portland TriMet	SF MUNI	St Louis Metro	Utah TA
2016	➡ 19,011,368	⬆ 15,574,737	⬆ 64,538,406	⬆ 29,762,161	⬆ 22,963,629	⬆ 40,198,185	⬆ 52,124,572	⬆ 15,777,584	⬆ 19,220,024
2017	⬆ 23,002,263	⬆ 16,511,814	⬆ 62,296,430	⬆ 29,993,849	⬆ 23,810,995	⬆ 39,741,354	⬆ 50,993,166	⬆ 14,898,291	⬆ 18,823,578
2018	⬆ 24,470,264	⬆ 15,786,911	⬆ 56,768,835	⬆ 28,873,235	⬆ 24,955,617	⬆ 38,919,828	⬆ 49,833,591	⬆ 13,550,443	⬆ 17,899,716
2019	⬆ 24,761,684	⬆ 15,084,312	⬆ 56,975,564	⬆ 28,335,785	⬆ 25,299,442	⬆ 38,867,576	⬆ 49,795,740	⬆ 13,150,909	⬆ 17,128,008
2020	⬇ 7,900,122	➡ 12,826,471	➡ 41,465,243	➡ 20,081,036	⬇ 10,255,520	➡ 30,343,267	⬆ 37,419,416	➡ 10,510,179	⬇ 8,247,364
2021	⬇ 11,516,117	⬇ 6,581,599	⬇ 14,774,020	⬇ 14,487,228	⬇ 10,673,554	⬇ 14,817,505	⬇ 3,595,952	⬇ 5,472,085	⬇ 8,403,862
2022	⬆ 23,804,390	⬇ 8,397,990	➡ 31,476,945	⬇ 17,805,362	⬇ 12,462,829	⬇ 18,729,909	⬇ 14,092,168	⬇ 6,525,849	⬇ 10,805,706

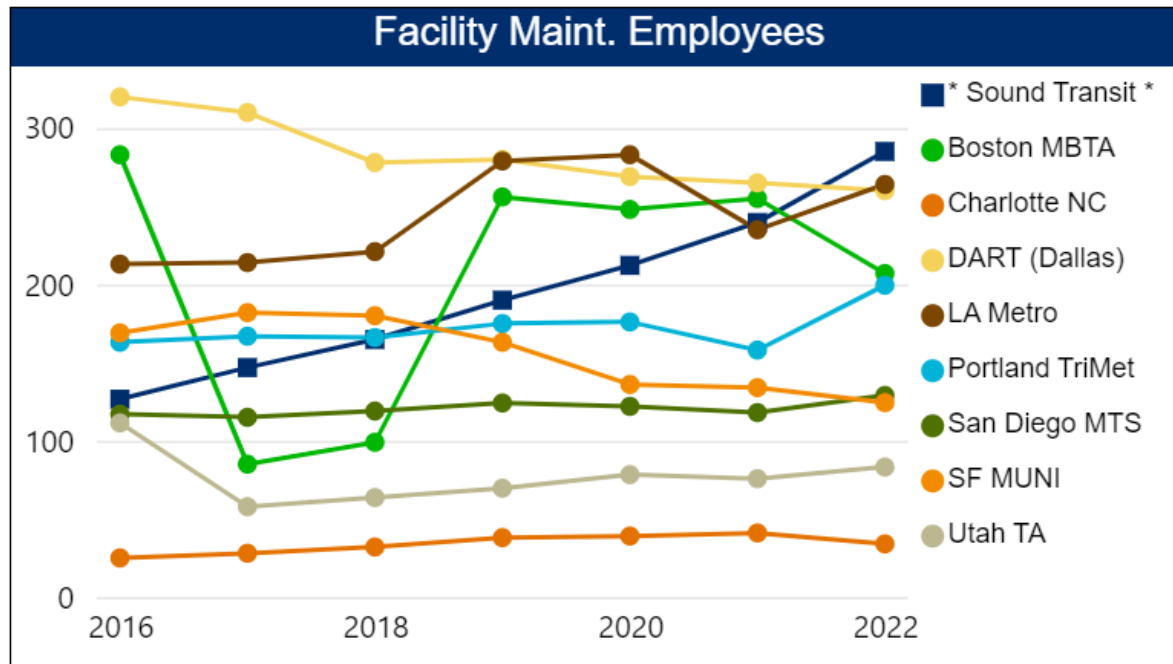
Link Rail Insights

- Higher operating expenses per revenue hour than peers



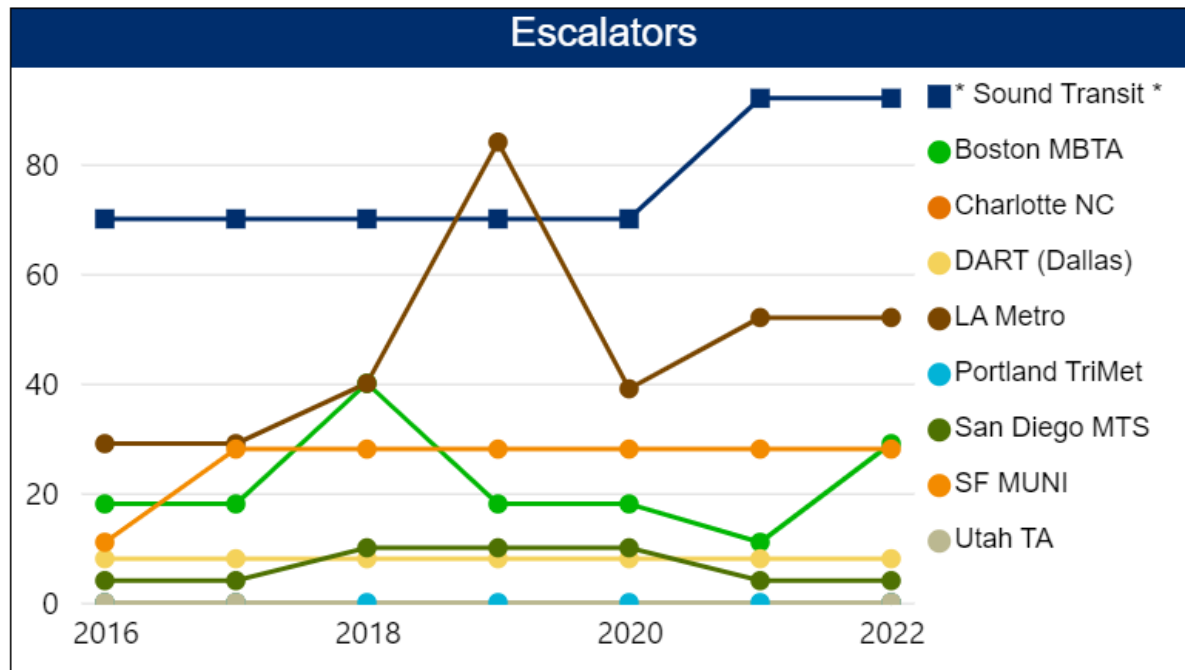
Link Rail Insights

- Consistent growth in facility maintenance employees relative to peers (>2x since 2016)

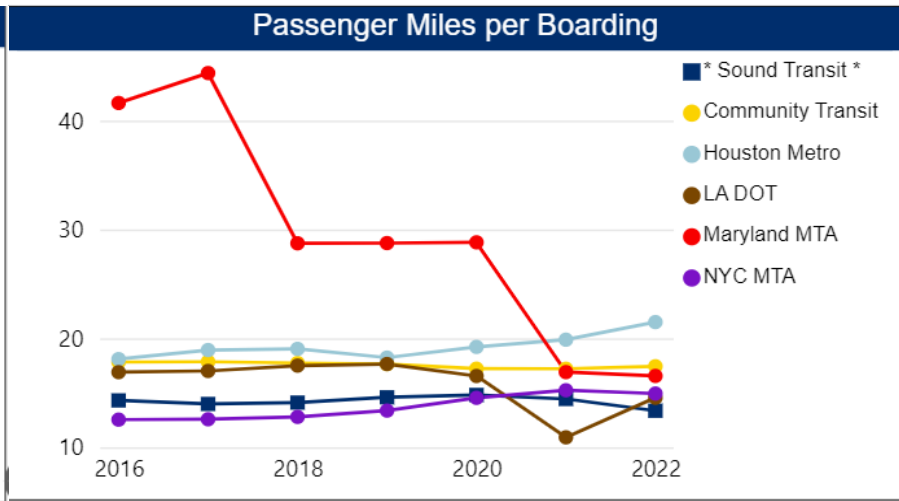
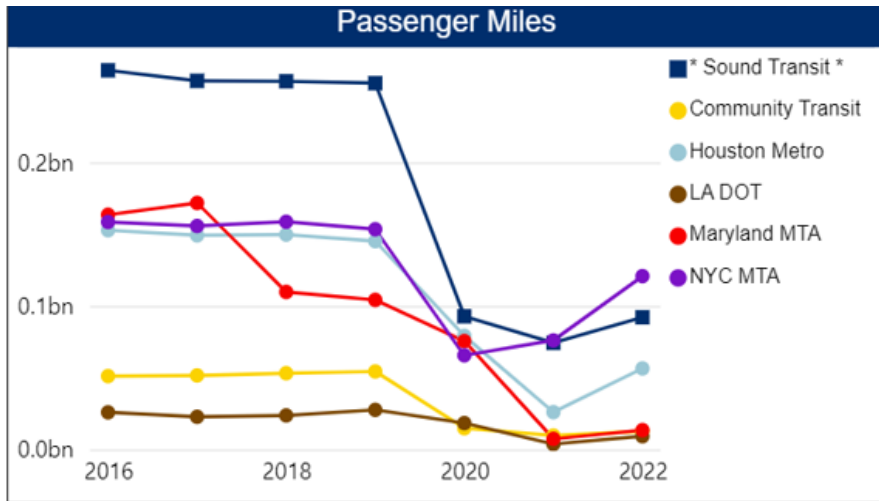


Link Rail Insights

- Most escalators in light rail stations compared to peers



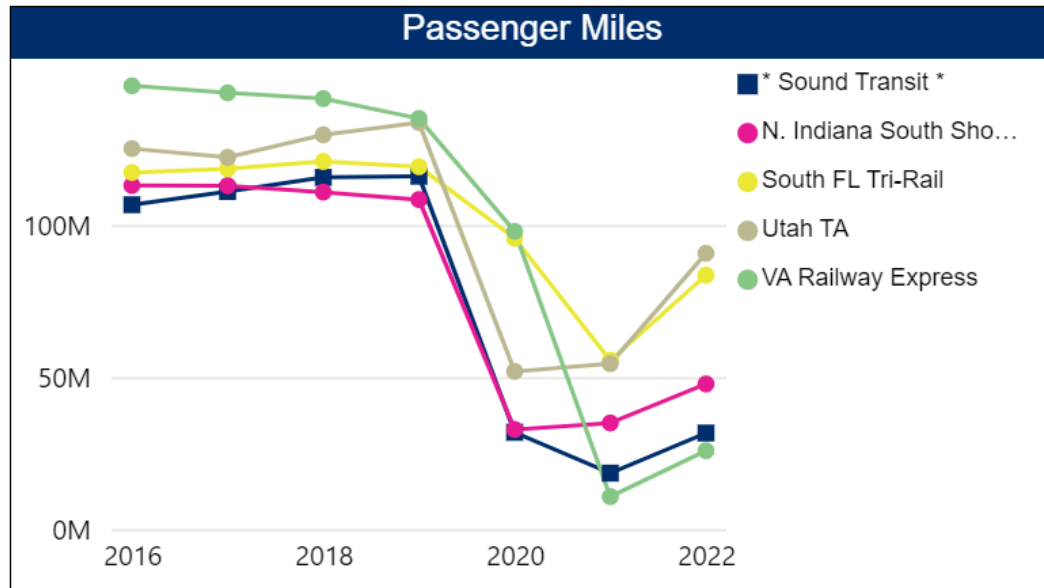
Commuter Bus Insights



- Passenger miles fell as a result of COVID
- Trip length (i.e. passenger miles per boarding) also fell slightly from 2021 to 2022

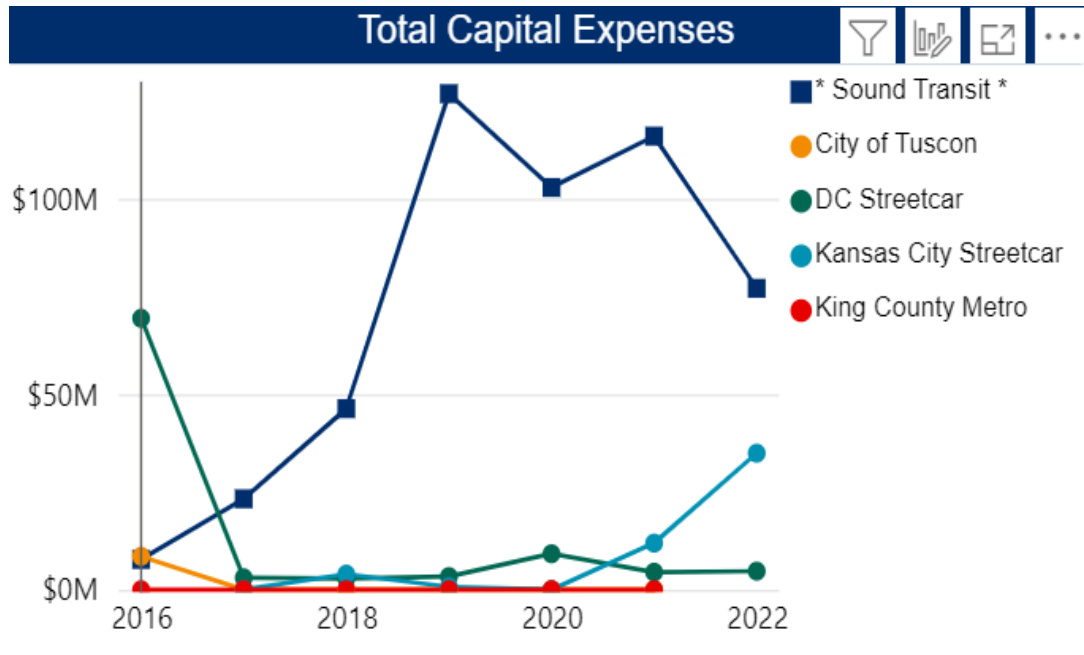
Commuter Rail Insights

- Passenger miles increased by 71% in 2022



Street Car Insights

- Total capital expenses increased in anticipation of the Hill Top Extension opening but went down in 2022



Link to the NTD Peer Comparison Tool

[NTD Peer Comparison Tool](#)

[NTD Glossary](#)

(Clickable only in slideshow mode)