

Metro South Bay Service Council Monthly Meeting Review for October 10, 2025  
Overview Compiled by Donald Szerlip, Chairman

A Safety Tip was given by Transportation Planning Manager Matt Lazo. He reminded everyone to let passengers exit before entering and to not block the doors on busses and trains.

Minutes from the September 12, 2025 meeting were approved.

An overview of the LIFE Pass program was given by the program's Director Heidi Jackson. The LIFE Pass provides transportation assistance to low-income individuals throughout Los Angeles County. Participants receive a 90 Day Pass (new participants only) plus 20 free regional rides per month. Patrons can sign up and renew LIFE Pass programs on-line. Devon Deming, Deputy Executive Officer, gave an overview of the GoPass Program which offers students at participating K-12 and Community College Districts unlimited free rides on Metro bus and rail, as well as on 19 additional transit agencies through LA County. At long last, Beach Cities Transit has joined the program. Other participating South Bay Agencies include Gardena Transit (GTrans), Lawndale Beat and Torrance Transit. The GoPass TAP card works at any time, including evenings and weekends. Both programs discussed do extensive community outreach to gain participants.

Brian Calvert from ICF Consulting gave an outline of the project to install Zero Emission Bus Charging Infrastructure at Division 18. Currently the project is undergoing a Business Case & Equity Analysis. With a Metro Board review and approval in early 2026, the project will move into its Design and Procurement Phase. Construction is projected to begin in 2027 with Operation and Maintenance targeted for 2028. Metro is seeking a SB 922 Statutory Exemption under CEQA.

The Service Council discussed creating a support letter for changing the Vermont/Athens Station Parking Lot to Paid Parking. Though staff presented many of the answers to the questions posed by the Council at the September meeting when this was initially discussed, there was no comment from Supervisor Mitchell's office. This item was carried over until receipt of the Supervisor's comments.

The Council next discussed the options for changing of the day and time of the monthly meetings. After extensive discussion the Council took no action. The preferred available meeting time is the first Thursday of each month at 5 PM. Our newest member, Andrea Reilly, said that she has a standing conflict on that day and time. The Council then considered meeting on the third Monday of each month. Mondays have holiday conflicts and the third Monday would not allow for timely feedback to Metro Board Committees. This item was carried over.

The Council discussed going dark for December. Staff recommended we carry this item over in the hopes there will be a decision about future meeting day and time at our next meeting.

Regional updates were presented by Wayne Wassell, Service Planning Director, Transportation Planning Manager Matt Lazo and Dolores Ramos, Service Councils Senior Manager. Highlights included average weekday ridership in the South Bay Council area in August of 218,699 patrons. This is only exceeded by those in the Westside Council area. Systemwide weekday boardings for August were in excess of 907,000. Cancelled service, usually as a result of drivers calling in sick, remains below 2% on all lines. Metro Stops and Zones has facilitated the relocation of 1,500 stops to the far side of the intersections during the past year. Bus priority lanes are being installed along Florence Avenue from West Blvd to the Florence A Line station. Lanes will be active weekdays between 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Numerous events supported by Metro were highlighted including the Roots & Routes Marketplace at Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station, CicLAvia and the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Soul.

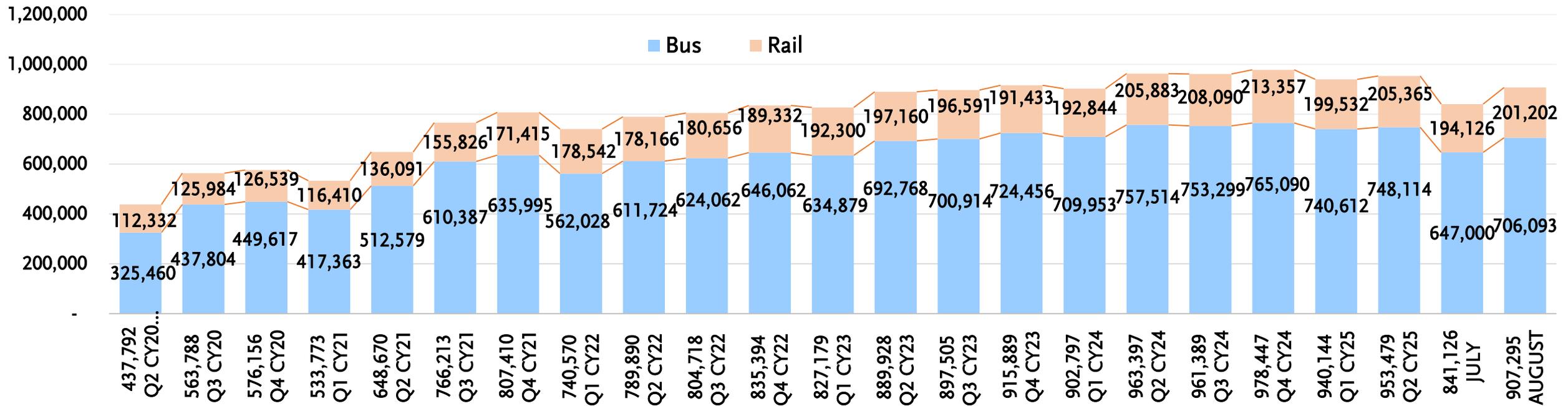
The meeting concluded following Council Member Comments and Public Comments on Non-agenda Items. During Member Comments a request was made for staff to bring a letter supporting the C Line FEIR onto our next agenda for consideration.

Respectfully submitted on October 16, 2025

Donald Szerlip

Chair - Metro South Bay Service Council

# Systemwide Average Weekday Ridership Update



## August Total Ridership % Change 2025 over 2024

- Bus: -7.9%      Rail: -2.2%
- Monitoring ridership for impacts from workers returning to full time office attendance, impacts of ICE activity.

## Aug Avg Daily System % of Pre-Pandemic Ridership

2025	2019	%Pre-Covid
• DX: 907,295	1,169,680	78%
• SA: 667,206	755,167	88%
• SU: 573,658	605,214	95%

## Average Weekday Ridership By Line – Aug 2025

Line	Aug 2025	% Recovery	Aug 2024	% Recovery	Aug 2019
A/E/L	114,859	71.3%	115,802	71.9%	161,139
B/D	60,170	47.1%	65,690	51.5%	127,642
C/K	26,173	89.3%	23,856	81.4%	29,295

Recovery compares 2025 and 2024 against 2019 with A/E/L compared as a group due to Regional Connector, using June 2018 for A Line due to New Blue impacts. K Line began operation in Oct 2022. Century/Aviation Station opened in Oct 2024 and LAX/MTC opened in June 2025

## Ridership Analysis Relative to Equity Focus Communities (Metro 2022 EFC Map):

- Bus – Percent of all weekday bus activity within Equity Focus Communities increased from 73% in Oct 2019 to 79.1% in August 2025 (bus stop data available month to month)
- Rail – Percent of all weekday rail activity within EFCs increased from 51.7% in FY19 to 76.4% in August 2025 (rail station data available month to month)