

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board Members

FROM: Seamus Murphy, Executive Director
Kevin Connolly, Planning & Development Manager
Gabriel Chan, Transportation Planner

SUBJECT: Monthly Ridership and Recovery Report – June 2022

Background

The WETA Pandemic Recovery Plan (Plan) began on July 1, 2021 with the enhancement of the Vallejo, Oakland & Alameda, and Richmond routes, the restart of the suspended Harbor Bay route, and the launch of the new Alameda Seaplane route. The following weekend also marked the relaunch of weekend service on the Vallejo, Oakland & Alameda, and Richmond routes. The South San Francisco service was relaunched in November 2021.

The Plan enhanced service during midday and weekend periods in an effort to meet changing demands from regular commuters and recreational riders. Lower fares, more in line with parallel transit options such as BART or Transbay buses, is an additional feature of the Plan. Future modifications in service will generally follow state guidelines for reopening the economy and subsequent changes in demand. The Plan calls for a monthly evaluation of ridership demand together with other measures relating to how the Bay Area is responding to the COVID-19 health crisis. The Monthly Ridership and Recovery Report presents a status report of the WETA system along with anticipated service adjustments for the upcoming weeks.

Discussion

Systemwide ridership grew significantly in July 2021 as WETA launched the Plan. Ridership grew through October and November, dropping through the winter due to the impact of the Omicron COVID variant. Ridership numbers saw steady growth through late February and March. Ridership in the final quarter of fiscal year 2022 are above WETA's budget projections and continue to compare favorably to other regional transit operators (measured as a percent of pre-pandemic ridership). Beginning in March 2022, the system saw the largest increases in ridership since the start of the pandemic thanks to significant increases in weekday peak-hour ridership as more employers began implementing return-to-office plans. The agency finished Fiscal Year 2022 with about 50% of 2019 pre-pandemic annual ridership. On a monthly basis, WETA is outperforming BART's ridership recovery by a margin of nearly 2:1.

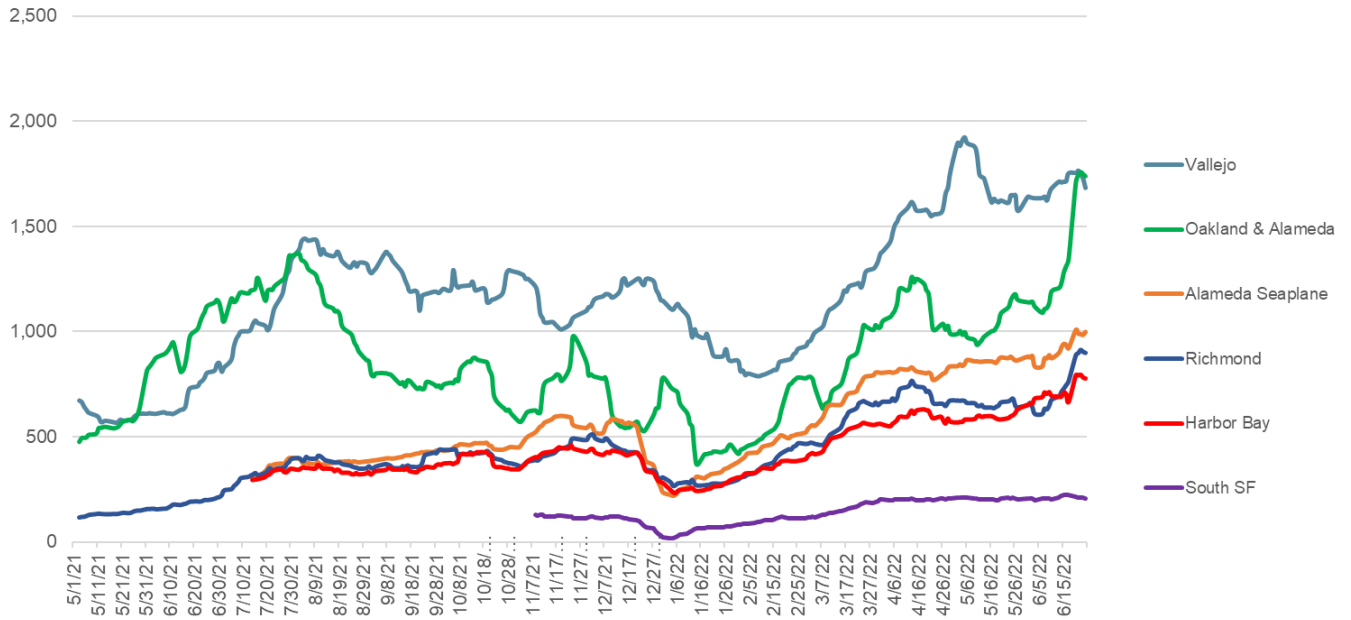
Highlights:

- Weekend ridership has stayed strong since implementing the Plan. Average weekend ridership currently outperforms pre-pandemic weekends.
- Systemwide boost in ridership due to large events in San Francisco (Warriors parade and Pride weekend).
- The Vallejo route remains WETA's busiest route with an average of 2,000 daily riders in June.
- The Warriors continued success helped keep Chase Center special event ridership high with about 470 riders on service days.

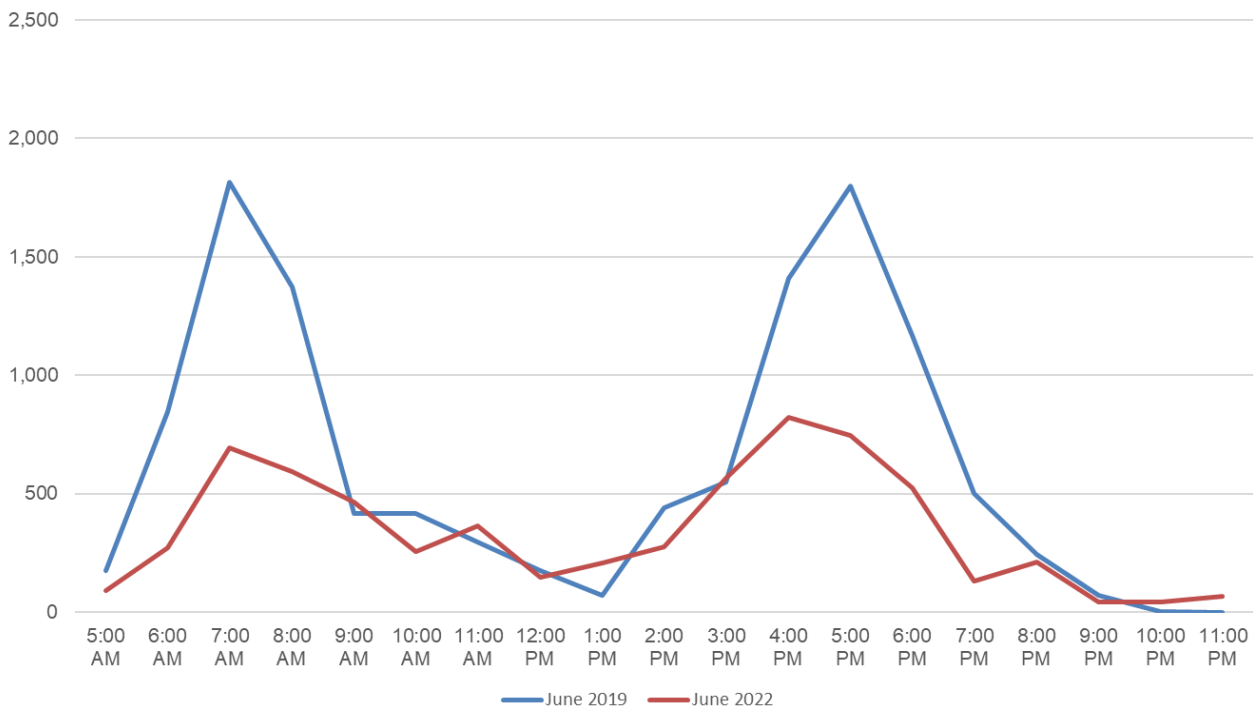
Recommendations

There are no proposed service adjustments at this time. Weekend service has been enhanced on peak summer weekends in an effort to avoid leave-behinds and impacts to the overall schedule. Staff will be considering weekend adjustments and other enhancements for an anticipated fall service change.

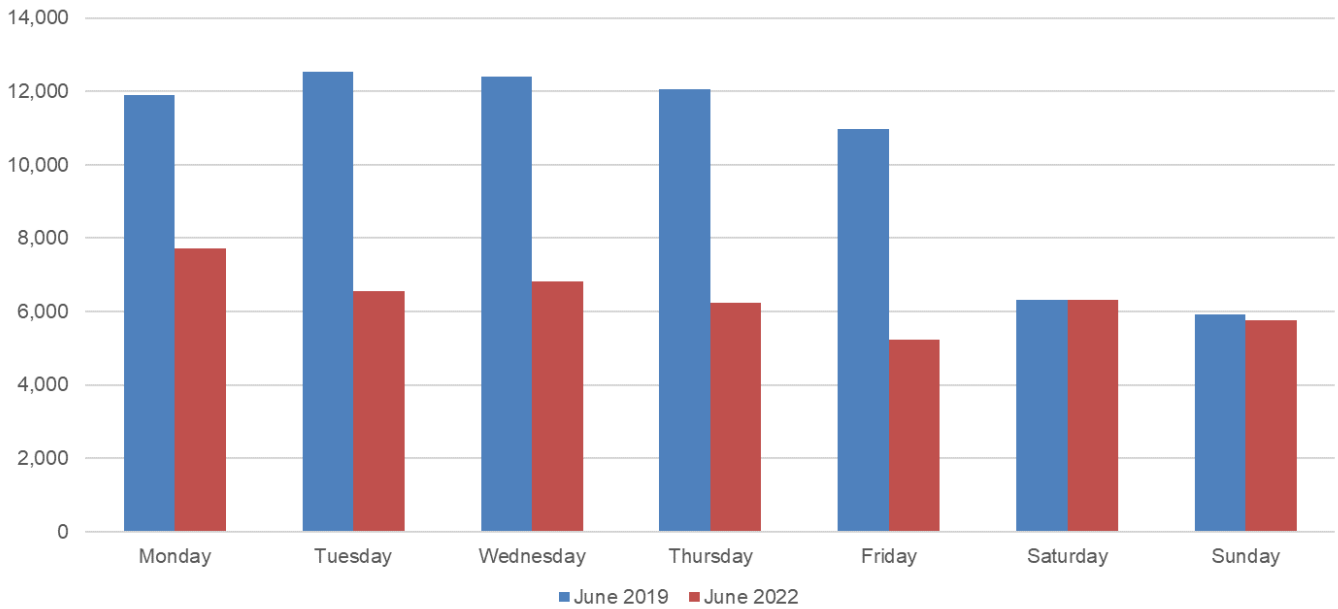
10-Day Weekday Average Ridership



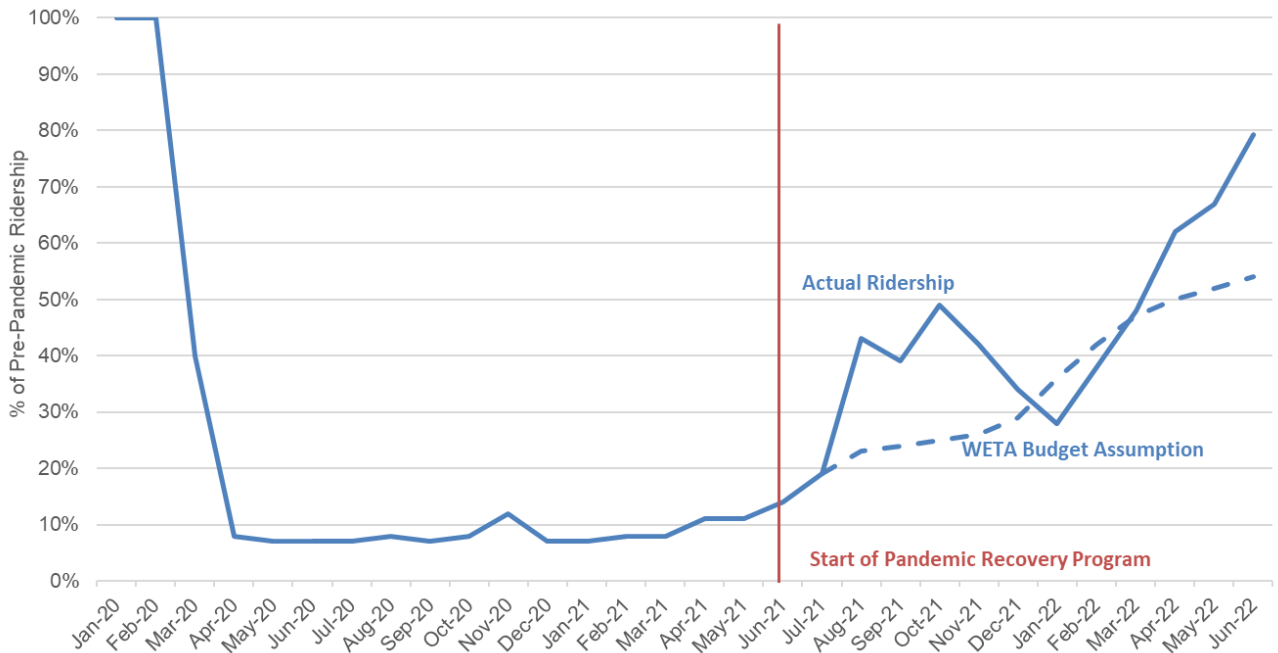
Average Weekday Hourly Boardings



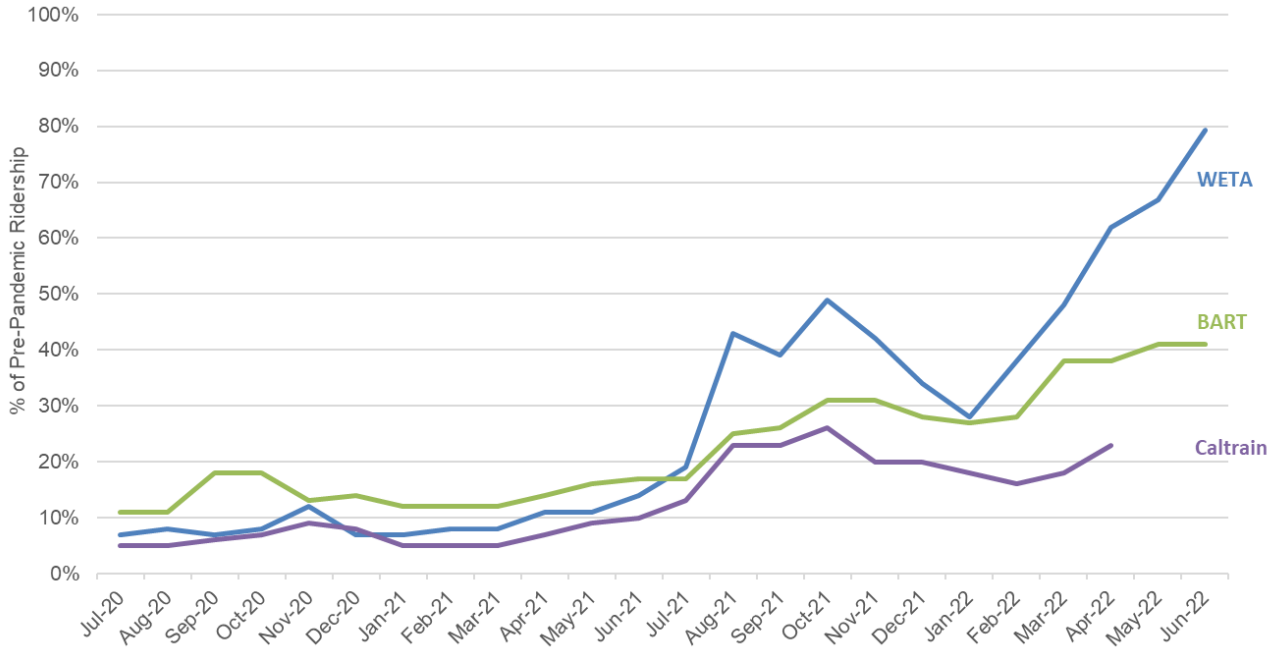
Average Boardings by Day of Week Systemwide



Actual vs. Budgeted Ridership



Regional Transit Ridership



Note: Caltrain Ridership Recovery is only available through April as of now. Updated data from Caltrain will be available following their August board meeting.

Monthly Operating Statistics Report

		June 2022	Oakland & Alameda*	Vallejo*	Richmond	Harbor Bay	Alameda Seaplane	South San Francisco**	Systemwide
Boardings	vs. last month	Total Passengers June 2022	58,316	64,035	22,412	15,759	21,036	4,597	186,155
		Total Passengers May 2022	50,614	52,947	18,268	12,938	18,130	4,303	157,200
		Percent change	15.22%	20.94%	22.68%	21.80%	16.03%		18.42%
	vs. same month last year	Total Passengers June 2022	58,316	64,035	22,412	15,759	21,036	2,187	183,745
		Total Passengers June 2021	21,302	20,524	4,264	-	-	-	46,090
		Percent change	173.76%	212.00%	425.61%	-	-	-	298.67%
	vs. prior FY to date	Total Passengers Current FY To Date	479,196	484,686	158,986	113,207	145,786	24,075	1,405,936
		Total Passengers Last FY To Date	102,482	137,328	24,688	-	-	-	264,498
		Percent change	367.59%	252.94%	543.98%	-	-	-	431.55%
Ops Stats	Avg Weekday Ridership June 2022	2,651	2,911	1,019	716	956	209	8,462	
	Passengers Per Hour June 2022	130	88	66	78	110	33	91	
	Revenue Hours June 2022	449	725	340	201	190	137	2,043	
	Revenue Miles June 2022	6,311	19,696	6,104	4,145	3,146	2,392	41,794	
	Farebox Recovery Year-To-Date	23%	23%	8%	11%	14%	3%	18%	
	Peak hour utilization, AM – June 2022	15%	32%	34%	32%	29%	19%	27%	
	Peak hour utilization, PM – June 2022	33%	48%	30%	38%	26%	16%	32%	
Fuel	Fuel Used (gallons) – June 2022	60,676	155,060	47,192	26,967	30,338	16,854	337,087	
	Avg Cost per gallon – June 2022	\$5.58	\$5.58	\$5.58	\$5.58	\$5.58	\$5.58	\$5.58	

* Includes special event ridership to/from Oracle Park and/or Chase Center
 ** Service suspended on the South San Francisco route until November 2021

END