

Better Data, Better Decisions

June 11, 2012 Webinar



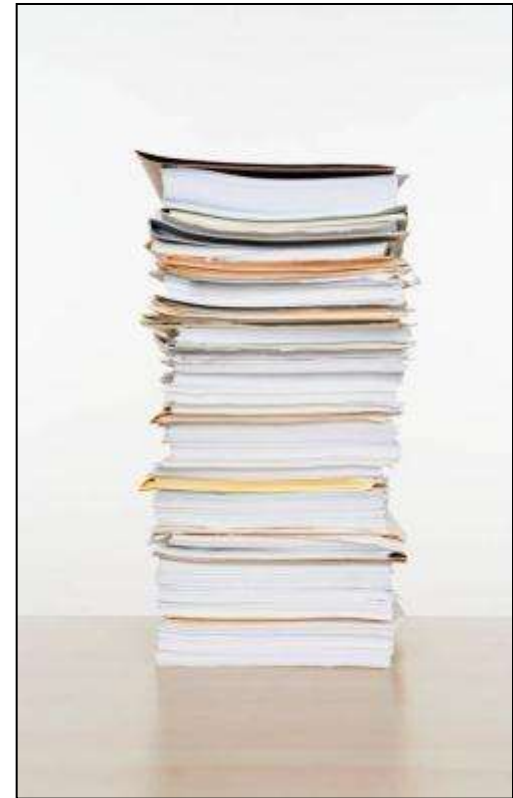
PRESENTERS

- **Mary Sue O'Melia, President – TransTrack Systems, Inc.**
Business Intelligence for the Transit Industry
- **Paula Faust, Deputy Director of Transportation – Gardena Bus Lines**
Case Study for Creating A Statistical Information System
- **Gloria Salazar, Assistant General Manager & Chief Financial Officer – San Joaquin Regional Transit District**
National Trends and Peer Reviews

DATA OVERLOAD



- **Transit agencies are overwhelmed with data from many sources**
- **Basis for performance data is inaccessible or fragmented**
- **Credibility and reliability is often impacted by data inconsistencies**
- **Collecting and maintaining data is expensive and time-consuming**





BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

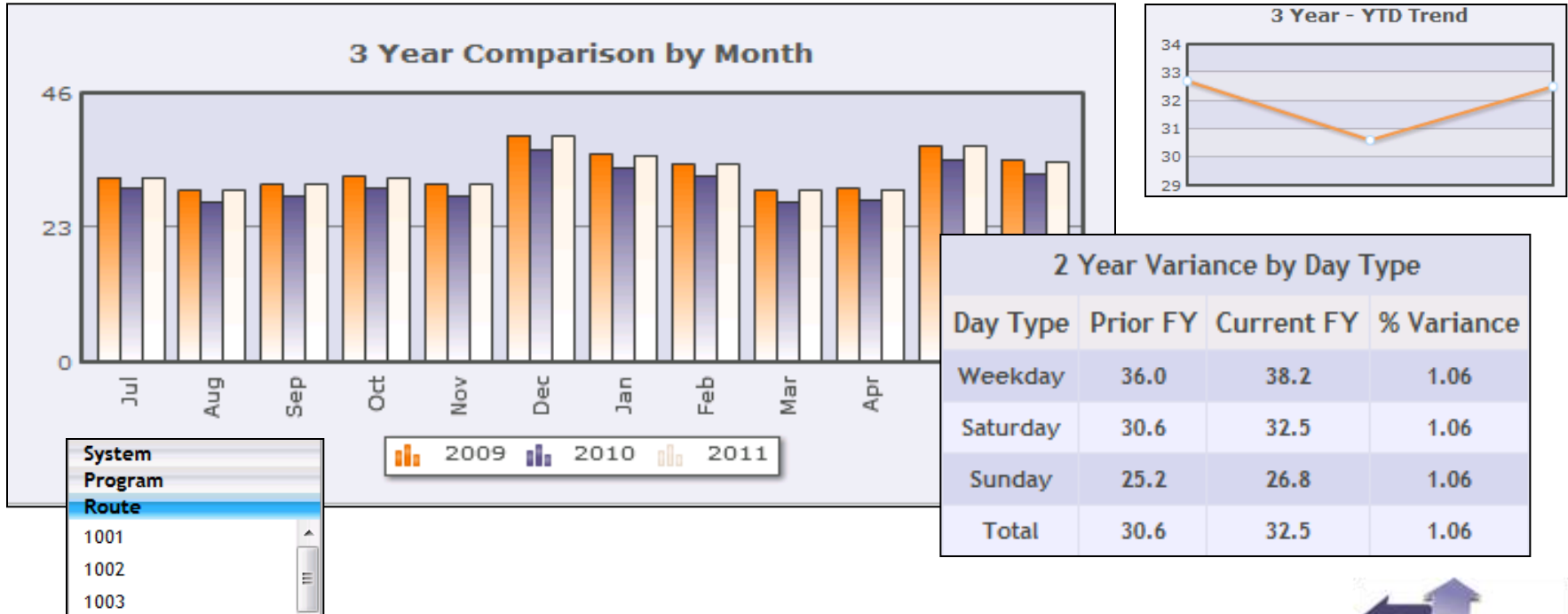
- **Executive Reporting System – Accurate and timely information for strategic decision-making**





DASHBOARDS & DRILLDOWNS

- **Decision Support System – Consolidate information for tactical decisions to improve performance**



BI – HOW TO GET THERE



- **Key Indicators & Data** – Decide on what to collect and how often to report; establish a baseline
- **Best Practices** – Document sources and on-going processes; provide data definitions; set targets
- **Single Source of Data/Distributed Access** – Get data at the source; eliminate time-consuming data reconciliations
- **Management Commitment** – Use it and stay vigilant

KEY INDICATORS & DATA



■ Decide on what to collect and how often to report

- Who will be using data and for what purpose?
- How important is data to overall agency performance?
- What is the baseline for assessing performance?

Daily Report	Monthly Report	Annual Report
Accidents	Passengers	NTD Reporting
Roadcalls	Hours & Miles	Passenger Miles
Late Pull-Outs	Fare Revenue	Energy Consumption
Missed Trips	Operating Cost	Employee Hours
	Complaints	Attendance & Overtime
	Schedule Adherence	

SIMPLE OR COMPLEX REPORTS



Performance Measures	2nd Qtr FY 2012	2nd Qtr FY 2011	% Change	Performance Target	Period Meets Target?	YTD FY 2012	YTD Prior Fiscal Year	% Change	YTD Performance Target	YTD Meets Target?
Cost Per Revenue Hour	\$102.20	\$96.52	5.88%	<= \$90	No	\$103.27	\$95.26	8.41%	<= \$90	No
Farebox Recovery Ratio	23.59%	22.81%	3.42%	>= 25%	No	23.68%	22.16%	6.86%	>= 25%	No
Average Fare	\$1.41	\$1.53	(7.84)%	>= \$1.30	Yes	\$1.46	\$1.48	(1.35)%	>= \$1.30	Yes
Subsidy Per Passenger	\$4.56	\$5.18	(11.97)%	<= \$4	No	\$4.69	\$5.19	(9.63)%	<= \$4	No

Passengers	Service	Passengers		Passengers Per Revenue Hour		Farebox Recovery Ratio	
		Prior Year	Current Year	Prior Year	Current Year	Prior Year	Current Year
Passengers Per Revenue Hour							
Complaints Per 100,000 Passengers							
Miles Between Service Interruptions	Route Subtotals						
Total Miles Between Preventable Accidents	1	9,573	9,640	14.3	14.8	19.17 %	16.66 %
% of Trips On-Time	12	338	631	2.8	4.8	21.41 %	24.55 %
% of Trips Completed	15	242	196	12.4	9.4	137.00 %	78.62 %
Load Factor	21	1,195	1,398	5.7	6.9	7.33 %	7.63 %
	3A	3,305	3,297	14.2	14.8	23.20 %	20.30 %
	3B	2,837	2,695	12.8	12.5	18.67 %	14.63 %
	7A	2,096	2,618	9.2	12.1	13.31 %	13.65 %
	7B	2,702	2,905	15.0	13.4	19.83 %	15.84 %

December 2011								December 2010			FY 2012 To Date			
Patrons	Fare Revenue	Operating Expense	Revenue Service Miles	Revenue Service Hours	Patrons Per Hour	Farebox Recovery Ratio	Subsidy Per Patron	Patrons Per Hour	Farebox Recovery Ratio	Subsidy Per Patron	Patrons Per Hour	Farebox Recovery Ratio	Subsidy Per Patron	
248,218	\$288,050	\$1,443,820	120,563	9,601	25.9	19.95%	\$4.66	24.6	20.94%	\$4.44	1,584,462	27.4	21.06%	\$4.40
4,333	\$5,684	\$51,188	9,537	694	6.2	11.10%	\$10.50	5.3	6.00%	\$12.26	25,962	6.3	7.61%	\$11.30
4,621	\$7,818	\$75,970	13,348	728	6.4	10.29%	\$14.75	4.6	6.09%	\$14.76	33,568	7.6	9.06%	\$12.47
257,172	\$301,552	\$1,570,979	143,448	11,023	23.3	19.20%	\$4.94	21.9	19.84%	\$4.72	1,678,720	24.8	20.12%	\$4.66



BEST PRACTICES



- Provide data definitions
- Identify “Data Managers”
- Define data sources and routine processes
- Set performance targets






			Agency Data Managers
Manager	Phone #	E mail	Description of Duties
Virginia Alcayde	209-948-5566 ext 642	valcayde@sanjoaquinl	Finance and Payroll Data
Juliann Flores	209-948-5566 ext 609	jflores@sanjoaquinRT	Operating Statistics (Passengers, Hours, Miles, Passenger Miles)
Chris Durant	209-467-6694	cdurant@sanjoaquinR	Maintenance Data

Farebox Recovery Ratio	
Passenger Revenue (including farebox, pre-paid fare media, and auxiliary revenues) divided by Operating Costs (excluding depreciation and other reconciling items).	
Performance Compared to Target as of June 2011	
Year-To-Date	
Actual:	32.5
Target:	>= 35.0
Score:	 Fails Target
June	
Actual:	34.2
Target:	>= 35.0
Score:	 Fails Target





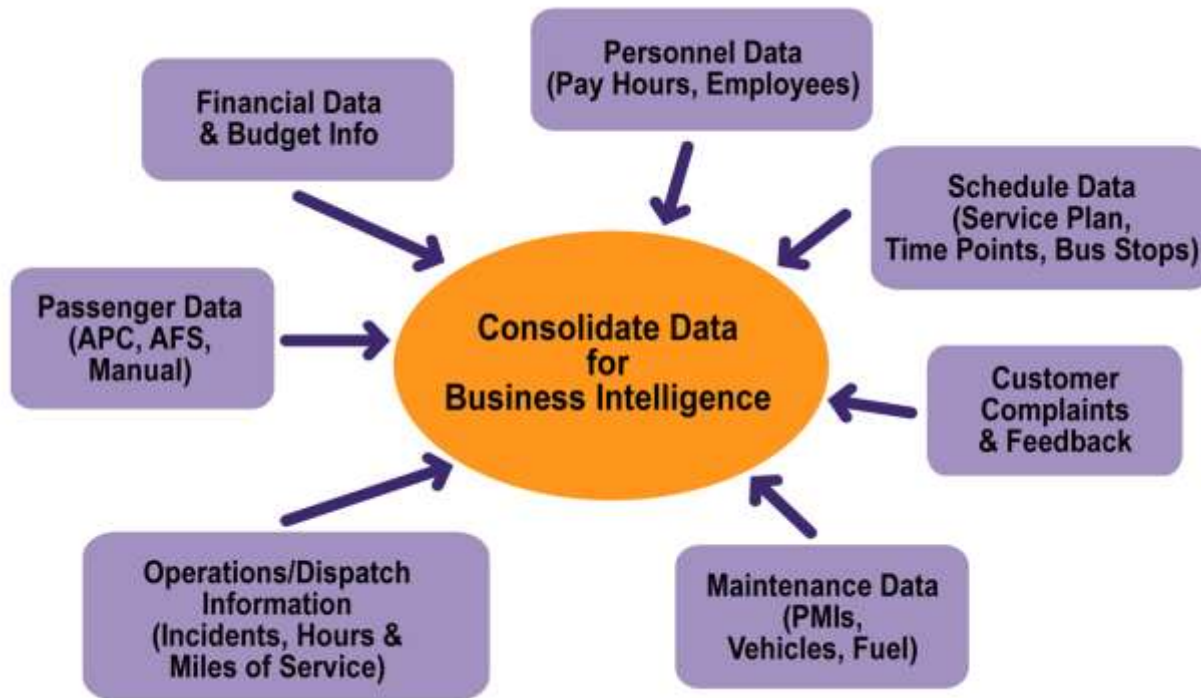
BEST PRACTICES – Define Source

Type of Service & Source Info	Hopper	Metro	BRT	Commute	DR Taxi
					
Who Collects	MV	RTD	RTD	RTD	ALC
System Used	GFI & PASS	GFI & Data Point	APC	Driver Count	ALC Prop. System
Frequency	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily
Level of Detail	Route & Fare Type	Route & Fare Type	Route	Route	Trip & Type
Related Process	Add Route Deviations	Add Unallocated Passengers	Add Incidental Passengers	Add Seats Sold but not Used	Note Cancels & No Shows



SINGLE SOURCE/DISTRIBUTED ACCESS

- **Get data at the source; eliminate time-consuming data reconciliations**



MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT

■ Use it and stay vigilant

- Routinely review data as a group
- Use data as a budgeting and service planning tool
- Use data to target areas for improvement



OR



**Better Data.
Better
Decisions.**



GARDENA BUS LINES

- **Municipal System in the South Bay of Los Angeles County**
- **Directly operated service with a fleet of 53 buses and 8 DR vans**
- **Data Systems**
 - Cubic fareboxes/TAP
 - City Financial System - Eden
 - Contract for service planning
 - Manual DR scheduling
 - EJ Ward for fueling
 - Plan to procure maintenance mgmt system



SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS – SEPT. 2011

- **Manual day-to-day data collection for key statistics:**
 - Run slips for payroll and stats
 - Operator trip sheets - DR
- **Data rekeyed to get monthly and annual statistics**
- **Inaccurate service plan schedule**
- **Cubic ridership data not used**



ACTION PLAN FOR IMPROVED DATA

- **Implement exception-based payroll and operating statistics (i.e., miles and hours of service)**
- **Utilize data and reports from the Cubic Fare Collection System**
- **Streamline and simplify the process**
- **Create Statistical Information System to organize data**



SERVICE SCHEDULE

- Review run assignment calculations for accuracy
 - Platform, Deadhead, etc.
- Validate scheduled miles and hours of service
 - Foundation for exception based reporting



EXCEPTION-BASED REPORTING

■ Created Excel exception-based payroll file for entry into the City Financial System

- Payroll process improvements
 - One page per day versus 80 run slips
 - Payroll position went from 40-50 hours per week to 25 hours

■ Implemented a Dispatch Log exceptions to service

- Roadcalls
- Accidents
- Late-Pullouts
- Missed Trips



UTILIZE AUTOMATED FARE SYSTEM

- **Ensure equipment is properly maintained**
 - Coin and cash counting equipment
 - Fareboxes
- **Implement revenue control procedures**
 - Reconciliation procedures
- **Use of full compliment of Cubic Reports**
 - Maintenance
 - Analytics



SIMPLIFY AND STREAMLINE

- **Involved team to review current processes**
 - Flow charts and documents
 - Identified data re-keying
- **Created Statistical Information System**
 - Keep it simple
 - Data in one place
- **Focus on key data**
- **Interim steps to increased automation**



STATISTICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

■ Actual to Scheduled Performance Statistics Reporting

- Eliminated driver run slips
- Repository for performance statistics for management and outside reporting

■ Additional benefits to this reporting system

- Daily Dispatch Activity Reporting Log
- Same data input for Exception Based Payroll



FTA USE OF NTD DATA

■ Create NTD deliverables and products

- Annual Apportionments
- Transit Safety & Security Statistical Analysis
- Conditions & Performance Report to Congress
- Transit Profiles



■ Monthly Ridership data to measure progress relative to FTA Ridership Goal

- Increase ridership by 1% annually
- Analysis of factors influencing ridership

START OF CHANGE – MAY 2000

- **FTA submitted report to Congress on new revised National Transit Database**



U.S. Department of
Transportation

Federal Transit Administration

- **Created FTA and Transit Industry partnership**

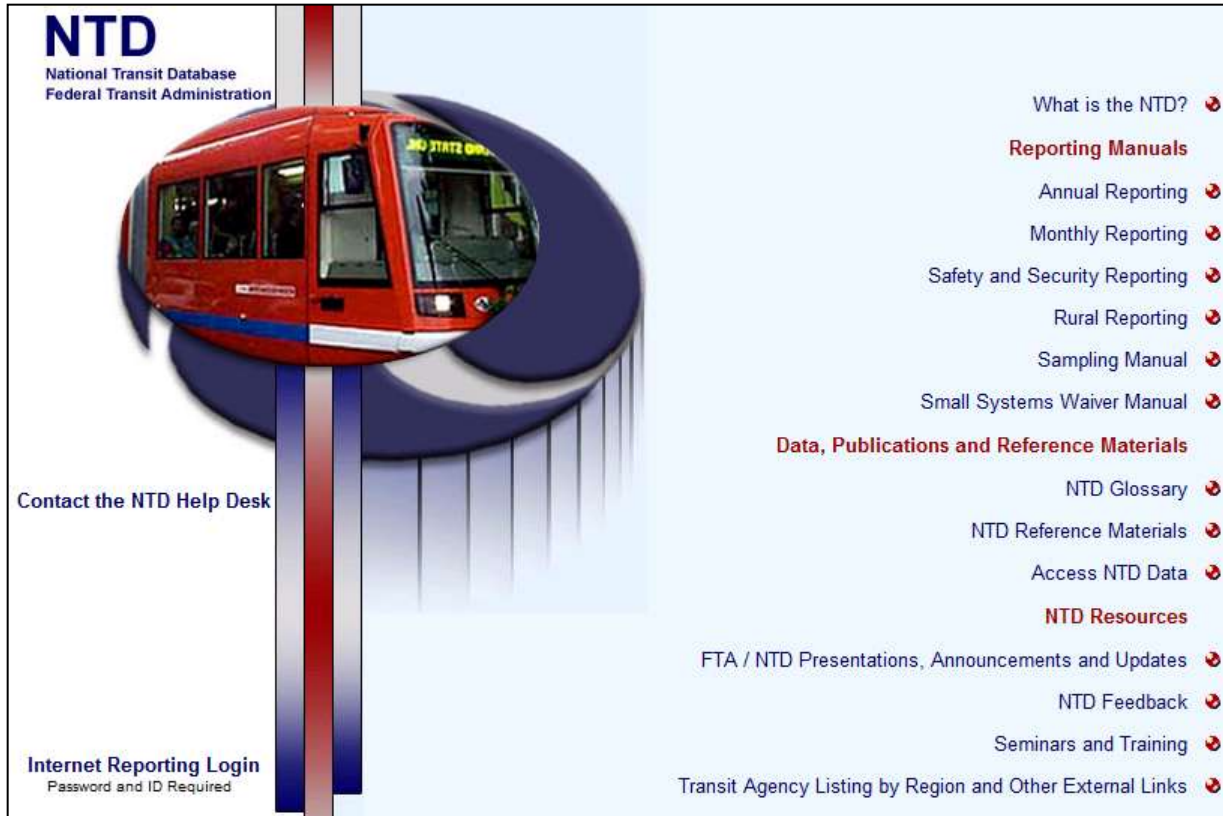
- Transit Systems
- State DOTs and MPOs
- TRB
- NTSB and AASTO
- APTA and CTAA



RECOMMENDATIONS – 2007

- **Use current year NTD data to support FTA Performance reporting (timeliness)**
- **Enhance NTD Safety and Security data reporting**
- **Improve internet-based reporting**
 - On-line, real-time validation (1,000 checks) built into internet-reporting
 - Designed to improve data integrity
 - Make transit data and profiles available on-line for industry use
- **Implement State-based reporting for rural transit**

NTD WEBSITE AS A RESOURCE



www.ntdprogram.gov

- **FTA/NTD Presentations, Publications and Reference Materials**
- **Access NTD Data**

ACCESS TRANSIT DATA

■ Transit data for peer reviews and profiles of other transit agencies

Annual Transit Profiles

To search for profiles you may enter the agency's NTD ID, Agency Name, City, State, etc. For example, if you would like to find profiles for all reporting agencies in the State of California, enter California. The system will return all profiles with either the word California or the abbreviation CA in their names or addresses.

If you do not know the information for a particular agency, all agencies reporting to the NTD for the last 2 RYs and their associated profiles are also available from [Transit Agency Listing by Region and Other External Links](#) page.

Individual Profiles for All Transit Agencies in Urbanized Areas Over and Under 200,000 Population

Enter search criteria:

Search

Monthly Database

The two files located in this section will be replaced with updated Monthly data on or about the 4th of each month.

[Monthly Module Raw Data Release](#)

[Monthly Module Adjusted Data Release](#)

Safety & Security Data

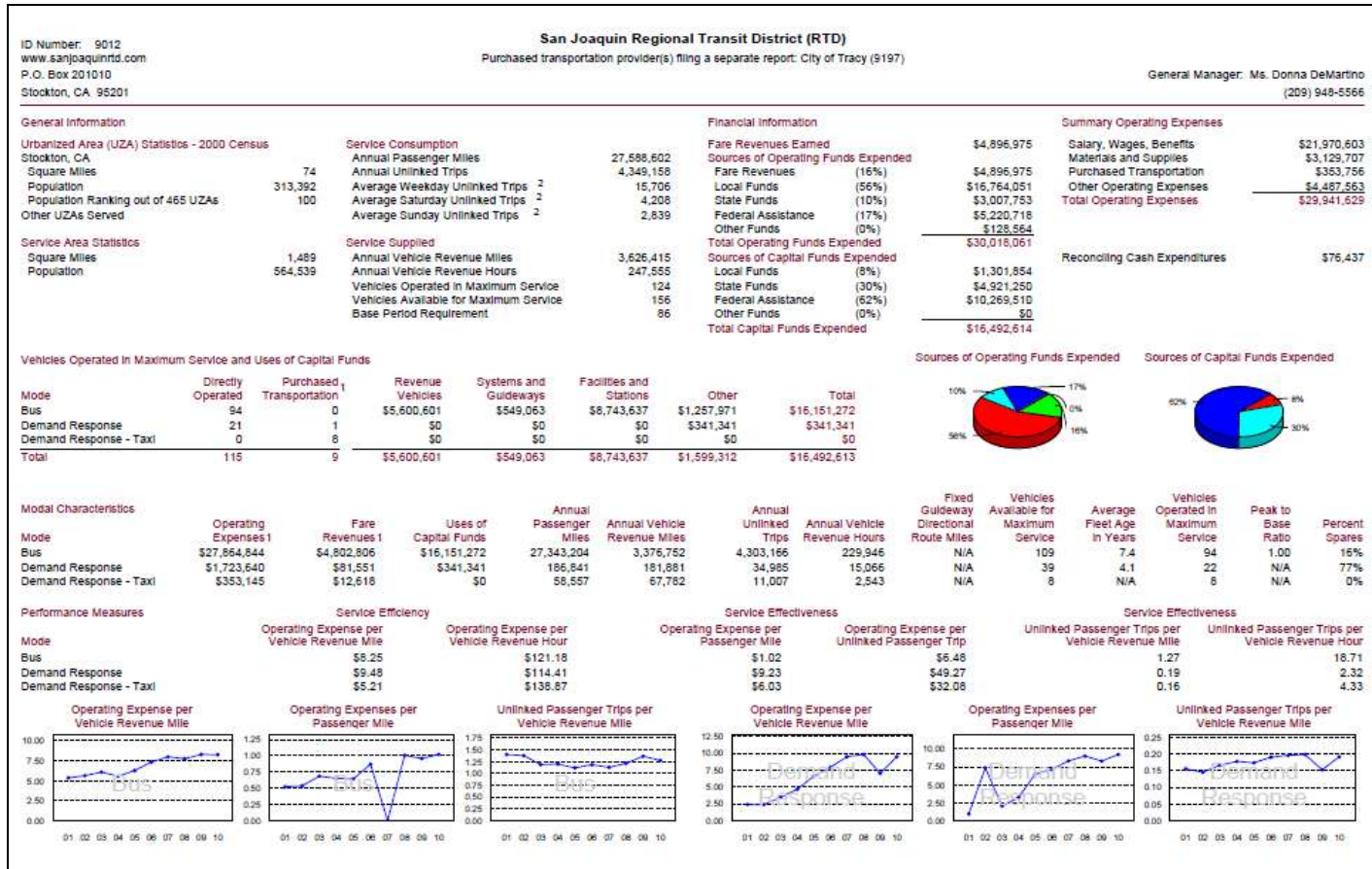
The two files located in this section will be replaced with updated Safety & Security data on or about the 4th of each month.

[Safety & Security Time Series Data](#)

[Safety & Security Major-Only Time Series Data](#)

National Trends and Peer Reviews

NATIONAL TRENDS



PEER REVIEWS



- **A confidential consortium of mid-sized bus agencies in North America established in 2011 to:**
 - Learn from each other by comparing performance
 - Share experiences and identify industry best practices
- **The group is administered by the Railway and Transport Strategy Centre (RTSC) at Imperial College London**
 - Visit <http://americanbusbenchmarking.org>

MEMBER AGENCIES



- **The group convened in May 2011 in Rochester, New York to review KPIs and to begin the benchmarking process**
- **The group convenes annually (next scheduled for APTA Annual Meeting in Seattle)**

“The benchmarking work will help agencies understand their strengths and weaknesses and where there is room for performance improvement, allowing a strategic prioritization of efforts,” said Mark Trompet, RTSC senior research associate. “The ultimate outgrowth of our work will be improved efficiencies and cost savings.”

- Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority** (Capital Metro, Austin)
- Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority** (GCRTA, Cleveland)
- Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority** (RTA, Dayton)
- Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority** (DART, Des Moines)
- Lane Transit District** (LTD, Eugene)
- Fort Worth Transportation Authority** (The T, Fort Worth)
- Rhode Island Public Transit Authority** (RIPTA, Providence)
- Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority** (RGRTA, Rochester)
- Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority** (PSTA, St. Petersburg)
- Omnitrans** (San Bernardino)
- San Joaquin Regional Transit District** (RTD, Stockton)
- Utah Transit Authority** (UTA, Salt Lake City)
- Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area** (C-TRAN, Vancouver)



PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



■ Growth & Learning

- Passengers, Miles, Hours
- Productivity
- Staff Training

■ Customer

- Service Availability
- On-Time Performance

■ Internal Processes

- Peak Fleet Utilization
- Staff Productivity
- Absenteeism
- Distance Between Roadcalls
- Lost Vehicle Miles

■ Financial

- Total Cost Per Unit of Service
- Operating Cost Recovery
- Average Fare

■ Safety & Security

- Accidents Per Unit of Service
- Lost Time & Staff Injuries Per Staff Work Hour
- Passenger Injuries Per Service Consumed

■ Environmental

- Fuel Consumption & Emissions

SJRTD EXPERIENCE

- **Pay attention to definitions – they are important**
 - NTD Definition or Other (e.g., Revenue Hour with or without recovery)
 - New Data Items (e.g., Absenteeism, Staff Work Hour, Schedule Adherence)

- **Requirements for a valid peer comparison**
 - Accurate data
 - Timely reporting
 - Consistent data definition