Missing the Bus
The Steady Decline in Public Transit Ridership

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The Statistics

- 31 of 35 major metropolitan transit systems have had faltering ridership.
- Bucking the trend: Houston, Phoenix, and Seattle as they all either expanded service and/or had network overhauls.
The Causes

- The problems associated with unreliable service, disrepair and inefficiency
- More options for alternative transportation (i.e. ridesharing services)
- Decline in workforce actually going into offices
- On-demand services like: online shopping, schooling, and telework
- Economic displacement
- Lower gas prices
- More buying power for automobiles
The Effects

- The decline in farebox recovery
- Discontinued service routes on low-ridership lines
- Service gaps due to re-routing or route cancellations
- Disparity for ridership population who need public transportation
- Unknowns of federal, state, and local funding allocations for public transportation
The Solutions

- Improve bus service and build out transit systems (i.e. BRT, light rail…etc.)
- Public-private partnerships encouraging alternatives to driving
- Dedicated transportation funding sources
- Equitable transit options for those who need public transportation
- Establish bond measures to have dedicated funding for transportation improvements and maintenance
- Public engagement and education about the benefits of public transit systems
Questions???