



TO: Board of Directors **DATE: November 11, 2022**

FROM: Jim Derwinski, CEO/Executive Director

SUBJECT: October 2022 Ridership Trends & Update on the \$100 Monthly Pass Pilot Program

This report describes YTD ridership patterns in 2022, including ridership and service recovery by line and service period. This report also describes fare product information including an update on the \$100 Monthly Pass pilot program. Data in this report is preliminary and will be finalized at the end of the year.

Ridership in October increased 0.9% percent compared to September. October had one additional Saturday compared to September.

Estimated Passenger Trips by Month

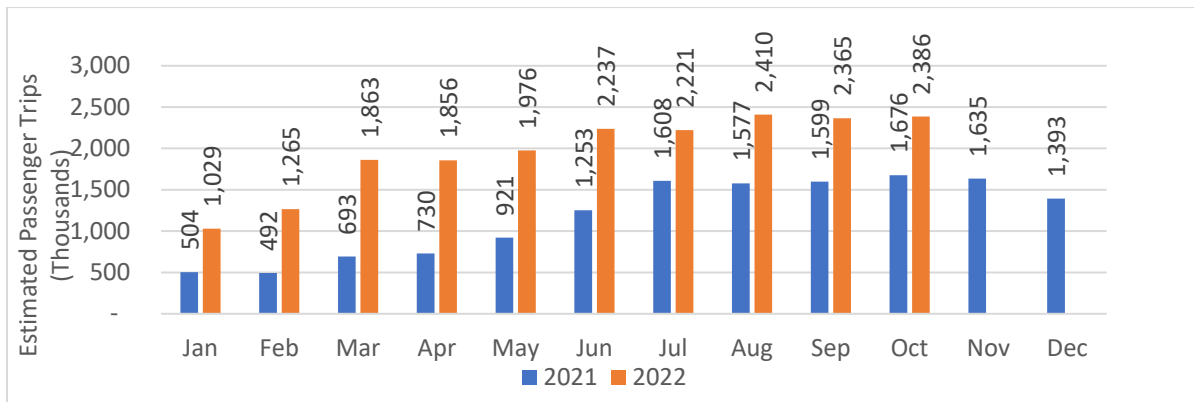


Exhibit 1

Estimated Passenger Trips by Line (October 2021 vs. October 2022)

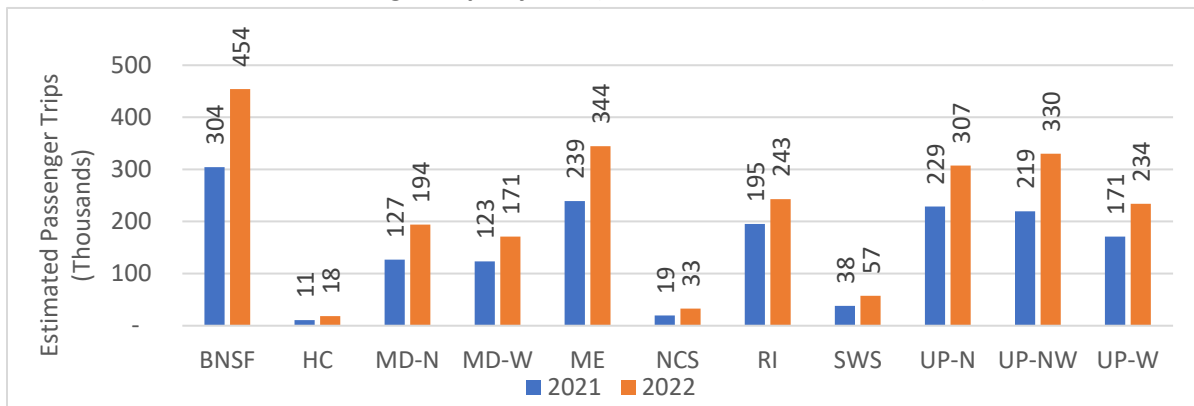
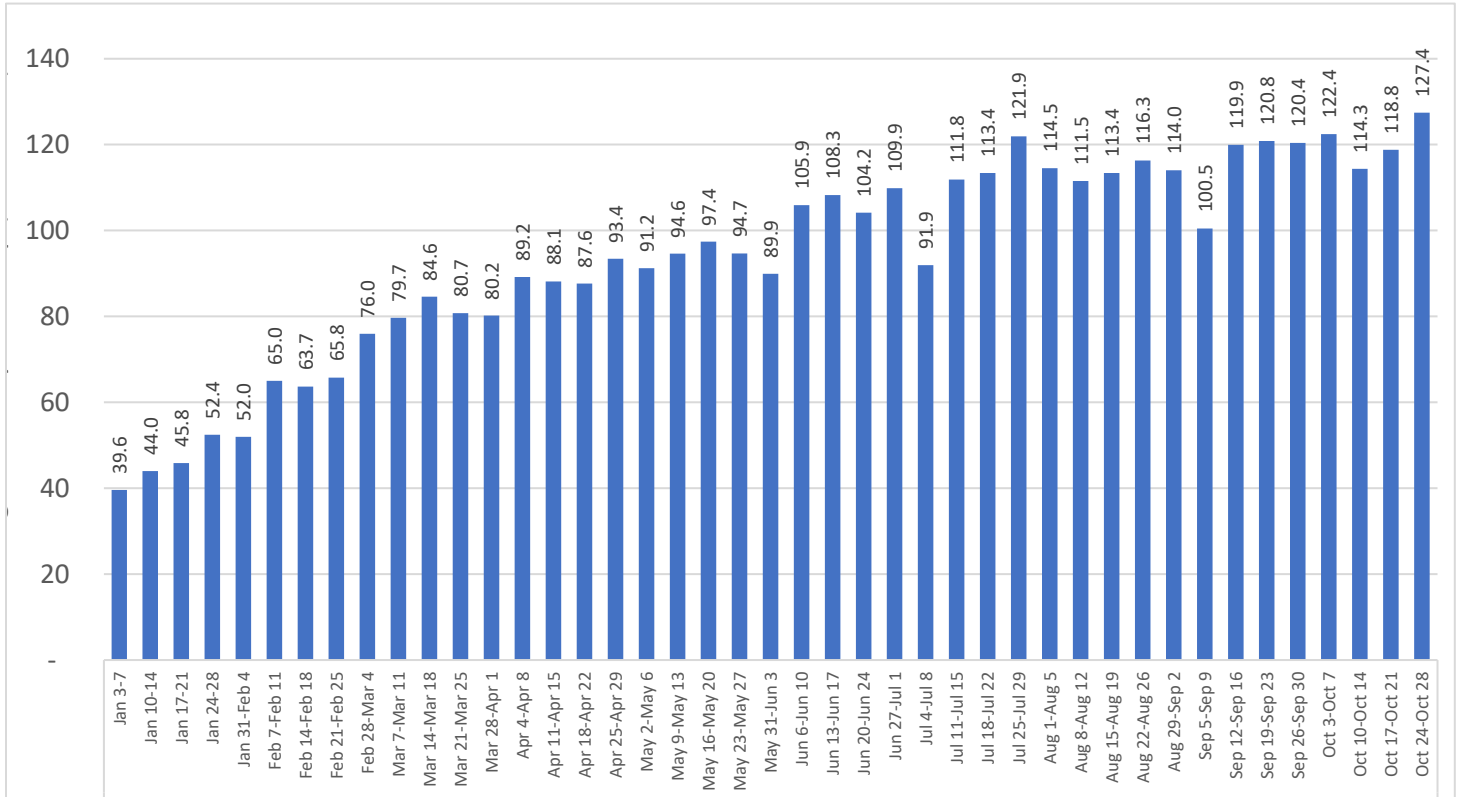


Exhibit 2

Weekday Ridership

Year-to-date, five of Metra's top ten ridership days occurred in October. Average weekday passengers grew by 1,300 in October compared to September (excluding Labor Day). October 26, the final Wednesday of the month, broke Metra's previous record for highest ridership day (since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic), exceeding 145,000 passengers.

Metra Average Weekday



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Weekday Avg Chg. from Previous Month	-	+34%	+30%	+9%	+10%	+11%	+4%	+1%	+3%	+1%

Exhibit 3

2022 YTD Weekday Passenger Loads

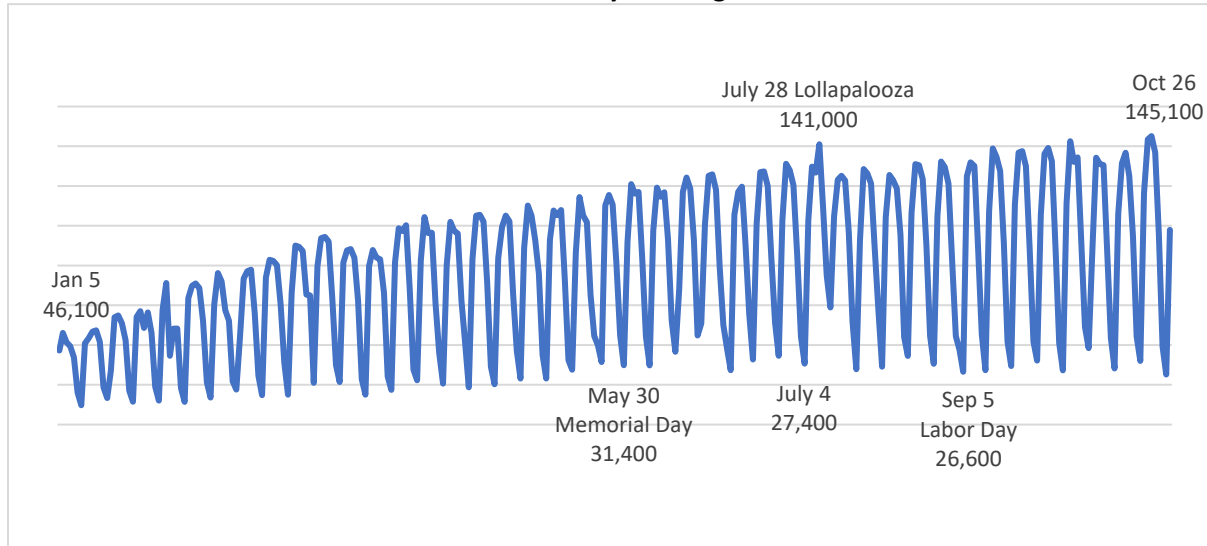


Exhibit 4

October Ridership Highlights

- The Chicago Marathon returned on Sunday, October 9. Metra added two extra trains each to the ME, MD-N, UP-NW, and UP-W. Overall, Metra carried approximately 10,100 additional riders on the Sunday of the marathon, compared to other Sundays in October. The Rock Island carried 2.3 times as many riders on the Sunday of the marathon compared to other Sundays that month, the largest percentage increase of any line the day of the event.
- Reverse peak trains on the ME continued their high recovery, exceeding pre-COVID levels, reaching 127 percent of 2019 levels in October.
- Sales of the \$100 “Super Saver” Monthly Passes continued to climb in October, with over three times as many monthly passes sold compared to June.

Service Status

After reducing service in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Metra has restored service in different capacities on its lines. On four lines in particular (BNSF, Metra Electric, Rock Island, Union Pacific North), schedules were redesigned to standardize stopping patterns and to increase midday service as part of a pilot schedule initiative. As a result, these lines have experienced a stronger recovery in the midday compared to the overall recovery of those lines and compared to the system’s midday as a whole. For example, the Union Pacific North has a recovery of 65% during the midday compared to the line’s weekday recovery of 49% and Metra’s overall midday recovery of 58%.

The Union Pacific North, Rock Island, and Metra Electric have the highest weekday recovery as a percentage of their pre-COVID ridership. The Union Pacific North line had the most added midday service of all the pilot schedules, and the Rock Island and Metra Electric currently have discounted fares due to the South Cook Fair Transit Pilot.

Ridership Recovery by Line & Service Period (Oct 2022 as a percentage of Oct 2019)

Line	Peak	Rev Peak	Midday	Evening	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
BNSF	38%	41%	59%	50%	41%	69%	72%
HC	31%	-	75%	-	33%	-	-
MD-N	39%	32%	47%	31%	39%	72%	62%
MD-W	34%	46%	48%	46%	37%	65%	70%
ME	39%	127%	91%	85%	53%	120%	78%
NCS	30%	17%	23%	-	28%	-	-
RI	40%	85%	65%	62%	44%	79%	60%
SWS	32%	3%	11%	-	28%	-	-
UP-N	45%	47%	65%	57%	49%	89%	93%
UP-NW	38%	43%	52%	50%	41%	80%	79%
UP-W	40%	47%	56%	40%	42%	59%	74%
Total	38%	49%	58%	48%	41%	73%	79%

Exhibit 5

\$100 Monthly Pass Pilot Program

Sales of Metra’s promotional flat-rate \$100 “Super Saver” Monthly Pass, which was implemented in July 2022, grew for a fourth consecutive month. As a share, it held at 32 percent of all rides in October. Over three times as many tickets were sold in October compared to June. Staff will continue to monitor these trends as the Monthly Pass promotion continues.

2022 YTD Monthly Pass Sales

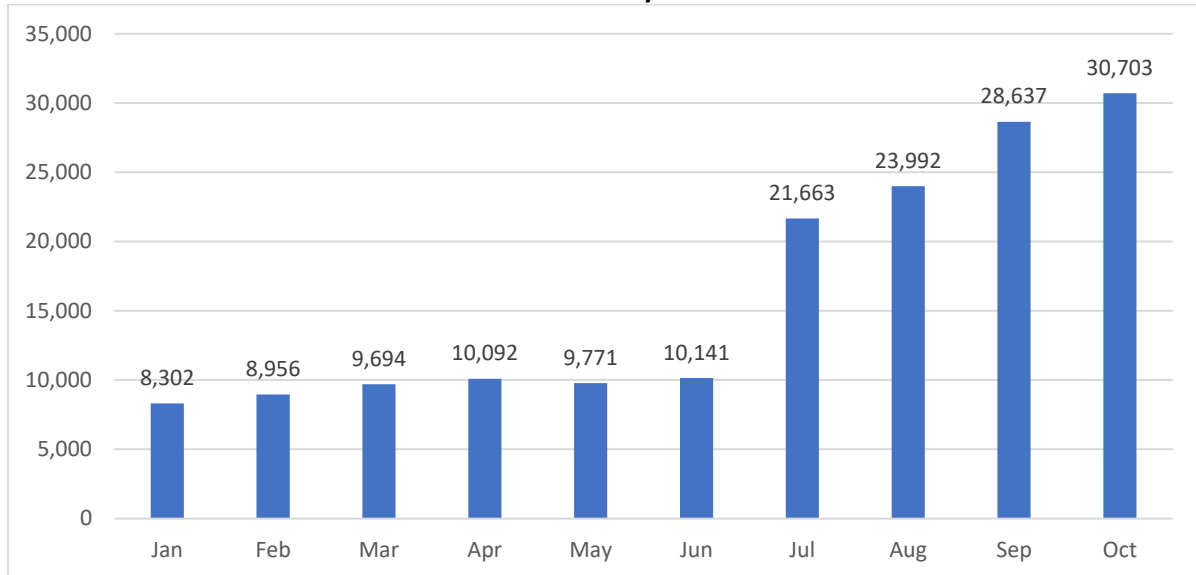


Exhibit 6

Ridership by Ticket Type

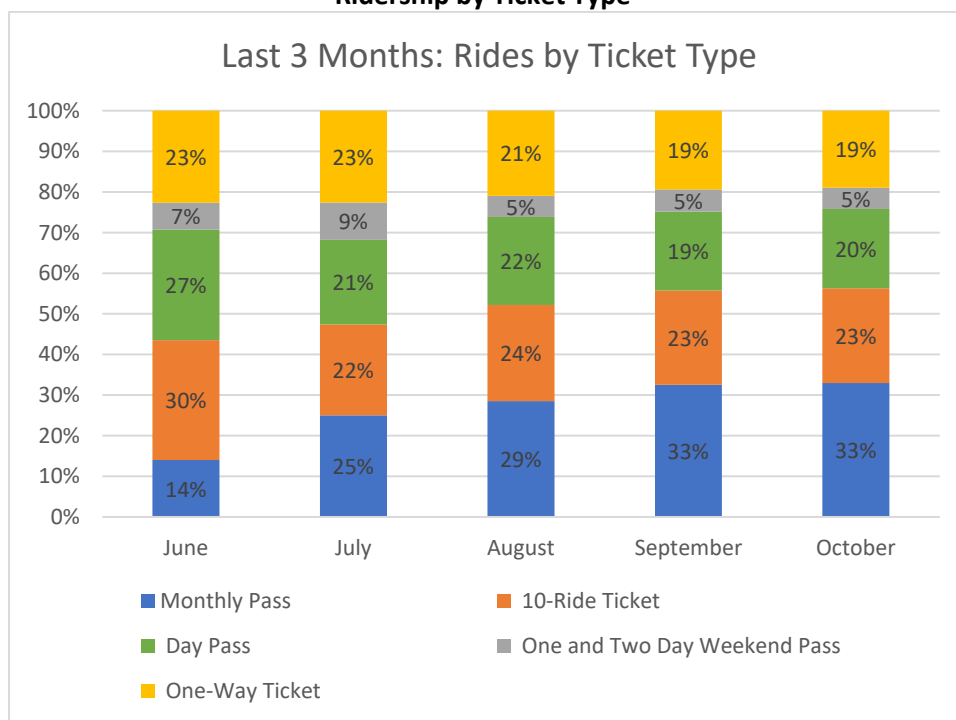


Exhibit 7

Ticket Sales

Metra sold nearly 31,000 Monthly Passes in October, more than three times the quantity sold in June, before the “Super Saver” pilot began.

Ticket Sales and Ridership by Ticket Type (thousands)

Ticket Type	Ticket Sales					Ridership					
	Oct 2019	Jun 2022	Oct 2022	Jun 2022 Share	Oct 2022 Share	Oct 2019	Jun 2022	Oct 2022	Oct 2019 Share	Jun 2022 Share	Oct 2022 Share
Monthly Pass	89	10	31	1.0%	3.6%	3,810	308	774	58.7%	13.8%	32.4%
10-Ride Ticket	161	65	55	6.7%	6.5%	1,610	649	548	24.8%	29.0%	23.0%
One-Way Ticket	803	498	445	51.5%	52.8%	803	498	445	12.4%	22.3%	18.6%
Weekend Pass	84	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	189	-	-	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%
One Day Weekend Pass	-	67	57	6.9%	6.8%	-	113	95	0.0%	5.0%	4.0%
Two Day Weekend Pass	-	15	14	1.6%	1.7%	-	32	29	0.0%	1.4%	1.2%
Day Pass	-	312	240	32.2%	28.5%	-	599	459	0.0%	26.8%	19.2%
\$6 Day Pass	-	55	74	5.7%	8.8%	-	134	125	0.0%	6.0%	5.3%
\$10 Day Pass	-	257	166	26.6%	19.8%	-	465	333	0.0%	20.8%	14.0%
RTA Ride Free Permit	-	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	79	37	37	1.2%	1.6%	1.6%
Total	1,137	967	842	100%	100.0%	6,491	2,237	2,386	100%	100%	100%

Exhibit 8

Ridership by Sales Channel (thousands)

Sales Channel	Ticket Sales				Ridership			
	Oct 2019	Oct 2022	Oct 2019 Share	Oct 2022 Share	Oct 2019	Oct 2022	Oct 2019 Share	Oct 2022 Share
Conductor	174	79	15.5%	9.5%	222	90	3.4%	3.8%
Commuter Benefit	35	5	3.1%	0.6%	1,169	89	18.1%	3.7%
Ventra App	613	642	54.7%	76.3%	3,053	1,784	47.2%	74.8%
Ticket Agent	266	98	23.7%	11.6%	1,746	356	27.0%	14.9%
Ticket Vending Machine	34	17	3.0%	2.0%	203	29	3.1%	1.2%
RTA Ride Free Permit	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	79	37	1.2%	1.6%
Total	1,121	841	100%	100%	6,472	2,385	100%	100%

Exhibit 9

Note: Values in Exhibits 8 and 9 do not add to total ridership due to Group Sales, Marketing Sales, and Refund Adjustments; 2019 data may not match previously reported totals due to late-reporting sales and refunds; 2022 data are preliminary and subject to revision as data is continuously reviewed throughout the year. Sales of incremental tickets are not included.

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