# Metro Rail Capacity Study 

## Overview

- Metro Rail Capacity Study Motion (January 2018)
- Analyze current ridership as a percentage of maximum capacity for passengers at all existing rail stations during:
$>$ Weekdays
$>$ Weekends
$>$ On-Peak Hours
> Off-Peak Hours


## Data Collection

- Rail ridership data collected through manual counts and reported on a monthly basis at a line and day type level.
- Sampling methodology requires one year to collect enough data to generate station and time period level ridership. (FY17 most current)


## Data Analysis

- Capacity (seated and standing) of a light rail line equals $175 \%$ of the seated capacity, or a load factor of 1.75. The maximum capacity of a heavy rail line equals $230 \%$ of the seated load, or 2.3 load factor.
- Capacity generally exists on the rail network during midday and weekends, with the exception of the Expo and Gold Lines when averaging all trips within a one hour and a 20 minute time slice.
- Standing capacity generally exists on all rail lines during peak periods in the peak direction when averaging trips.
- However, significant ridership variation on an individual trip basis due to "pulsing" of ridership, with many trips exceeding max capacity during the peak period.

Metro


## Findings - Weekday Peak Hours

## Metro Blue Line



Metro Blue Line
Weekday Southbound 5-6pm


Metro Blue Line Weekday Northbound Load Ratios


Metro Blue Line
Weekday Southbound Load Ratios


## Findings - Weekday Peak Hours

## Metro Green Line





Metro Green Line
Weekday Westbound Load Ratios


## Findings - Weekday Peak Hours

## Metro Gold Line



Metro Gold Line
Weekday Southbound 7-8am


Metro Gold Line Weekday Northbound Load Ratios



## Findings - Weekday Peak Hours

## Metro Expo Line





Metro Expo Line
Weekday Westbound Load Ratios


## Findings - Weekday Peak Hours

## Metro Red \& Purple Line





## Findings

- The findings indicate there is significant variation in demand from train to train within any specified hour due to the pulsing of ridership, with some observed trains exceeding the policy capacity.
- The table summarizes the number of train trips observed at each level of capacity from less than seated loads (load factor under 1.0) to over maximum capacity (load factor above 1.75 for LRT and 2.30 for HRT).

| Line | Direction | Peak <br> Hour | 1.0 or <br> Less | $\begin{array}{\|l} 1.0 \text { to } \\ 1.25 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.25 \text { to } \\ & 1.50 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.50 \text { to } \\ & 1.75 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Over } \\ & 1.75 \end{aligned}$ | Total TrainTrips |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Blue Line | North | AM | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 |  | 11 |
|  | South | PM |  | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 10 |
| Green Line | East | PM | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 |  | 16 |
|  | West | AM | 9 | 8 |  |  |  | 17 |
| Gold Line | North | PM |  |  |  | 6 | 3 | 9 |
|  | South | AM |  | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| Expo Line | East | PM |  | 1 | 3 |  | 7 | 11 |
|  | West | AM | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 10 |


| Line | Direction | Peak <br> Hour | 1.0 or <br> Less | 1.0 to <br> 1.43 | 1.43 to <br> 1.87 | 1.87 to <br> 2.30 | Over <br> 2.30 | Total Train <br> Trips |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Red/Purple <br> Line | East | PM | 1 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 12 |
|  | West | PM | 1 | 4 | 1 | 6 |  | 12 |

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