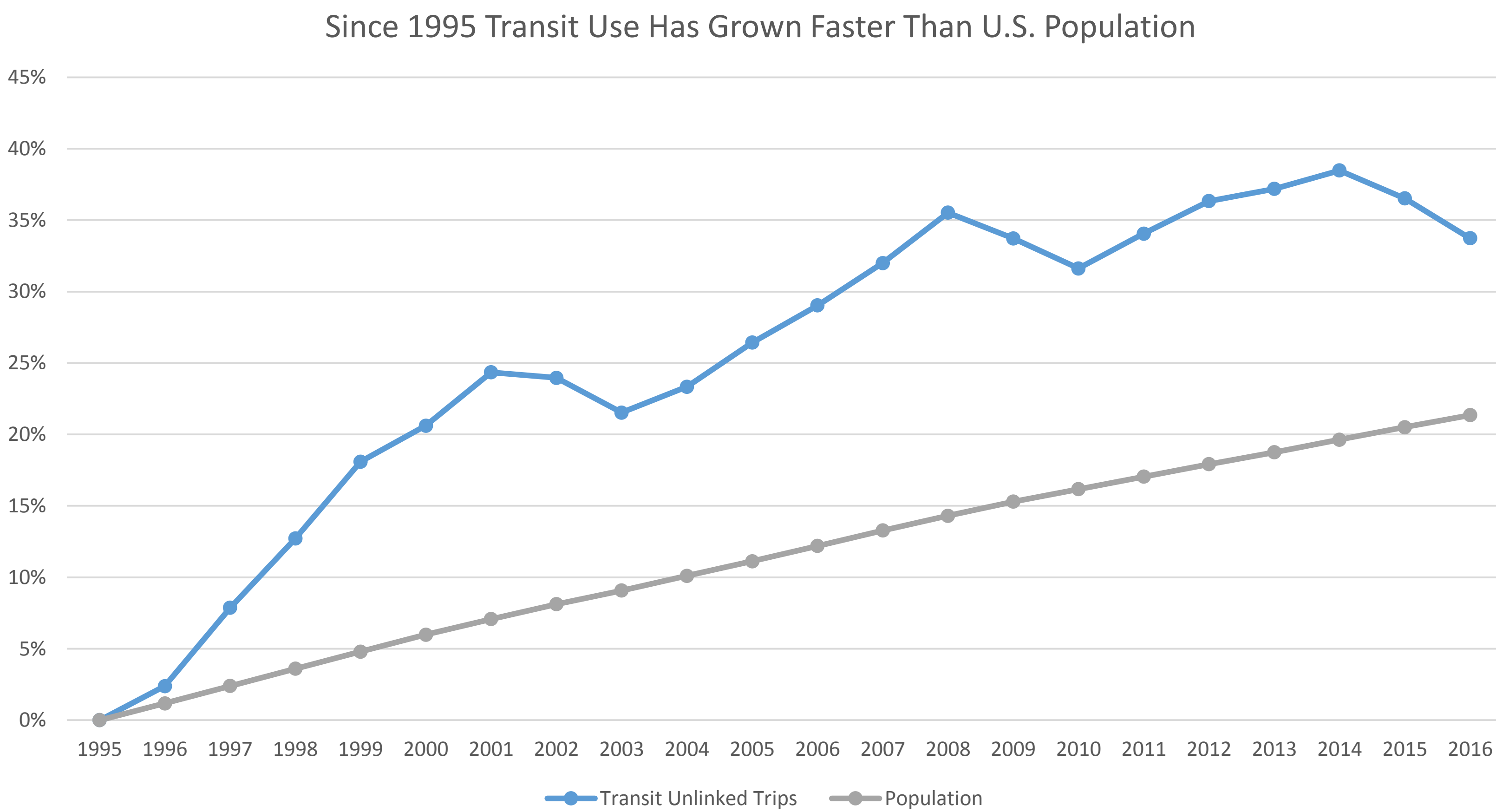
Luncheon Breakout Discussions

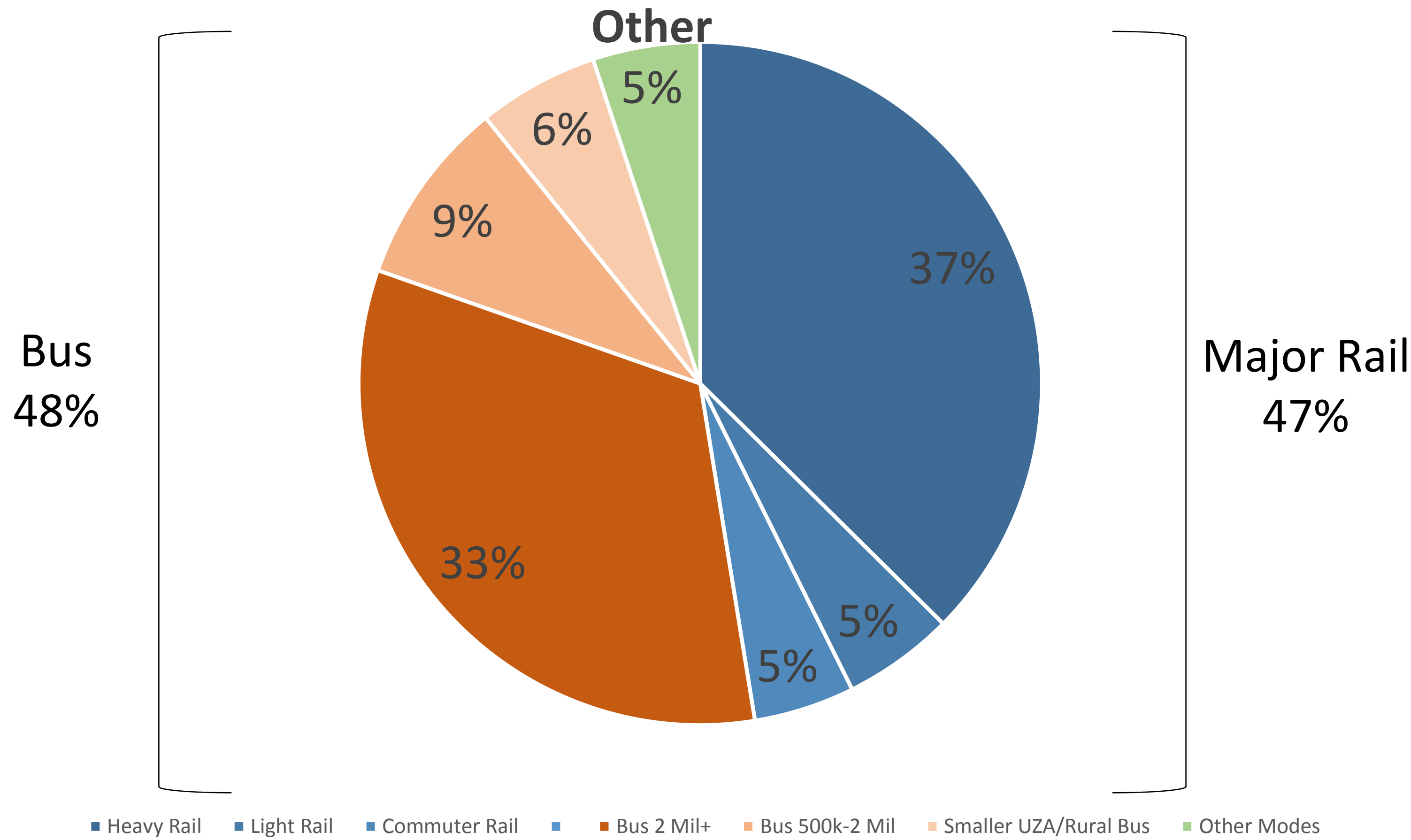
Ridership trends and how transit agencies are responding

Sunday, July 23, 2017

Long-term ridership has been strong



Modal Breakdown



Ridership dip in 2015 / 2016 / 2017

2015 Calendar year

First Quarter:	- 0.66%
Second Quarter:	- 1.24%
Third Quarter:	- 1.69%
Fourth Quarter:	- 1.64%

2016 Calendar year

First Quarter:	+ 0.35% (leap year day)
Second Quarter:	- 2.39%
Third Quarter:	- 2.85%
Fourth Quarter:	- 4.29%

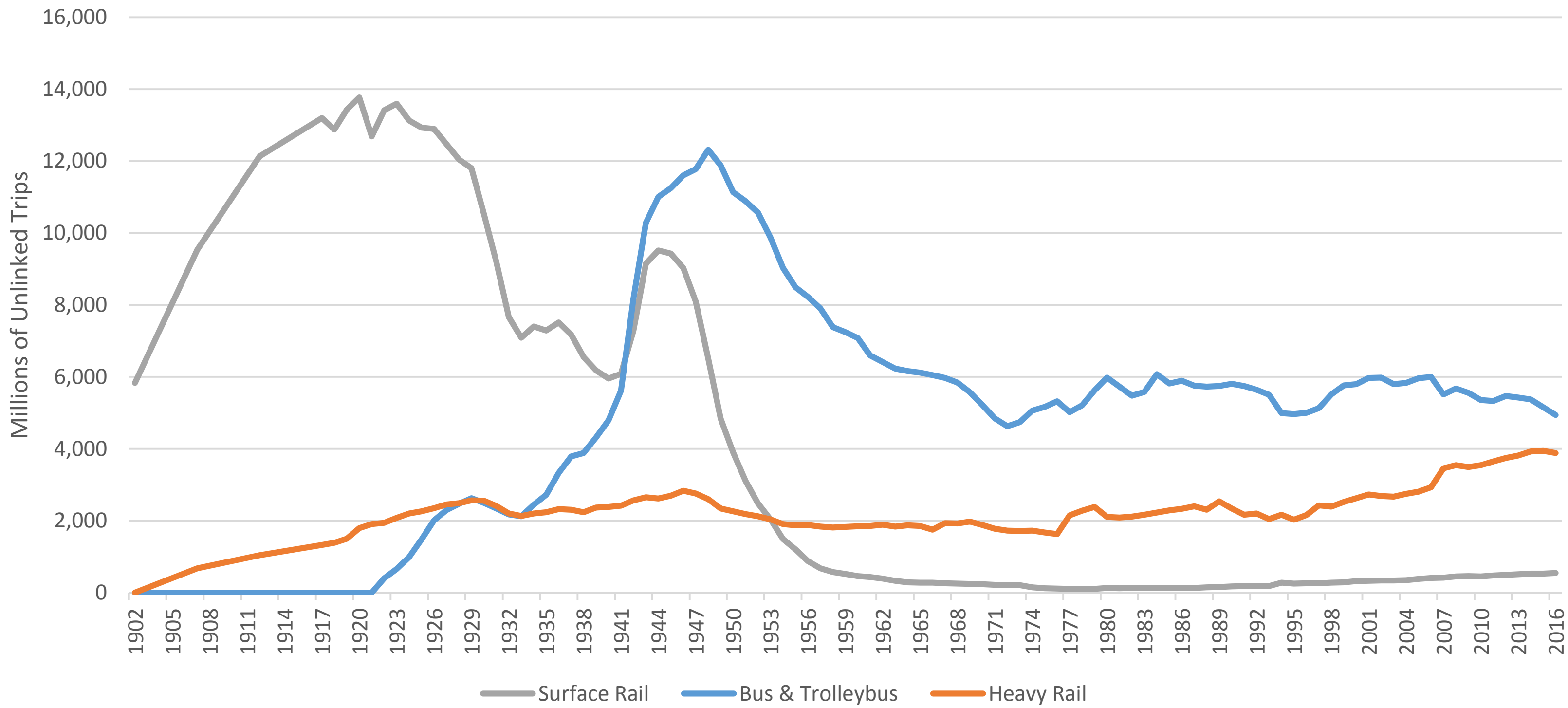
2017 Calendar year

First Quarter:	-3.13%

Two-year modal snapshot (2014 vs. 2016)

Heavy Rail	- 1.4%
Light Rail	+ 3.3%
Commuter Rail	+ 1.4%
Trolleybus	- 5.7%
Bus Population Group	
2,000,000 +	- 5.8%
500,000 – 1,999,999	- 5.9%
100,000 – 499,999	- 8.8%
Below 100,000	- 1.9%
Bus Total	- 6.0%
Demand Response	- 3.7%
Other	+ 2.0%
United States Total	- 3.3%
Canada Total	- 0.7%

Ridership in Three Modes 1902 - Present



- Bus trips peaked in 1950
- Streetcar and LRT peaked in 1923
- Heavy rail highest levels ever in 2015

A Mix of Factors

- Changes in the mobility ecosystem
- Work-at-home trends
- Sustained low gasoline prices
- Lingering impacts of the recession (service cuts/fares)
- VMT up steadily since 2014 (following several flat years).
- Automobile purchases up/attitudes/cheap loans/aggressive promotion/affluence
- Sprawling regions / non-competitive bus travel times
- Vulnerability of the marginal transit trip (multiple transfers)
- Vulnerability of short trips, given new alternatives
- Drops in college enrollments / rise of online courses
- SGR & service quality issues in certain regions
- TOD success stories / The trip not taken / bike / pedestrian

Examples of New Approaches:

- **Sacramento**: Move from "Hub-and-Spoke" to more of a "grid" bus route model to better serve suburban markets.
- **Columbus**: Higher-frequency service in high-density corridors.
- **Boston**: TNC contracts for demand-response services
- **Dallas and Phoenix**: Integrated payment in the works
- **Los Angeles**: Operating microtransit service directly
- **APTA**: Working on a template for TNC agreements
- **FTA MOD Sandbox**: Pilots to address first mile/last mile and low density area service gaps.

Luncheon Breakout Discussion

Please continue this discussion at the luncheon breakout sessions:

- What is the ridership situation in your community?
- What factors are impacting it?
- What can be done to counter any adverse trends?
- Can new partners and service models be helpful?
- What might APTA do to support the transit industry?