# Using Data (and lots of it) to Improve the Customer Experience

#### Lawrence Deeter

## Capital Metro, Principal Planner Austin, Texas



#### **Overview**

- About Capital Metro
- Data Collection
- Continuous Customer Experience Improvement
- Examples:
  - Overcrowding
  - Bus bunching
  - On-time performance
- Key Takeaways



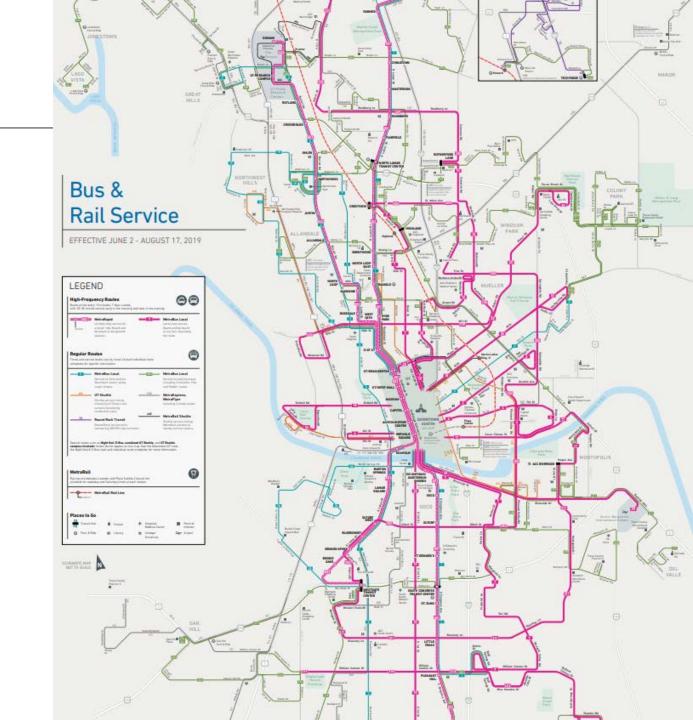
## **Capital Metro**

- Regional public transit provider for the Austin metropolitan area
- Current Operations
  - Over 65 MetroBus routes
  - Two MetroRapid lines
  - One MetroRail line
  - 13 UT Shuttles

A METRO

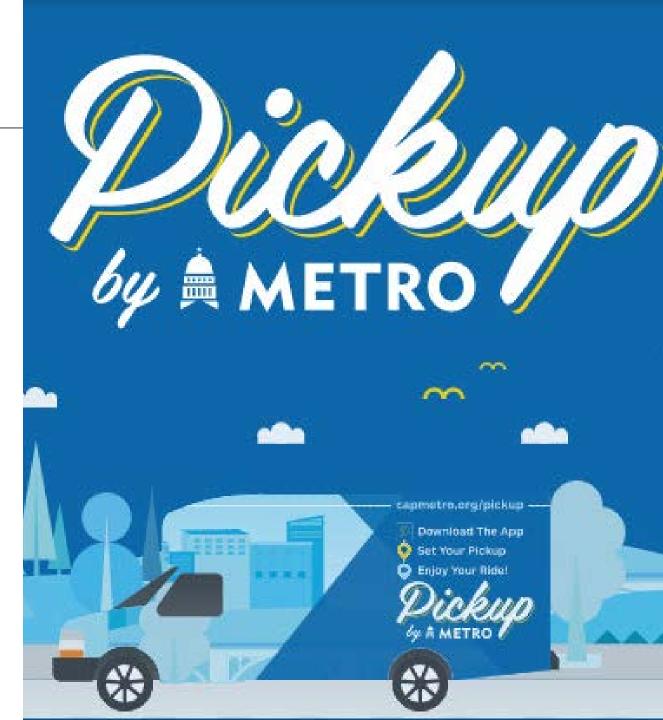
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• 18 Transit Centers / Park & Rides



## **Capital Metro**

- Current Operations
  - Pickup app based shared ride service in specific zones
  - MetroAccess paratransit service for customers with disabilities
  - MetroRideShare vanpool service





#### **Data Sources**

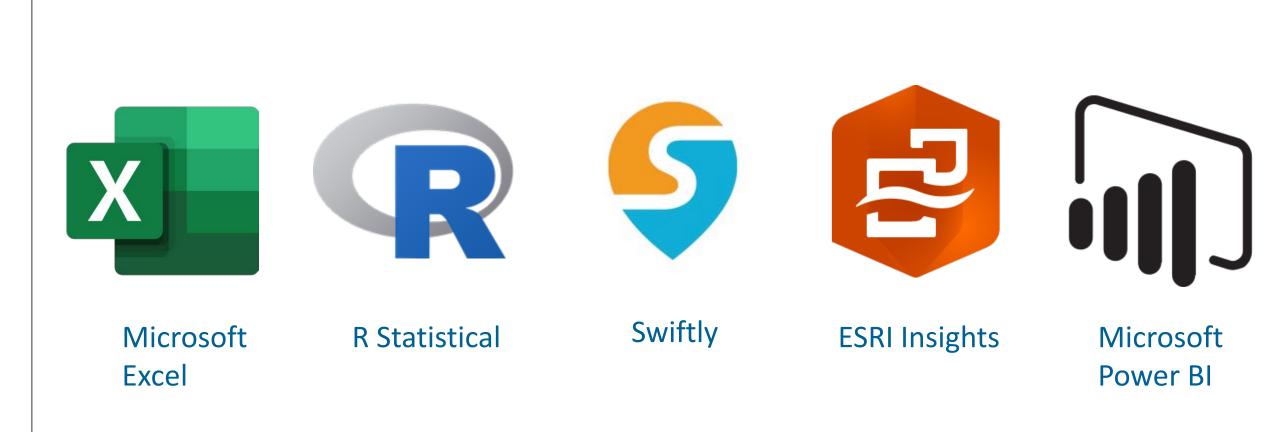
- Automated Passenger Counters
  - 100% Capital Metro buses
- Automated Vehicle Location
  - Refresh rate recently increased to every 10 seconds

0

-21-



#### **Data Analysis Tools**





## **Big Changes at Capital Metro**

• Cap Remap

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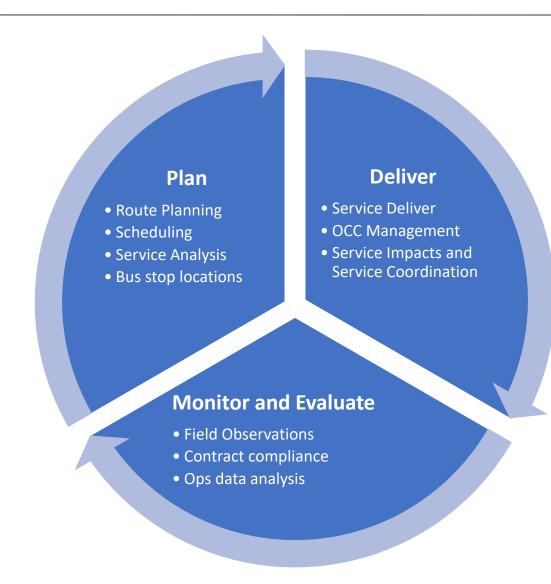
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- Implemented June 3, 2018
- Largest route restructure in agency history
- Greatly increased High-Frequency service throughout Austin
- Operation Control Center
  - State of the art control center
  - Combines service monitoring and dispatch function for each service provider



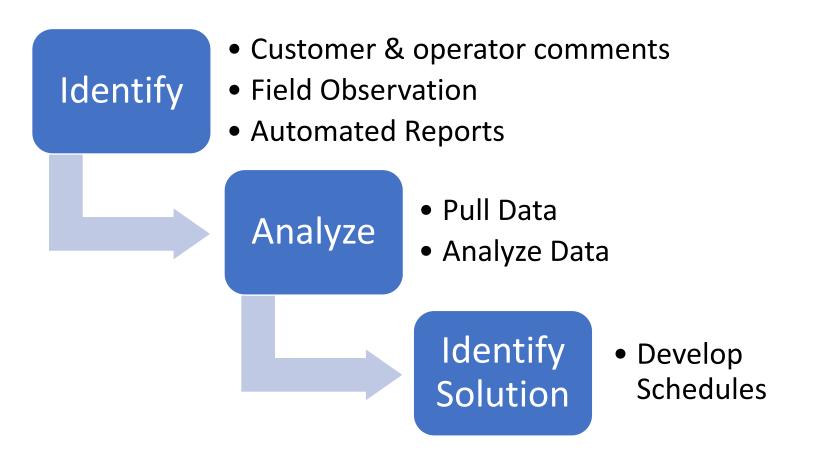
## **Continuous Customer Experience Improvement**

- Cross Functional Team
  - Short-Range Planning
  - Service Analysis
  - Operations
  - Service Monitoring
- Use data to inform the decision-making process
- Quickly implement solutions to service deliver issues





#### **The CCEIT Process**





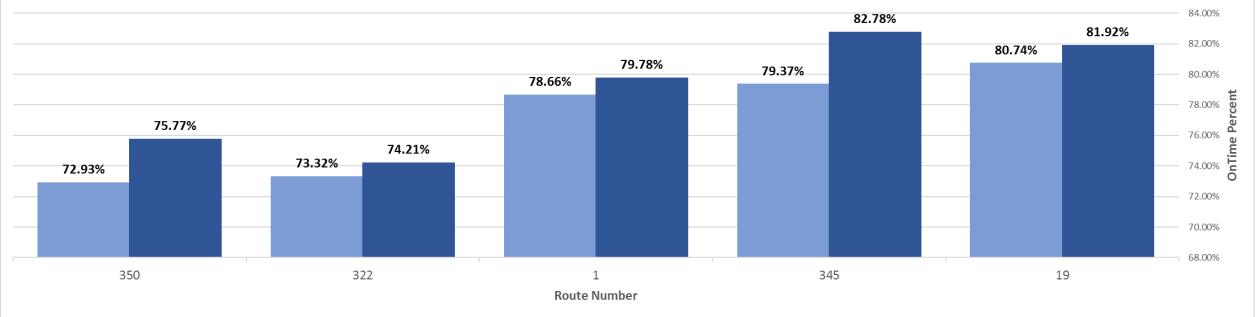
## **Example: On-Time Performance**

- Identify
  - Orb CAD
  - Swiftly
  - Customer Comments

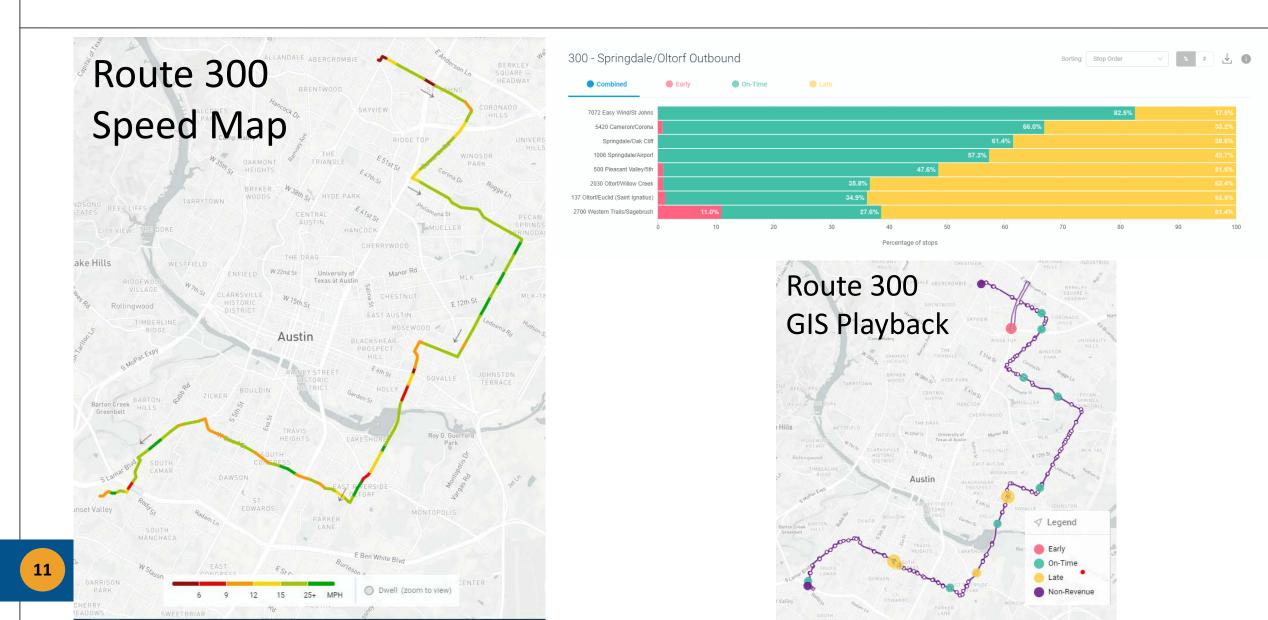
- Analysis
  - Excel
  - Swiftly

- Solution
  - Operator Coaching
  - Running Time Adjustments
  - Transit Priority Treatments





### **Example: On-Time Performance - Swiftly**



## **Example: Overcrowding**

- Identify
  - Social Media
  - Customer Comments
  - Automated Reports
- Analysis
  - R
  - Excel
- Solution
  - Q Buses
  - Deadheads



Date															
	4	Max of Max													
	5	Row Labels 耳	30119	30419	30519	30619	30719	30819	31119	31219	31319	31419	31519	Count	% of
	6	<b>0</b>													Days
	111	1302	30	39	19	29	42	18	39	40	35	38	44	0	0%
	112	1318	39	25	45	37	18	34	23	13	24	15	27	0	0%
	113	1333	23	22	19	16	19	20	21	17	26	21	9	0	0%
	114	1348	21	22	13	19	20	27	24	24	27	17	35	1	3%
	115	1408	38	43	21	36	39	46	27	27	50	38	38	5	13%
	116	1428	51	51	45	53	53	33	37	52	43	72	44	19	49%
	117	1443	21	22	47	36	42	31	45	22	20	18	18	4	10%
-	118	1458	33	22	31	33	34	47	38	39	71	49	42	5	13%
с Га	119	1512	39	51	29	45	29	40	40	33	28	19	51	8	21%
	120	1527	31	49	43	61	51	34	29	55	50	70	28	9	23%
2	121	1542	34	25	44	25	32	27	30	55	46	71	28	2	5%
	122	1557	23	28	37	58	68	50	53	47	55	35	49	16	41%
	123	1614	47	34	56	31	55	17	49	28	46	27	43	19	49%
	124	1629	35	63	43	44	27	62	33	53	34	37	22	12	31%
	125	1644	17	34	31	47	13	15	34	30	56	43	45	2	5%
	126	1659	35	31	29	43	43	8	20	53	36	17	19	1	3%
	127	1714	34	33	43	55	27	32	42	46	28	34	26	9	23%
	128	1729	24	37	14	33	52	31	35	17	13	31	23	2	5%
	129	1744	15	35	22	17	13	27	33	27	48	31	6	1	3%
	130	1759	33	27	6	51	42	29	19	15	37	24	31	2	5%
	131	1819	14	24	40	15	18	14	48	12	20	20	17	1	3%

## **Example: Bus Bunching**

- Identify
  - OCC
  - Automated Reports
- Analysis
  - R
  - Excel
- Solution
  - Q Buses



	Route	Hour	Incidents_LastWeek	Incidents_FullSignUp		
	300	5:00PM	8	63		
	20	5:00PM	7	68		
	300	3:00PM	5	23		
	10	5:00PM	4	27		
	300	7:00AM	4	29		
	10	4:00PM	3	20		
	20	3:00PM	3	13		
	300	10:00AM	3	14		
	300	4:00PM	3	20		
	300	1:00PM	2	10		
	300	2:00PM	2	27		
	2	10:00AM	1	1		
	2	5:00PM	1	4		
	4	10:00AM	1	1		
	4	5:00PM	1	4		
	10	7:00AM	1	4		
	10	8:00AM	1	1		
	20	9:00AM	1	1		
	20	11:00AM	1	2		
	20	4:00PM	1	9		
	20	6:00PM	1	15		
	300	5:00AM	1	3		
	300	8:00AM	1	3		
	300	9:00AM	1	2		
	300	12:00PM	1	2		

### **Key Takeaways**

- Requires supportive data wonks
- Analysis does not need to be fancy
- Don't under estimate the power of Excel
- Field observations still valuable
- Automate as you understand what you are looking for





Lawrence.Deeter@capmetro.org