



Transit Agency and Utility Partnerships: Case Studies from Denver, Minneapolis/St. Paul Metro and Portland

June 16, 2020

# Welcome



Lisa Jerram
Director, Bus Programs and Emerging Vehicle Technologies
American Public Transportation Association
Washington D.C.

Kellen Schefter
Director, Electric Transportation
Edison Electric Institute
Washington D.C.





## **Moderators**



Lisa Jerram

Director, Bus Programs and Emerging Vehicle Technologies

American Public Transportation Association

Washington D.C.



Kellen Schefter

Director, Electric Transportation

Edison Electric Institute

Washington D.C.



## **Panelists**



Kevin Schwain

Electric Vehicle Program Lead

Xcel Energy



Carly Macias
Senior Transportation
Planner
RTD



Carrie Desmond
Principal Engineer
Metro Transit



Jeff Owen
Strategic Planning
Coordinator
TriMet



Jill King
Senior Key Customer
Manager
Portland General Electric

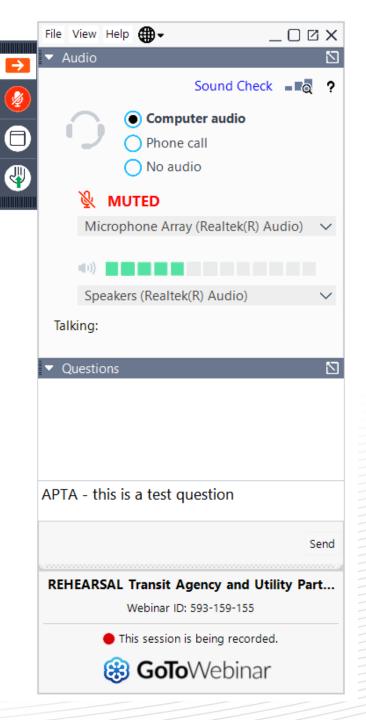


## **Audience Questions**

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- Ex. "APTA this is a test question"





# Panelists' Presentations



# Transit Agency Partnerships

with

# Electric Utility Providers







Jeff Owen, TriMet
Strategic Planning Coordinator
OwenJ@trimet.org

Jill King, Portland General Electric Sr. Key Customer Manager Jill.King@pgn.com



# **Today's Outline**

- Alignment and Shared Goals
- Partnership Structure
- Public Utility Commission Filing
- Project Highlights:
  - 1. Battery Electric Bus Pilot
  - 2. Powell Bus Garage
- Future Initiatives





# **Alignment and Shared Goals**

#### **TriMet Goals:**

- Transition to a clean energy bus fleet by 2040 with associated charging infrastructure
- Convert MAX light rail to clean energy
- Reduce risks of new technology
- Support state and regional goals and clean initiatives
- Deliver capital transit projects for the region and our partners

#### **PGE Goals:**

- Accelerate Oregon's legislative goals around greenhouse gas emissions with electrification of transportation
- Maintain strong regional transit partner with common environmental and community goals
- Expand PGE's ability to serve the community in adoption of transportation electrification for a more connected grid
- · Efficiently integrate new electric fleet loads into the grid



# **Partnership Structure**

#### **Senior Executive Alignment**

PGE President and CEO TriMet General Manager

#### **Strategic Partnership Team**

PGE Vice Presidents
TriMet Executive Team

#### **Key Conduits**

PGE Customer Lead TriMet Strategic Planning

### Signature Events

Communications and Marketing Leads

# Transportation Electrification Funding Sources

Public Policy and Government Relation Leads

# Battery Storage, Resiliency, Critical Infrastructure

Business,
Planning,
Engineering Leads

# Business Continuity and Emergency Management Safety and

Security Response Leads



City of Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler (center) with Doug Kelsey, TriMet (left) and Maria Pope, PGE (right) at the C40 World Mayors Summit, 2019



# **Public Utility Commission Filing**

- February 2019: UM 1811 Transportation Electrification Filing
  - Supports business charging infrastructure and includes public transit working to electrify fleets.
     TriMet submitted a letter of support for the filing, along with other partners.
- PGE TE Plan acknowledged, and Governor's Executive Order 20-4
  - Support from Governor's Executive Order to accelerate TE to reduce GHG emissions.
- Fleet Program in development
  - o PGE and TriMet partner through workshops to determine effective programs for transit, and explore options to offset cost and complexity of fleet planning and charging infrastructure.



# **Battery Electric Bus Pilot**





- TriMet secured an FTA Low-No Grant with PGE support
- Beginning in April 2019, five new BEBs began service on Line 62, powered entirely by PGE's Clean Wind Program
- 26 mile route with 450 kW ABB overhead fast charger on-route and 150 kW depot chargers

"We are proud to support TriMet's work to electrify transportation across our region. Powered by wind, this allelectric bus line is a sustainable transportation option for the community and another step closer to a clean energy future for Oregon."

Maria Pope, PGE president and CEO

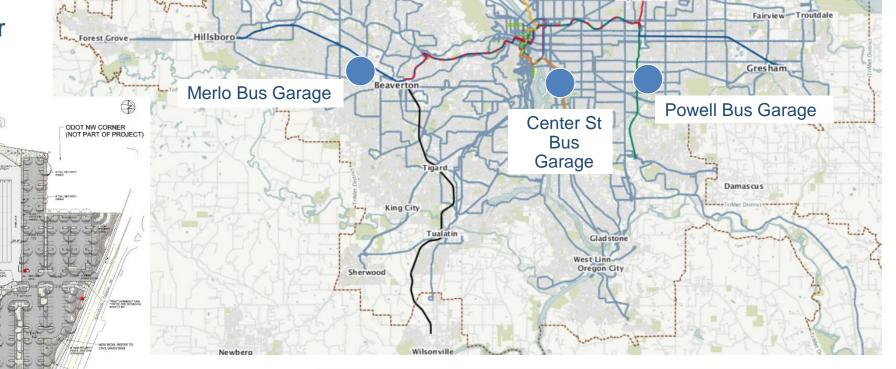
"Today, we are riding the winds of change. TriMet's commitment to a zero-emissions bus fleet by 2040 and support of wind power put the agency and our region at the forefront of a cleaner future."

Doug Kelsey,TriMet general manager



# **Powell Bus Garage**

- TriMet is renovating and expanding Powell garage to accommodate 40' buses and new 60' articulated buses
- PGE is providing electrification expertise for charging infrastructure

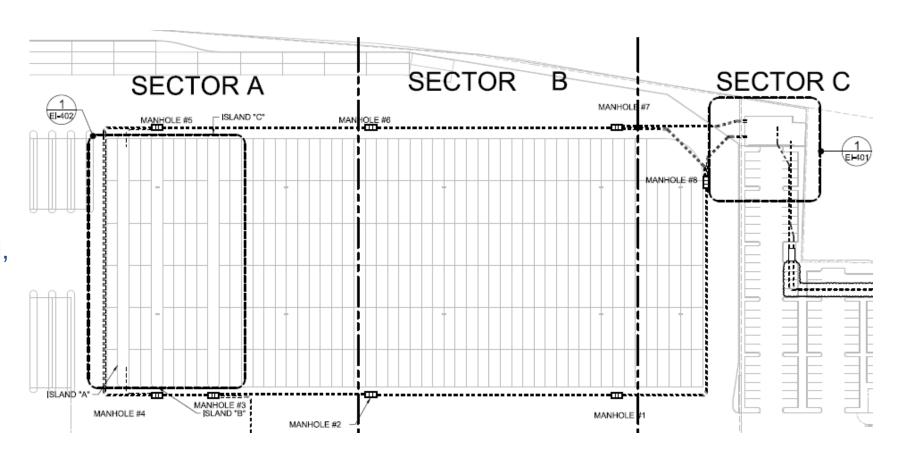


Vancouver

Columbia Bus Garage

# **Powell Bus Garage**

- Key project needs for electrification include reliability, potential for expansion, and flexibility for future innovation.
- Project will install a distribution loop feed for the bus yard.
- In both Phase I & Phase II, the project will install islands with freestanding charging equipment.
- Future phases include evaluating a gantry style overhead charging system, and advanced charging management.



# **Advancing Innovation**

TriMet @trimet · May 31, 2019

Meet the Starlight Parade's very special guest (thanks for making this happen, @portlandgeneral!)

- Moving forward, we plan to build upon our strong relationship and work closely together on a range of potential innovative initiatives:
  - Connected Communities: Battery storage, EV charging and resiliency hubs, Options at bus garages, Mobility Hub concepts, and unique community sites.
  - Grant Applications: Both agencies partner to expand knowledge and evaluate new technology.
  - Partnership at Multiple Levels: Both agencies have common goals to serve the Portland metro region and the state of Oregon, Coordinate on emergency services, and Support carbon-reduction goals.









#### **Thank You!**

Jeff Owen, TriMet
Strategic Planning Coordinator
OwenJ@trimet.org

Jill King, Portland General Electric Sr. Key Customer Manager

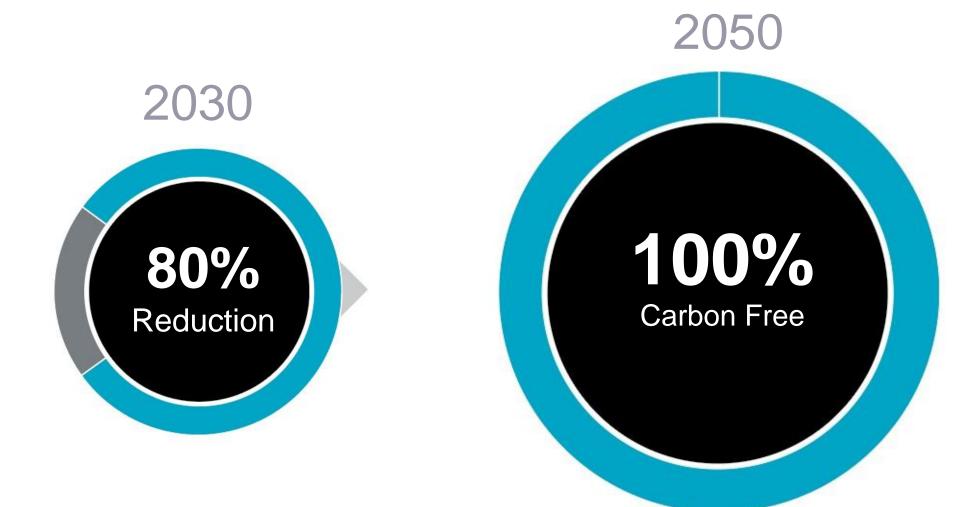
<u>Jill.King@pgn.com</u>



**Kevin Schwain** 

**Director, Electric Transportation** 

#### **Affordable, Carbon-Free Energy for Transportation**



#### **Xcel Energy serves Twin Cities and Denver**

Four

**Operating Companies** 

Eight

States

3.6 Million

**Electric Customers** 

2.0 Million

Natural Gas Customers

\$30 Billion

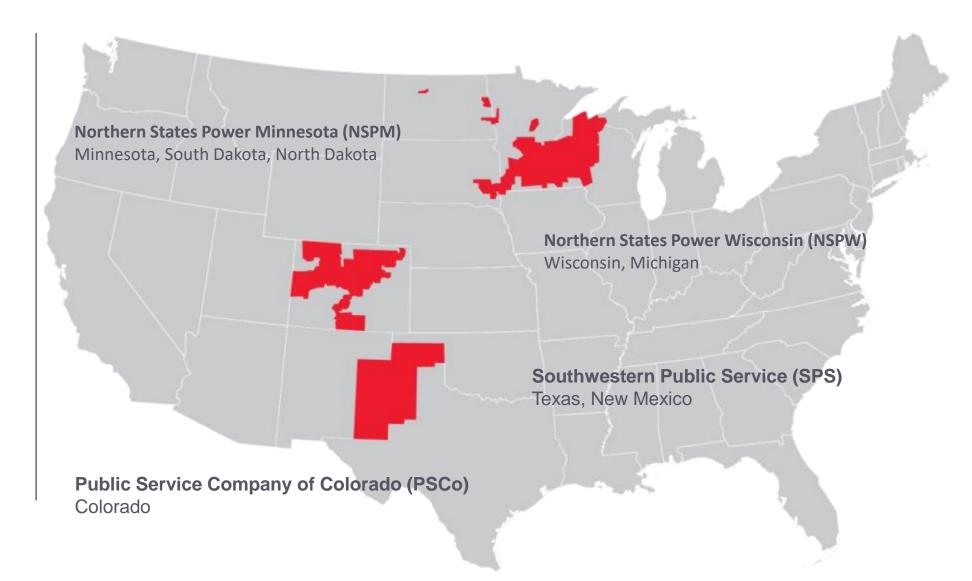
2019 Est. Rate Base

19 GW

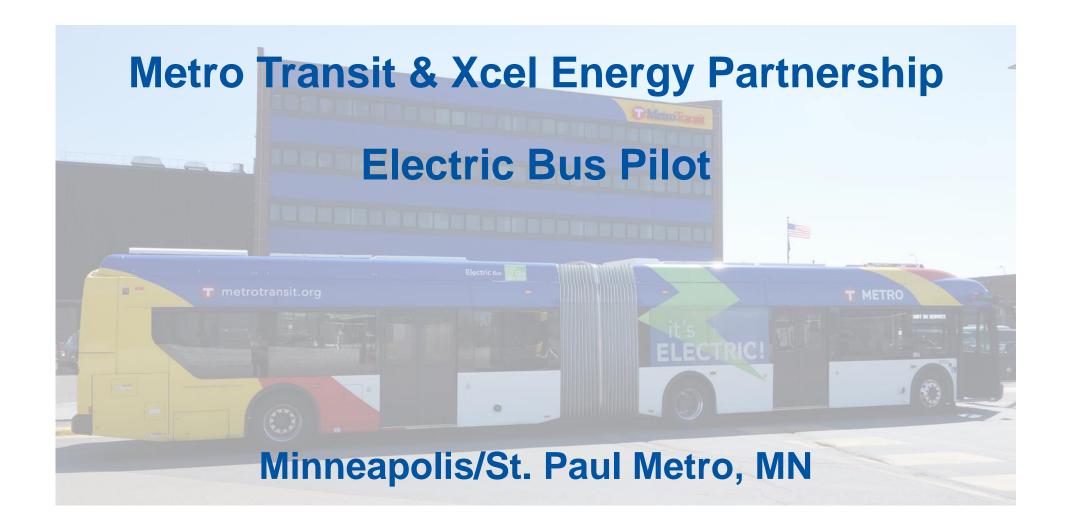
Owned Gen. Capacity

11,000+

**Employees** 













#### **Carrie Desmond, PE**

- Principal Engineer
- BEB Charging Infrastructure PM
- New Bus Garage PM



#### **Partnership Overview**

### FUELED BY ELECTRICITY.

We're working together to bring you a cleaner ride.





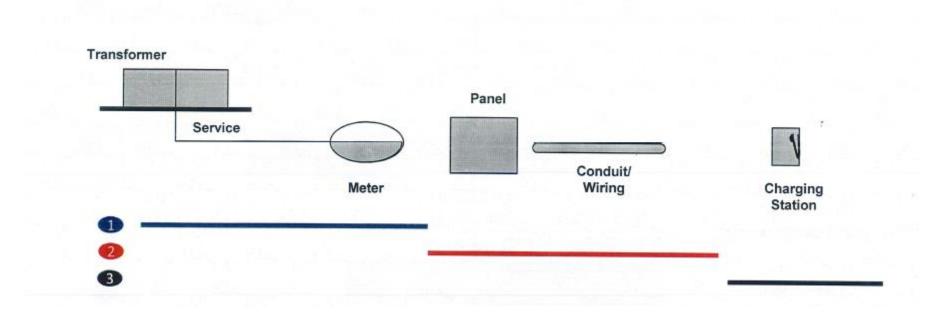
#### MET COUNCIL, XCEL ENERGY WORK TO GET COUNCIL TO 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY BY 2040

Date: Friday, June 8, 2018

Xcel Energy, the region's largest electric utility, is joining forces with the Metropolitan Council, one of the top 10 electrical consumers in the state, to dramatically increase the Council's use of renewable energy in day-to-day operations.



#### **Make Ready Infrastructure**



- 1 Xcel typically ends at the Transformer/Meter
- 2 Pilot Project will cover Panel, conduit, and wiring into to base of chargers
- 3 Metro Transit install charging stations



#### **Charging Overview**





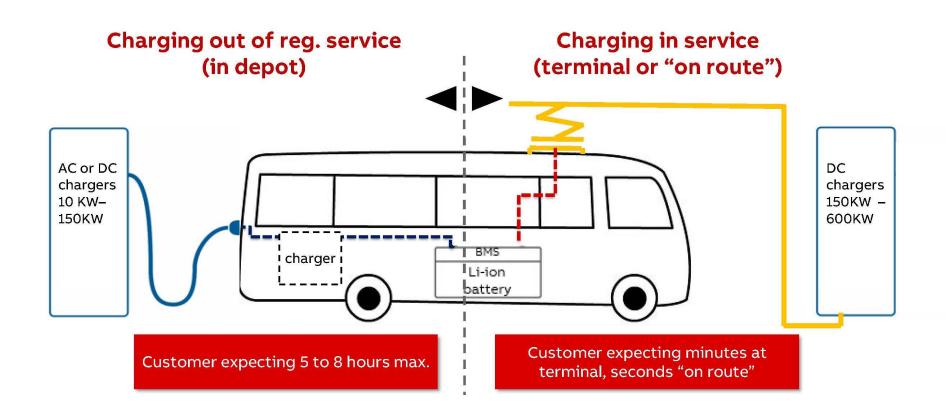






#### **Charging Strategy**

Combination in-depot and on route for range extension





#### **Charging Equipment**



(2) Siemens 300kW Onroute Chargers

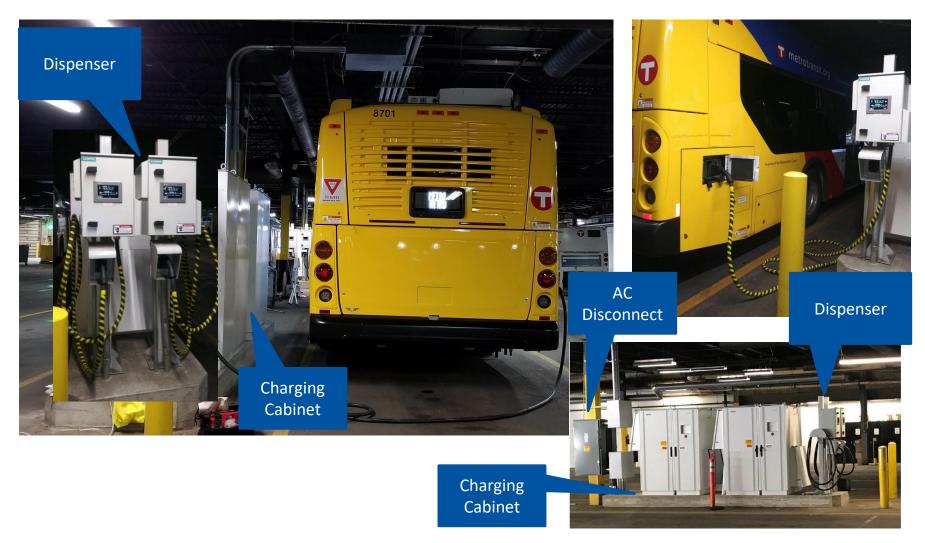


# RAVE DC High Power eBus Plug-In Chargers

(8) Siemens 150kW Depot Chargers with Remote Dispenser

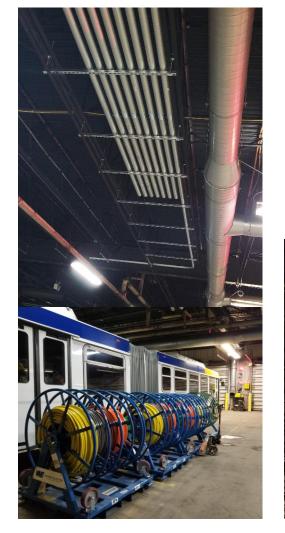


#### **Depot Chargers at Heywood Garage**



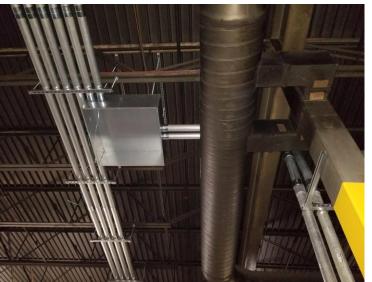


#### **Depot Charger Install – Conduit & Wiring (by Xcel)**

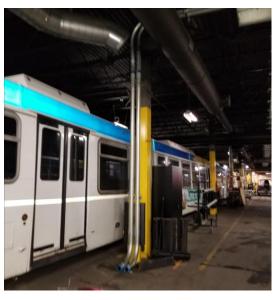






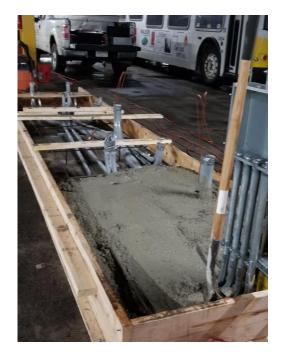




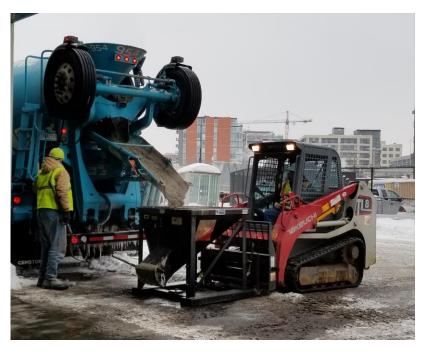




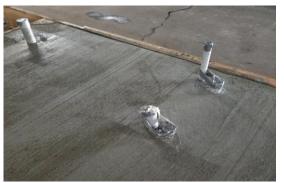
#### **Depot Charger Install – Foundations (by Metro Transit)**













#### **Depot Charger Install – Switchgear (by Xcel)**









#### **Depot Charger Install – Chargers (by Metro Transit)**













#### **On Route Chargers**







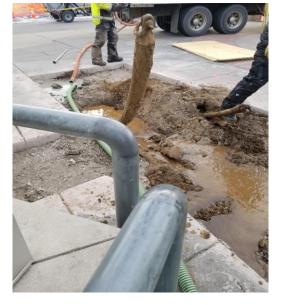


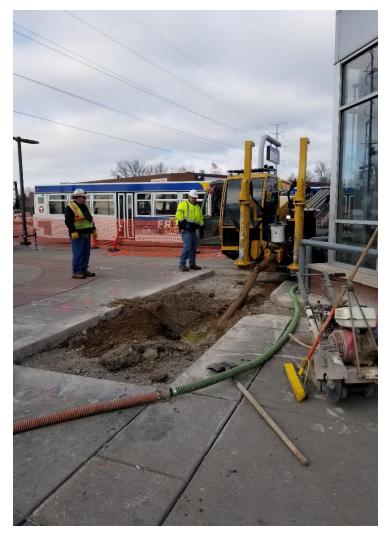


#### On Route Charger Install – Conduit & Cabling (both)











#### On Route Charger Install – Pantographs (by Metro Transit)

















#### On Route Charger Install – Chargers (by Metro Transit)









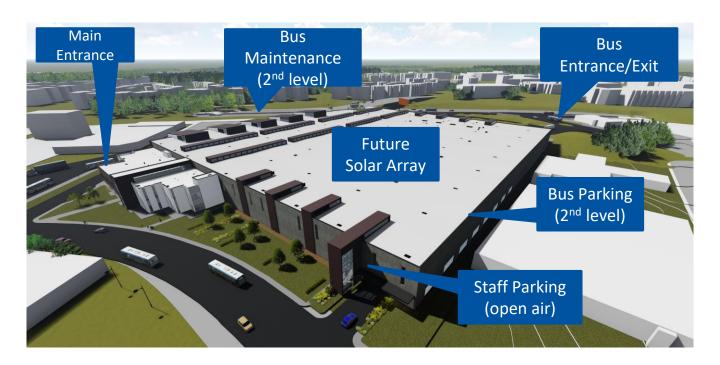




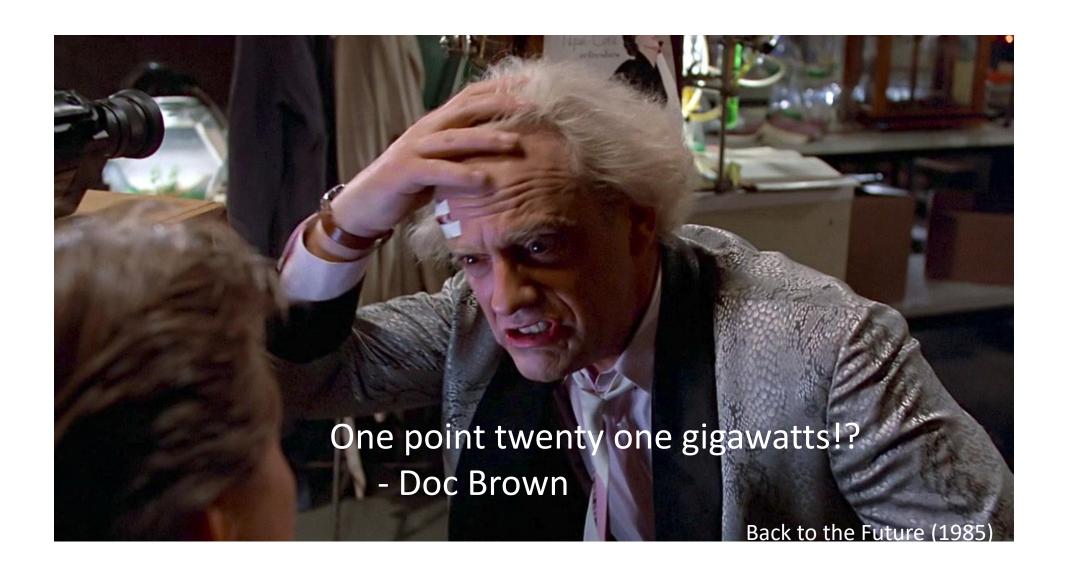


#### Where do we go from here?

- Master Planning
- New Minneapolis Bus Garage Phased Electrification
- New Minneapolis Bus Garage Renewables & Quick Charge
  - FY19 Low/No Emissions Grant Awarded in partnership with Xcel





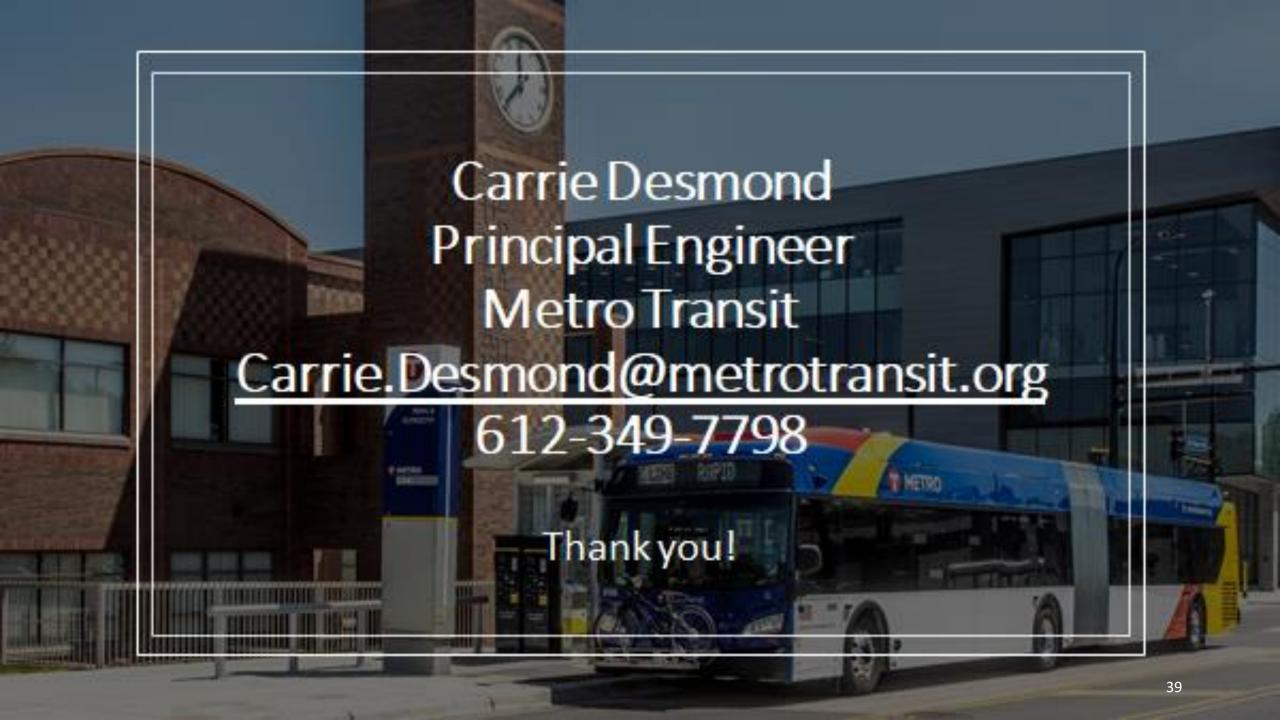




#### 30 MW by 2030 – Metro Transit Main Campus







# RTD's Partnership with Xcel Energy

Improving a transit agency-utility relationship that started out on the wrong foot

#### **Carly Macias**

Senior Transportation Planner Regional Transportation District (RTD) Denver, Colorado



#### **RTD Electric Bus Fleet**

 RTD Total Fleet: 1,035 Buses and 238 Rail Vehicles

 36 Electric Buses operate Free MallRide shuttle service

 Free MallRide runs 90-second headways during AM & PM peak periods

- Buses stop at every intersection
- Charged overnight with 30 Depot Chargers (each 80 kW)
- Average weekday ridership: 35,000
- Average Monthly Miles: 1,000/vehicle
- Total Cumulative Miles: 1.2 million



### **Challenging Beginning**

#### NEWS > COLORADO NEWS

RTD's electric 16th Street Mall buses cost nearly 60% more to operate than diesel coaches

Transit agency says "demand charge" levied by Xcel Energy on electricity costs is to blame













#### Guest Post: As Xcel Gouges RTD to Charge Electric Buses, California Model Could Help

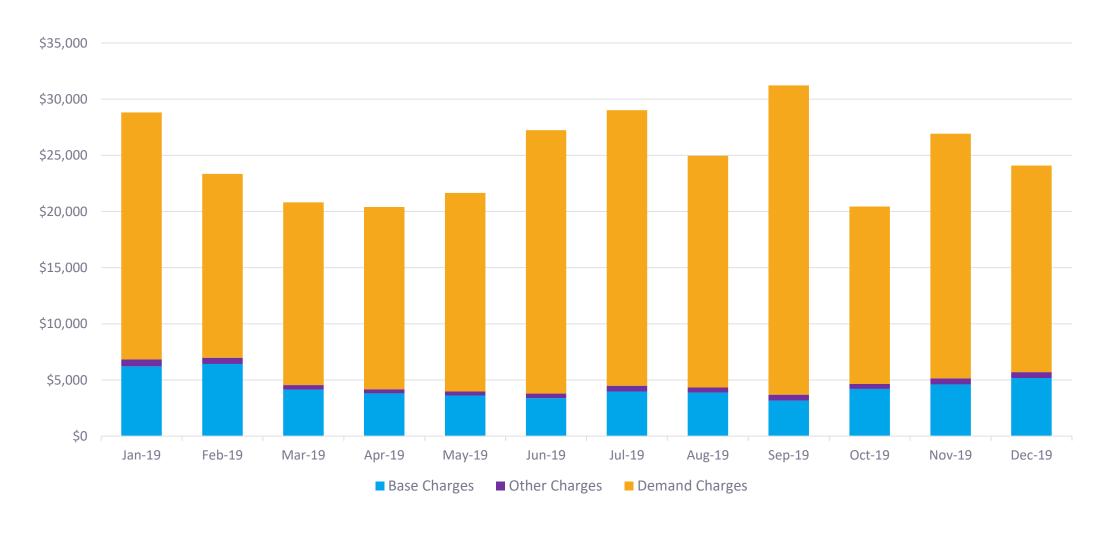
By Miles Muller | May 15, 2019 | 1 COMMENT



When RTD charges the electric buses used for 16th St. FreeMall Ride, Xcel Energy adds a fee that amounts to 82%. Photo: Andy Bosselman

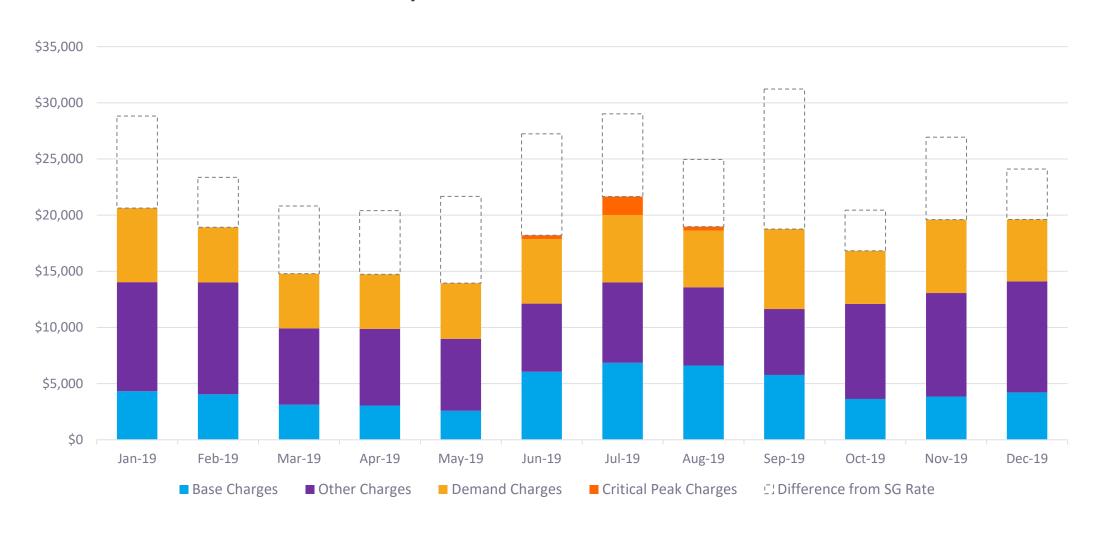
#### **Electricity Costs: SG Rate**

About 80% of RTD's monthly electric bill was from demand charges



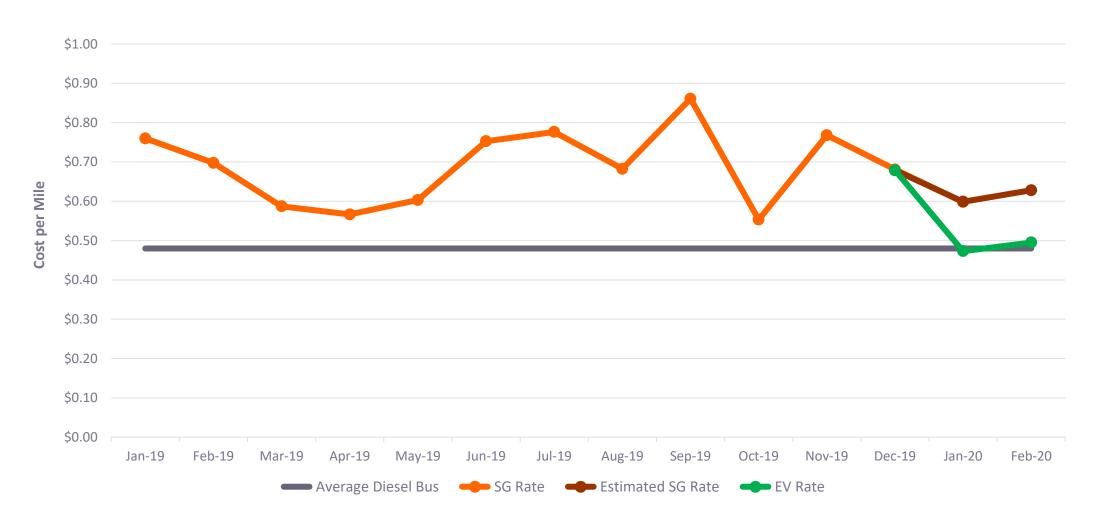
### **Electricity Costs: New EV Rate**

RTD will cut annual costs by 25-30% with the new EV Rate



### **Electricity Costs: New EV Rate**

During the first two months on the EV Rate, RTD has saved about 20%



# **Next Phase of the RTD-Xcel Partnership**

- Improved Coordination
- 17 Electric Buses Funded by Grants to be Deployed in 2022/2023
- Xcel EV Supply Infrastructure Program
- Xcel Transportation Electrification Plan Research Opportunities
- Sharing lessons learned and ideas with Metro Transit (also an Xcel customer)





# **Panel Discussion**



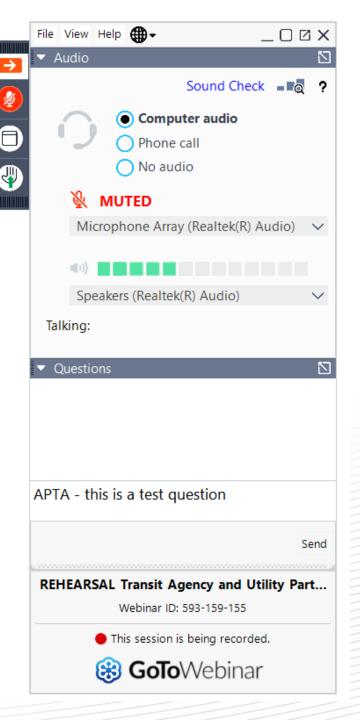
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Metro Transit



Jeff Owen
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Jill King
Portland General
Electric



Kevin Schwain
Xcel Energy



# Webinar Series: Electric Buses, Utilities & Infrastructure

**Webinar 1:** Transit Agency and Utility Partnerships: Best Practices and Strategies for Working Together Toward Successful Electric Bus Deployments (May 2020)

A recording of this webinar is posted on APTA's website.

**Webinar 2:** Transit Agency and Utility Partnerships: Case Studies from Minneapolis, Denver and Portland (today)

A recording of this webinar will be posted on APTA's website next week.

#### Webinar 3

Topic: New infrastructure considerations for various charging strategies (Date TBD)



# Thank you.

