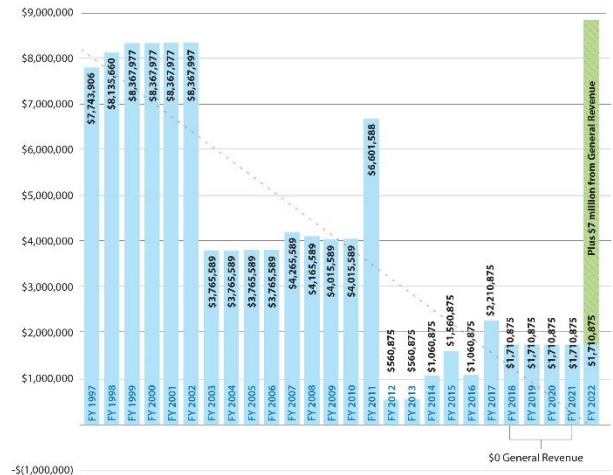


# Missouri Public Transit Association Legislative Talking Points 2023

- This year, The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission has a budget request calling for \$17,160,875 for public transit. The request would include \$15.45 million from General Revenue and \$1,710,875 million from the State Transportation Fund.
- Missouri transit agencies have been experiencing massive deficits due to dropping farebox recovery, increased expenses from supply chain issues forcing maintenance of vehicles beyond useful life and significant operator shortages.
- Missouri is set to receive billions from the federal Infrastructure Bill, but non-federal or local match funds will be required. It is essential that the state increases its investment in transit so we can take advantage of federal funds to deliver much needed mobility access in both rural and urban areas and keep the economy moving.
- For FY 2023, Missouri’s General Assembly appropriated \$8.7 million for transit – a sum split amongst the state’s 34 transit providers. This included \$1,710,875 in State Transportation Funds and an additional \$7 million from General Revenue, which raised Missouri’s per capita spending on transit from 28 cents to \$1.41. While this is a win, more is needed.
- The FY 2024 MoDOT request includes a new funding line item of \$8,450,000 from General Revenue.
- *The 2019 Economic Impact of Public Transit Services in the State of Missouri* study has provided the state with localized numbers tied to rider demographics, economic impacts, transit agency spending and funding sources. And, these numbers are speaking volumes.
  - There’s a total of 34 transit providers in Missouri that collectively spend \$675 million each year on operations, capital improvements and labor compensation for the 4,500 individuals who are employed at an average salary of \$64,200. They also provide an annual average of 60.1 million rides. In conjunction with these

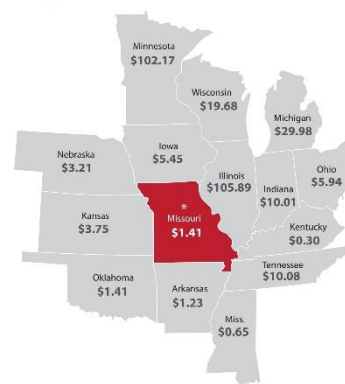


Missouri Transit Operating Investment Trends



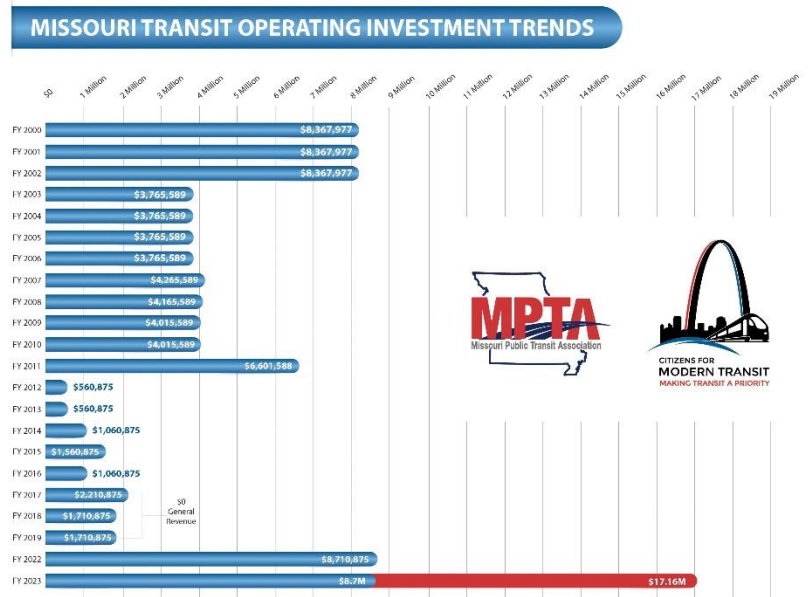
2020 MO per capita spending on Transit compared to surrounding states, 2022 AASHTO Report

\*Funding reflects 400% increase in Missouri investment in 2022



trips, transit riders are spending \$600 million on goods and services, translating into a direct economic impact of \$1.28 billion each year in Missouri.

- •The direct transit industry spending triggers another \$2.4 billion in statewide economic activity, including \$1.03 billion in added household earnings for Missourians. These indirect, or multiplier effects, further support another 24,680 jobs in the state that pay an average of \$30,200 per year. The direct and indirect economic output supported by public transit’s annual operations exceeds \$3.67 billion in Missouri.



- People in literally every county in Missouri rely on public transportation for access to medical care, school, jobs, and other essential services. OATS for example is the primary provider in northern MO. They serve more than 32,000 people with more than 1.5 million rides provided. Not to mention, OATS employs more than 700 individuals in many MO rural communities. There is a significant need as demonstrated above for more bus funding.
- According to the 2022 Missouri Transit Needs Assessment Study there are more than 39 million in unmet transit trip needs in every corner of the state on an annual basis.
- According to the American Public Transportation Association, for every dollar invested in transit projects there is a \$4 return for the state. The positive impact of investment in our transit infrastructure can be seen statewide, the Kansas City Streetcar and the newer light rail station in St. Louis at Cortex. There has been more than \$1 billion in investment tracked around the light rail system in St. Louis and millions invested in the streetcar corridor in development.

**PLEASE ALSO ADD PERSONAL STORIES FOR YOUR LEGISLATORS ON IMPACT TO THEIR DISTRICTS**

**Missouri Public Transit Association**

[www.mopublictransit.org](http://www.mopublictransit.org)