

RTA STRATEGIC PLAN WORKSHOP

METROPOLITAN MAYORS CAUCUS
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 14, 2021



MOVING YOU

THE RTA'S ROLE

Created by the State of Illinois, the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) coordinates the Chicago region's transit system, oversees its financing with transparency and accountability, and plans for a future with adequate, accessible, and equitable public transportation for the six counties of Northeastern Illinois.

COORDINATE THE REGION'S TRANSIT SYSTEM



COORDINATION DURING COVID



FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT



FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT DURING COVID

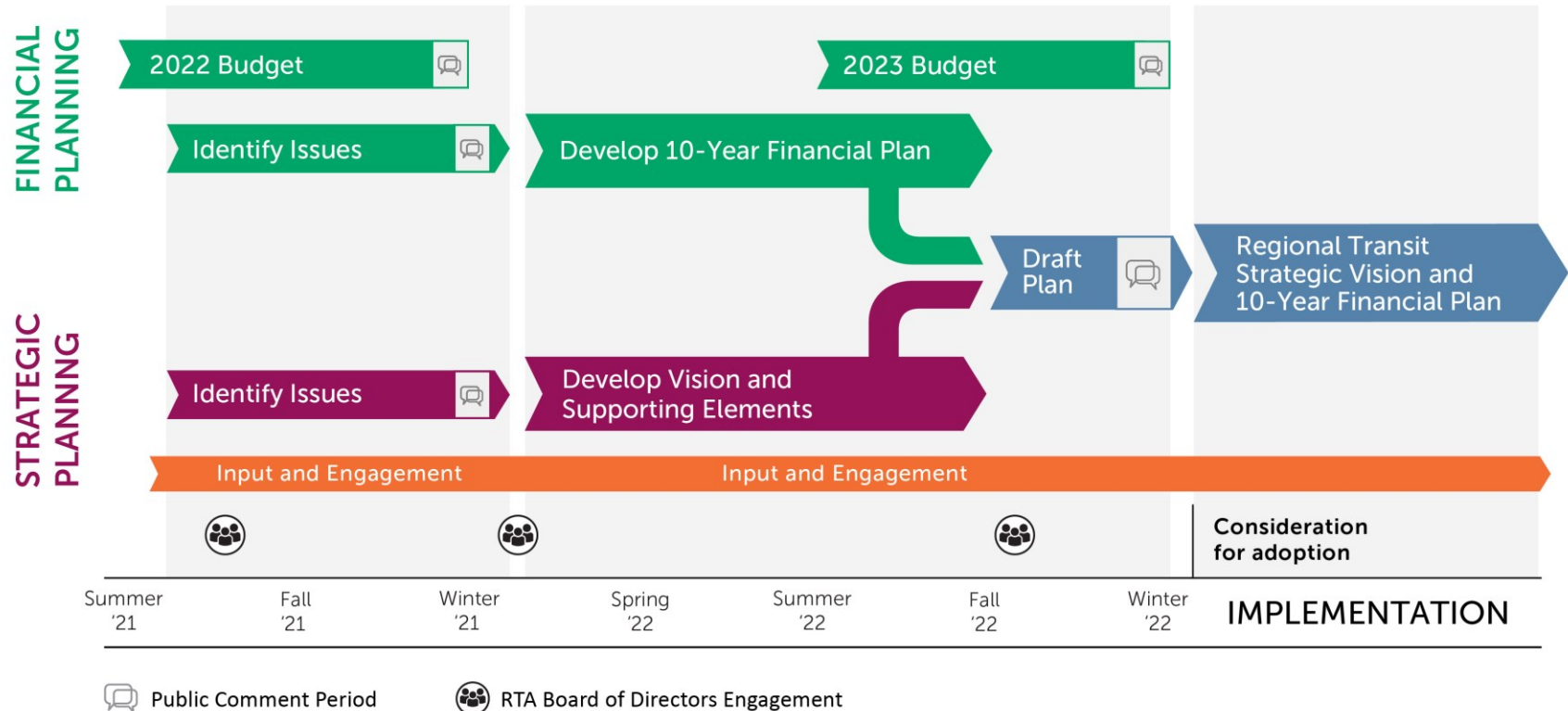


PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE



Regional Transit Strategic Plan Timeline

Collaborative development of a new strategic direction for the region's transit system will occur along three tracks and consist of multiple overlapping activities.



Making a Plan

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

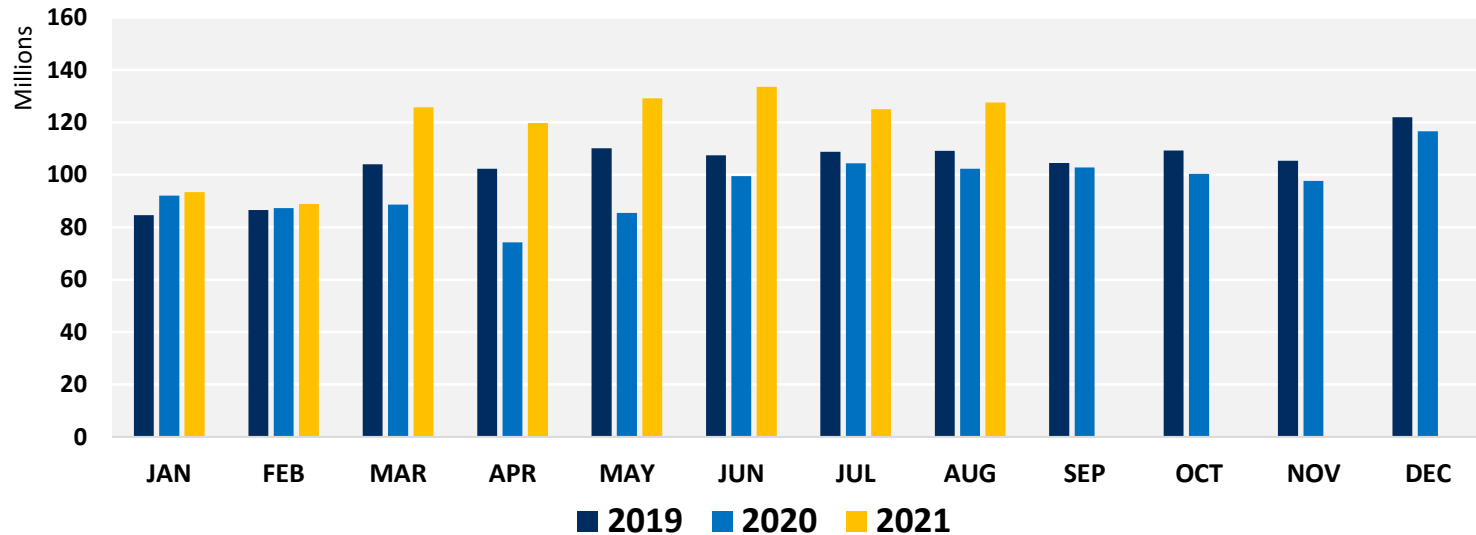
Making a Plan

- **Connections**
guest blogger series (ongoing)
- **RTA Board speakers** (ongoing)
- ***Emerging From Crisis Wiser*** Public Forum hosted by the Urban Transportation Center at UIC (Nov 11)
- **Public Survey** (opened Nov 11)
- **Stakeholder Workshops** (Beginning in early Jan)

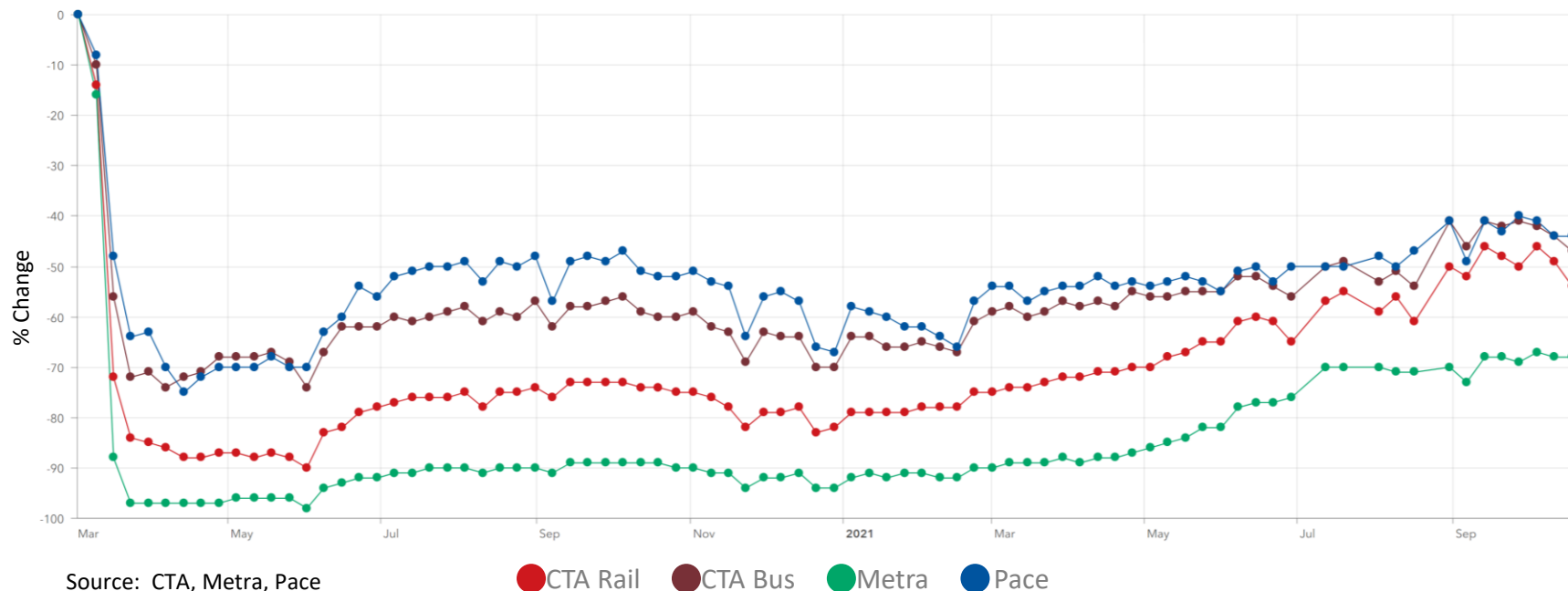
STATE OF REGIONAL TRANSIT TODAY

PUBLIC FUNDING IS STRONG

MONTHLY TOTAL SALES TAX RECEIPTS



RIDERSHIP INCREASE HAS BEEN STEADY BUT SLOW



Ridership Status Percent change in weekly ridership from first week of March 2020



INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- Opportunities for Impact
- Transit System Adaptation
- Funding Stability
- Equity
- Engagement

POLL QUESTION 1

POLL QUESTION 2

TOPIC: OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPACT

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Chicago, showing a dense urban landscape with various buildings, streets, and a prominent railway line with a train. The city skyline is visible in the background under a clear blue sky.

TOPIC: OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPACT

What is the greatest opportunity for impact right now that the Strategic Plan process should address?

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Chicago, showing a dense urban landscape with various buildings, streets, and green spaces. In the background, the city skyline is visible against a blue sky, with a body of water (Lake Michigan) on the right. Overlaid on the image is a list of five possibilities in white text.

Possibilities include...

- Joining the region's fight against climate change
- Improving the region's health and education outcomes
- Strengthening the region's broader transportation system
- Contributing to the economic growth of the region
- Improving quality of life in local communities

POLL QUESTION 3

TOPIC: TRANSIT SYSTEM ADAPTATION

A long-exposure photograph of a city street at night, showing light trails from a transit system (likely a subway or tram) running down the center of the road. The surrounding buildings are illuminated, and the scene is viewed from an elevated position.

TOPIC: TRANSIT SYSTEM ADAPTATION

What types of transit system changes should be the focus of this process?

Possibilities include...

- Reestablishing pre-COVID service levels
- Hosting a conversation about desirable transit service and mobility levels
- Pursuing visionary expansion of the transit system
- Creating a new fare and funding structure
- Advancing a robust region-wide capital improvement program

TOPIC: FUNDING SUSTAINABILITY

A photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, featuring a mix of modern glass skyscrapers and older brick buildings. In the foreground, a Metra commuter train is traveling on tracks that cross a bridge over a river. Lush green trees line the riverbank, and a stone wall is visible on the left. The scene is captured in bright daylight under a clear blue sky.

POLL QUESTION 4

TOPIC: EQUITY



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What are some productive ways for RTA to define, understand, and incorporate equity during this process?

Possibilities include...

- Fostering discussion about equity
- Developing a shared regional equity statement
- Establishing goals and performance measures for measuring equity
- Rethinking transit funding and service distribution at the regional level
- Leveraging transit's inherent advantage towards equitable mobility

TOPIC: ENGAGEMENT



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Who should we engage with during this process?



TOPIC: ENGAGEMENT

- Leadership and staff from the Service Boards
- Leadership from other units of government
- Civic groups and advocates
- Leaders within the Disability Community
- Business Organizations and Economic Development Leaders
- Academic researchers and other thought-leaders
- Members of the public

THANK YOU!

STAY CONNECTED



RTAChicago.org



[Connections blog – Blog.RTAChicago.org](https://Blog.RTAChicago.org)



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