

MEETING OF THE RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS APRIL 15, 2021

Welcome!

Meeting Starts at 9 a.m.

Meeting Agenda

@ RTAChicago.org/about-us/boardmeetings

A graphic illustration on the right side of the slide. It features a blue-tinted image of the Chicago skyline, including the Willis Tower, with a reflection below it. In the foreground, there are stylized images of a Metra train and a CTA bus, also reflected. The background has a faint grid pattern.

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RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Please feel free to listen to the meeting and view slides related to it here.

*The meeting agenda can be found at
www.rtachicago.org/about-us/board-meetings*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

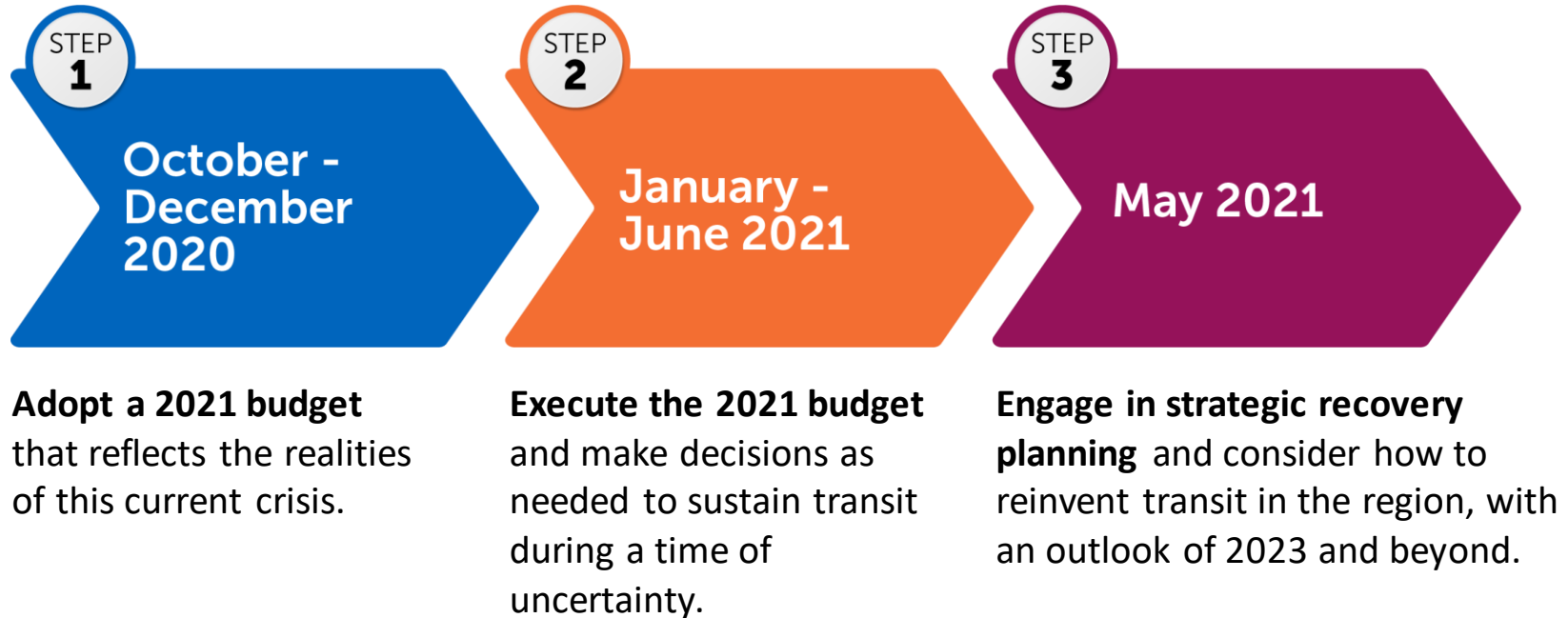
2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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THREE-STEP RECOVERY STRATEGY



TIMELINE

How we will proceed from here:

Performance Based
Programming
Committee
discussions.

Board presentation
on revised
investment
framework for
2025-26 capital
allocations.

Action on investment
framework for capital
allocations.

Board presentation on
goals, timeline, and
engagement plan for
the next strategic
plan.



GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATES



STATE DELINQUENCY FIGURES

Month	Amount Delinquent
March	\$189.4 million
February	\$189.2 million
2021 Cost of Short-Term Borrowing YTD	\$900 thousand
2020 Cost of Short-Term Borrowing	\$5.1 million
Short-Term Borrowing Authority	\$400 million
Outstanding Short-Term Borrowing	\$125 million

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

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The Climate Crisis and What You Can Do to Help Slow Down Global Warming

**Pamela Tate, Certified Climate Reality Leader
Climate Reality Project, Chicago Chapter
Co-Chair, Taskforce on Electrifying Public Transit**

April 15, 2021

pam@pamelatate1.com

Today's Agenda

Part 1:

Overview of Causes and Impacts of Global Warming

Part 2:

Benefits of Electric Buses

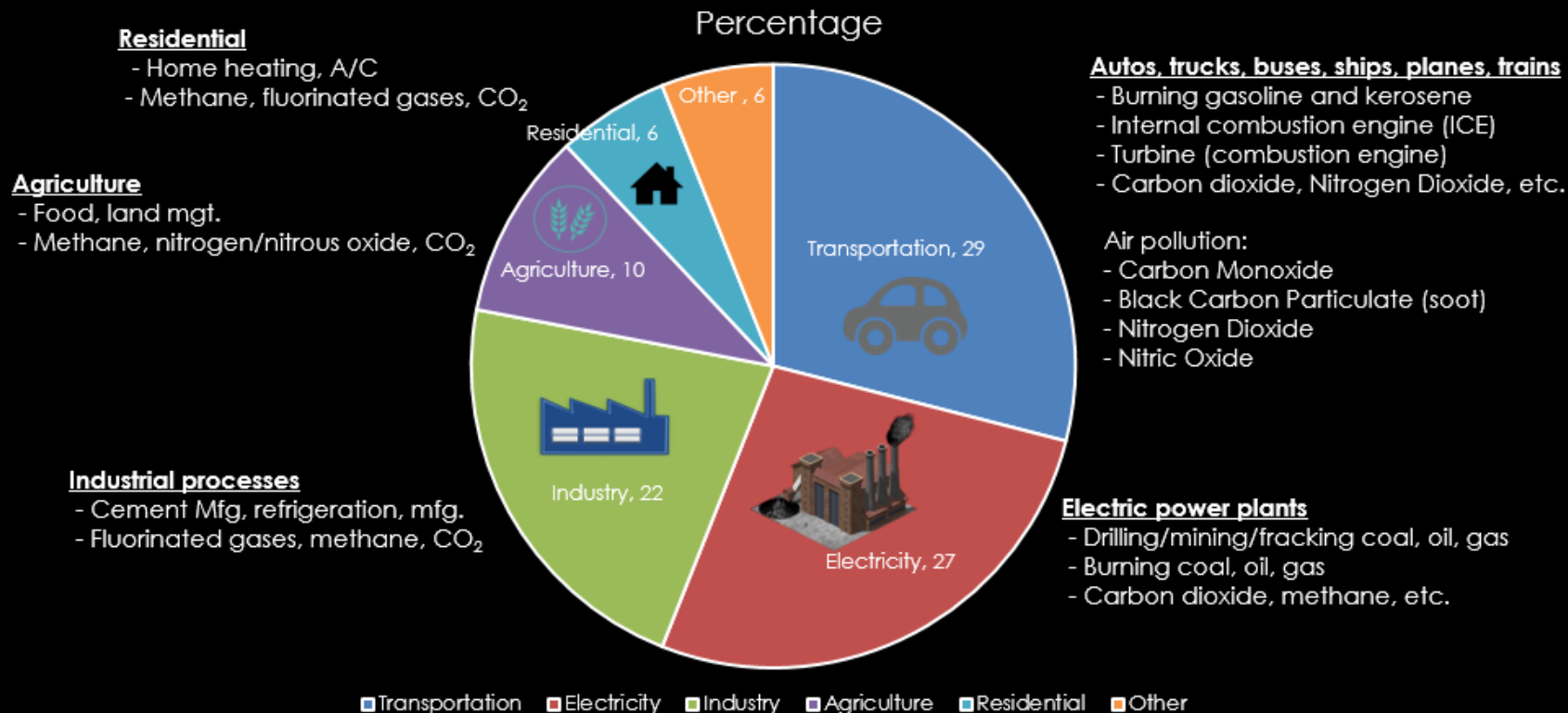
What RTA Can Do



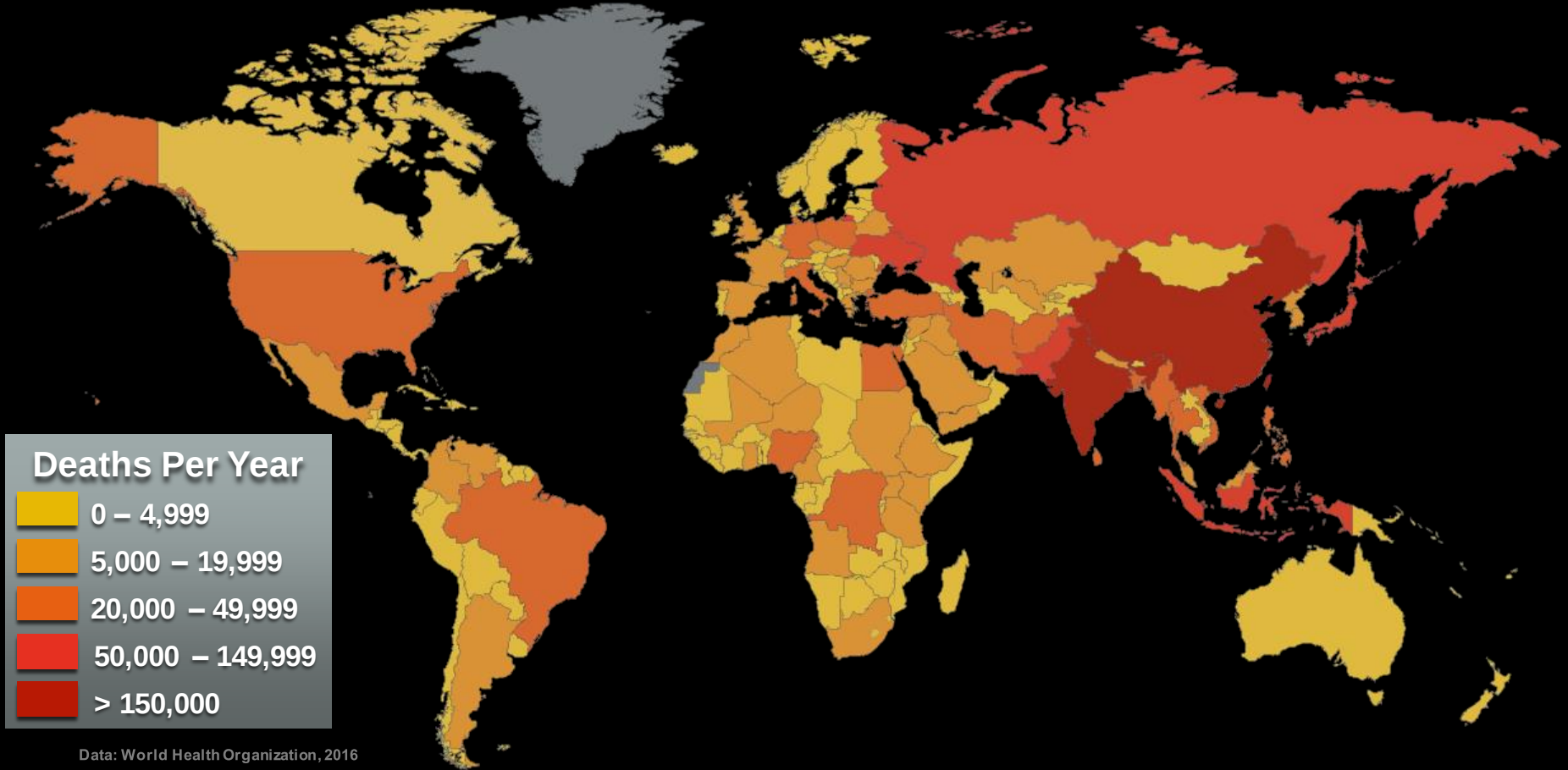
Photo: NASA

We are Dumping 110 Million Tons of Manmade Global Warming Pollution into the Atmosphere every 24 Hours

Where Do Greenhouse Gases Come From



Deaths Attributable to Ambient Air Pollution



Changchun, Jilin Province, China

April 15, 2020

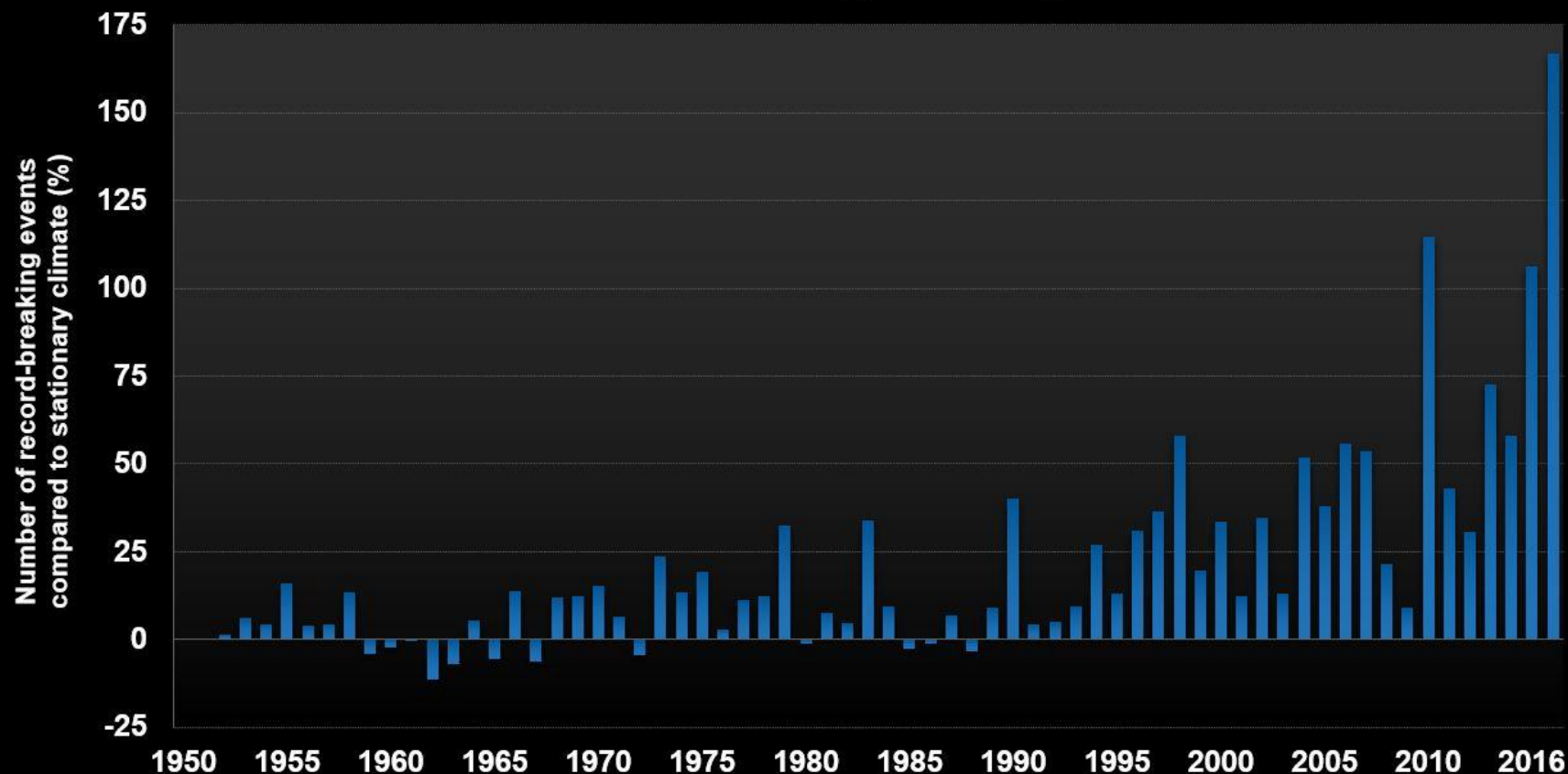
A study of 324 cities in China found a 15 – 22% increase in COVID-19 cases in areas with elevated levels of NO₂ and PM 2.5 particulate pollution.

Extreme weather

- **Heat waves**
- **More intense hurricanes**
- **Bigger rainstorms, with flooding**
- **Longer and more severe droughts**
- **Larger, more destructive wildfires**



Global Record-Breaking Precipitation Anomalies



Data: Jascha Lehmann, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

**U.S. farmers were prevented from
planting on 20 million acres in 2019,
mainly due to heavy rainfall and
flooding, including \$6.4 Billion in Crop
Insurance Payouts**

**Globally, floods and
extreme rainfall events
now occur
four times more often
than in 1980.**

Projected impacts on **Midwest**

- Extreme heat
- Rain, pests, droughts
- Loss of agricultural productivity
- Tree species loss
- Overwhelmed urban sewer systems

A photograph of a cornfield under a clear blue sky. The corn plants are in various stages of growth, but many of the leaves are brown, wilted, and curled, indicating severe heat stress. The ground is dry and sandy. The text "Extreme heat in growing season" is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

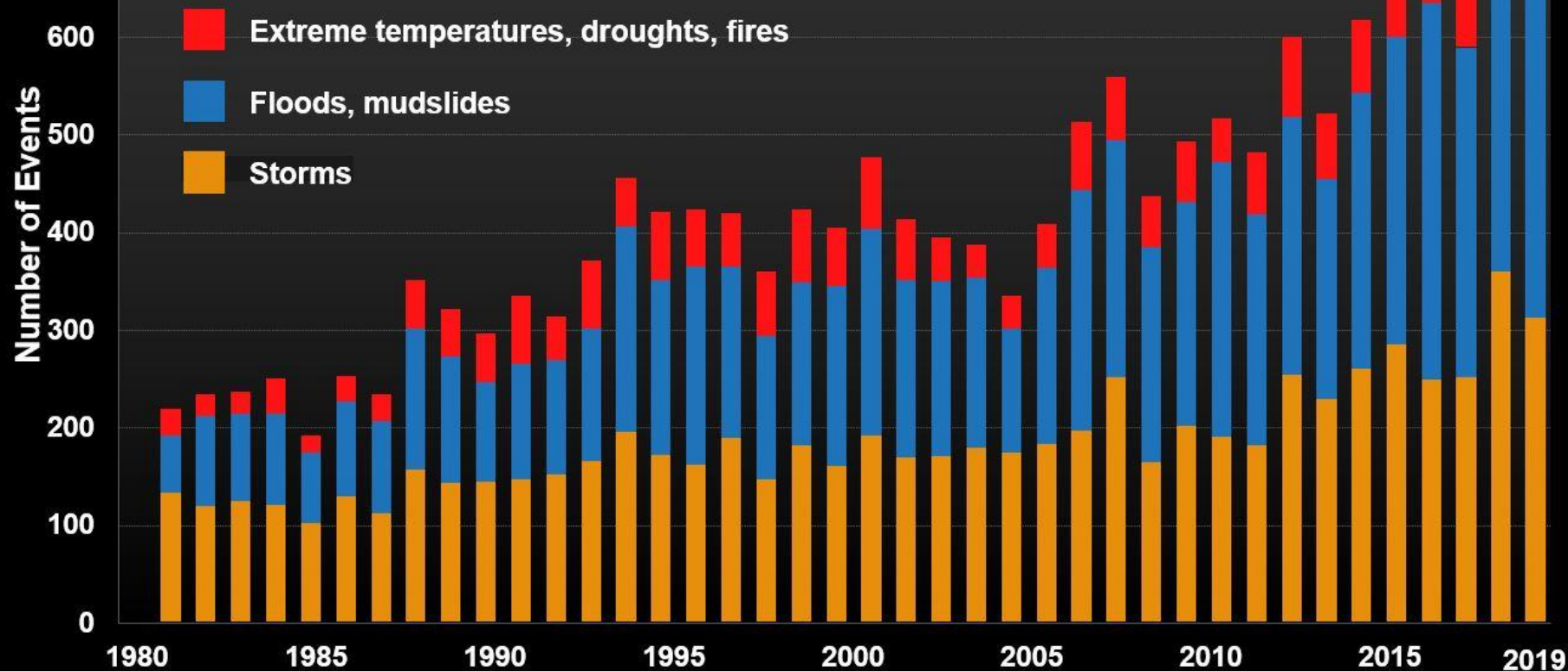
Extreme heat in growing season

Projections for **Chicagoland**

- **Heat, heat, heat**
- **Increased heat island effect**
- **More days over 100F later in century**
- **Could be 60 days of scorching heat, like Las Vegas**

Worldwide Extreme Weather Catastrophes

1980 – 2019



Data: 2017 Munich Re, Geo Risks Research, NatCatSERVICE, As of January 2018.

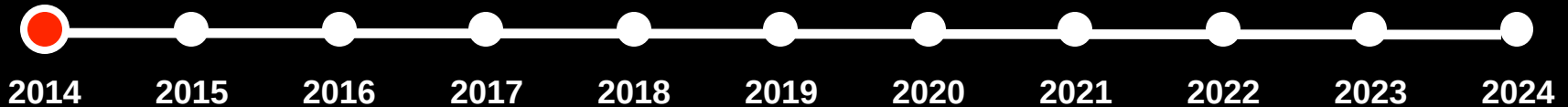
U.S. Department of Defense
2014 Climate Change Adaptation Roadmap

Climate change
“will likely lead to
food and water shortages,
pandemic disease,
disputes over refugees and resources,
and destruction by natural disasters in
regions across the globe.”

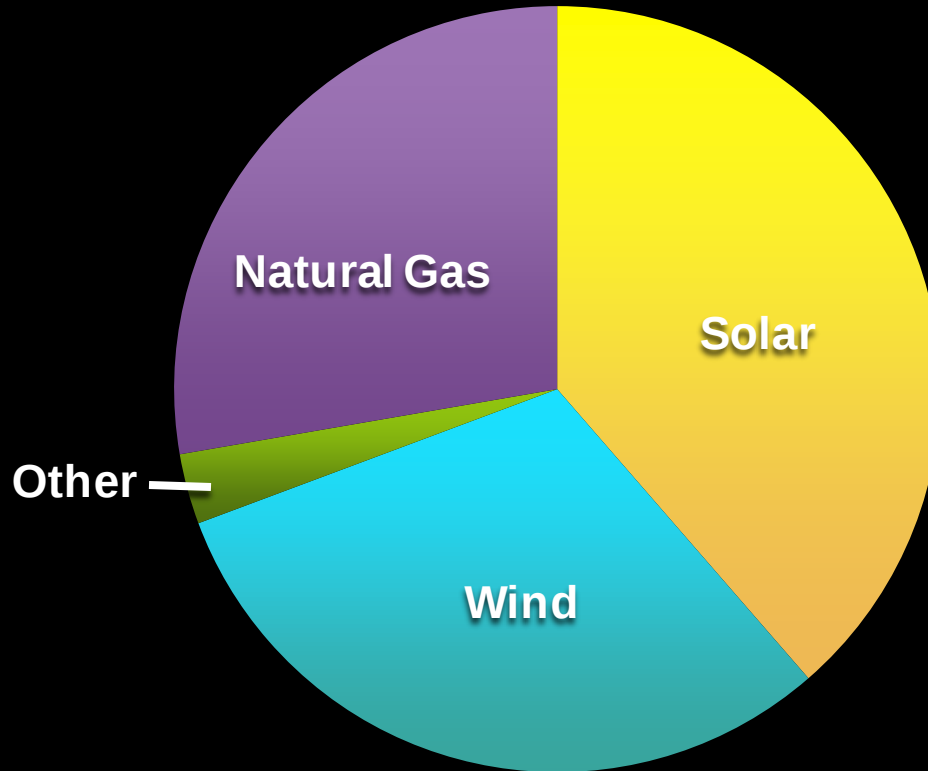
In 2014,
electricity
from solar and
wind was
cheaper than
new coal and
gas plants in
approximately
**1 percent of
the world.**

By 2019, only
five years
later, solar and
wind provided
the cheapest
sources of
new electricity
in **two-thirds
of the world.**

**Within four
years,** these
sources are
expected to
provide the
cheapest new
electricity in
**the entire
world.**



New Electricity Capacity in the U.S., 2019



70% of new capacity was from solar and wind.

**“We conclude that the
economics of oil for gasoline and diesel
vehicles versus wind- and
solar-powered EVs are now
in relentless and irreversible decline,
with far-reaching implications for both
policymakers and the oil majors.”**

BNP Paribas

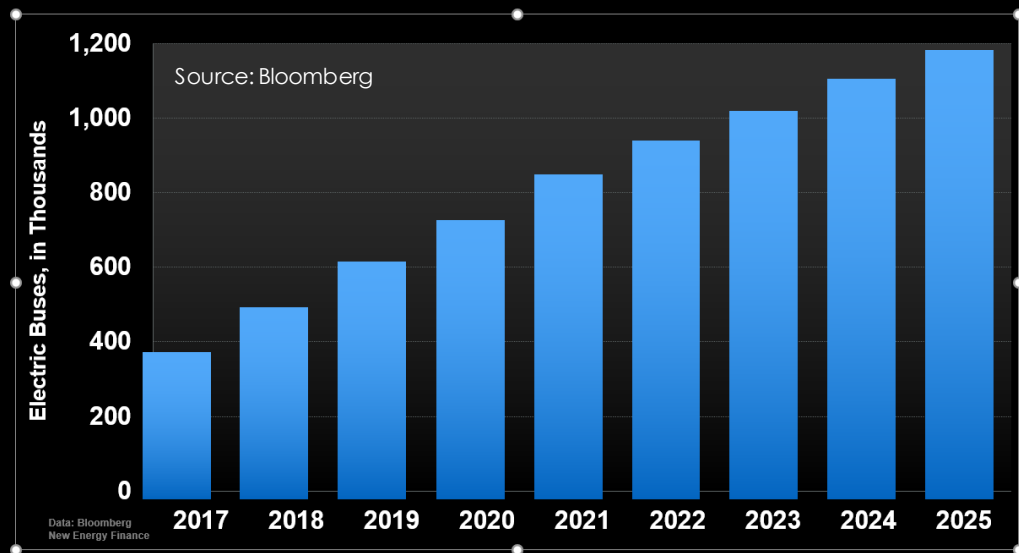
September 2019

35 cities have committed to buying only zero-emissions buses starting in 2025:

Amsterdam Auckland Austin Barcelona Berlin
Birmingham Cape Town Copenhagen Heidelberg
Honolulu Jakarta Liverpool London Los Angeles
Madrid Manchester Medellin Mexico City Milan Moscow
Oslo Oxford Paris Quito Rio de Janeiro Rome
Rotterdam Santa Monica Santiago Seattle Seoul
Tokyo Vancouver Warsaw West Hollywood

**Shanghai and Shenzhen, China are
already buying only electric buses.**

Half of the World's Buses Will be Electric by 2025



China

- 421,000 (2019)
- 600,000 (2020)

USA

- 650 in 2019



Arrival, Proterra, BYD, Mercedes, Volvo, AVASS, etc.

Why transition to electric buses?

- Lifetime costs lower than those of fossil fuel burning vehicles
- Payback time for electric buses ranges from 5 to 12 years, depending on type and cost of charging infrastructure
- Lower maintenance and fuel costs
- They reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Proven to work in similar climates
- They would improve our air quality locally

We're Moving in the Right Direction

- **The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) just announced that six new electric buses have begun in-service testing with passengers**
- **CTA will soon authorize the production of 17 more electric buses**
- **Metra just announced a plan to purchase seven new low-emission switch locomotives, including the railroad's first zero-emission electric-powered unit.**

CEJA and Another Energy Bill Introduced in Springfield

- **Decarbonized electric grid by 2030**
- **100% clean energy by 2050**
- **Path to electrifying transportation**
- **Priority for jobs and economic opportunities**

We Have Solutions, but Only 9 Years to Decelerate Global Warming

**Emissions Stay in Our Atmosphere for Hundreds of
Years, so We Cannot Get Rid of What is Already
There**

**But What We Can Do is Slow Down the Level of
Emissions Enough to Keep the Global Warming to 1.5
degrees C**

Note: We are already at 1.1 degrees C

What RTA Can Do to Move Transit Agencies More Rapidly to Electrify

Critically important that transit agencies move to Zero Emissions vehicles quickly

- Urge the IEPA to speed up the programming decisions for the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Volkswagen Fund
- Urge Pace to purchase only electric buses or ZEV buses in the future

What RTA Can Do to Support Move to Electric Buses

- **Require bus transit agencies to consider lower lifecycle cost of electric buses rather than only the up-front purchase price**
- **Restructure budget process to take reduced operating costs into account in purchasing decisions**
- **Join the efforts to work with ComEd to invest in building a charging infrastructure**

**“After the final no,
there comes a yes,
and on that yes
the future world depends.”**

Wallace Stevens



Photo: NASA

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

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6a. REPORT ON MONTHLY FINANCIAL RESULTS – FEBRUARY 2021



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FEBRUARY 2021 YTD RIDERSHIP (in millions)

RIDERSHIP				
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>% Variance</u>
CTA	21.2	20.8	0.4	2.0%
Metra	1.0	2.4	(1.4)	(59.1%)
Pace	1.7	2.6	(0.9)	(36.3%)
<u>Pace ADA</u>	<u>0.4</u>	<u>0.4</u>	<u>(0.0)</u>	<u>(2.7%)</u>
Total	24.3	26.3	(2.0)	(7.5%)

FEBRUARY 2021 YTD OPERATING REVENUE (in millions)

OPERATING REVENUE				
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>% Variance</u>
CTA	\$123.3	\$123.3	(\$0.0)	(0.0%)
Metra	\$73.1	\$67.6	\$5.5	8.1%
Pace	\$9.3	\$9.2	\$0.0	0.5%
<u>Pace ADA</u>	<u>\$0.9</u>	<u>\$1.5</u>	<u>(\$0.6)</u>	<u>(40.9%)</u>
Total	\$206.5	\$201.6	\$4.9	2.4%

FEBRUARY 2021 YTD PUBLIC FUNDING (in millions)

PUBLIC FUNDING				
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>% Variance</u>
CTA	\$165.0	\$155.6	\$9.4	6.0%
Metra	\$53.3	\$47.7	\$5.6	11.8%
Pace	\$27.0	\$26.8	\$0.1	0.5%
<u>Pace ADA</u>	<u>\$27.6</u>	<u>\$27.6</u>	<u>\$0.0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total	\$272.9	\$257.8	\$15.2	5.9%

FEBRUARY 2021 YTD OPERATING EXPENSES (in millions)

EXPENSES				
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>% Variance</u>
CTA	\$272.6	\$276.8	\$4.3	1.5%
Metra	\$120.9	\$114.8	(\$6.1)	(5.3%)
Pace	\$33.3	\$39.4	\$6.1	15.5%
<u>Pace ADA</u>	<u>\$28.0</u>	<u>\$28.6</u>	<u>\$0.6</u>	<u>2.2%</u>
Total	\$454.7	\$459.6	\$4.9	1.1%

FEBRUARY 2021 YTD NET RESULTS (in millions)

NET RESULTS			
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
CTA	\$15.8	\$2.1	\$13.7
Metra	\$5.5	\$0.4	\$5.1
Pace	\$3.0	(\$3.3)	\$6.3
<u>Pace ADA</u>	<u>\$0.5</u>	<u>\$0.5</u>	<u>\$0.0</u>
Total	\$24.7	(\$0.3)	\$25.0

FEBRUARY 2021 YTD RECOVERY RATIOS

RECOVERY RATIOS					
	Without		With		
	<u>CARES</u>	<u>CARES \$</u>	<u>CARES</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
CTA	18.1%	\$86.6	54.9%	53.9%	1.0
Metra	23.3%	\$47.4	65.8%	63.9%	1.9
Pace	15.7%	\$5.5	32.3%	29.6%	2.8
<u>Pace ADA</u>	<u>10.4%</u>	<u>\$0.0</u>	<u>10.4%</u>	<u>9.9%</u>	<u>0.5</u>
Total	20.3%	\$139.5	55.2%	52.7%	2.5

6b. PRESENTATION OF THE 2021 COMMUNITY PLANNING PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

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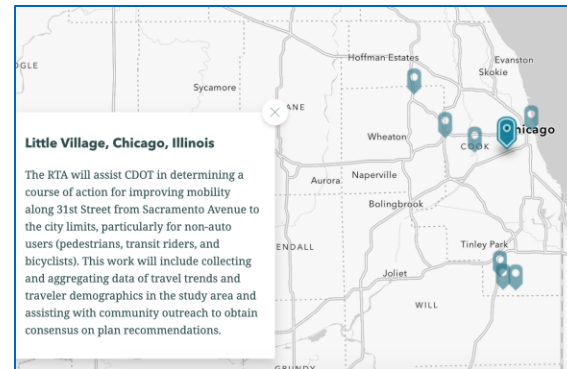
COMMUNITY PLANNING PROGRAM

- Began in 1998
- Technical assistance and funding
- Invested over \$22m (RTA, local & federal) for over 210 projects



2020 LOCAL PLANNING IMPLEMENTATION STORY MAP

- The report highlights implementation of the RTA's Community Planning and Access to Transit Programs.
- Interactive Story Map
- Ten projects highlighted in seven municipalities
- Look for "Implementation Report" on our website:
www.rtachicago.org/cp



2021 CALL FOR PROJECTS

- COVID-19 Response
- Reduce program size
- Focus on implementation
- Prioritize high need municipalities



ELIGIBLE PROJECTS



**Active Mobility and
Curb Management
Plans**



ELIGIBLE PROJECTS



**TOD Zoning
Code
Updates**



ELIGIBLE PROJECTS



**Special
Funding
Districts**



ELIGIBLE PROJECTS



**Developer
Discussion
Panels**

2021 COMMUNITY PLANNING PROGRAM

Active Mobility and Curb Management Plan

- City of Chicago – Albany Park

TOD Zoning Code Updates

- City of Berwyn
- Village of Maywood
- Village of Robbins

TOD Special Funding District

- Village of West Chicago

TOD Developer Discussion Panels

- Village of Brookfield



QUESTIONS?

Find RTA's Community Planning Program
online at: www.rtachicago.org/cp

6c. TOUR OF NEW RTAMS OPEN DATA WEBSITE



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WHAT IS RTAMS?

- Public website developed in-house by the RTA
- Open-Data warehouse of Chicagoland's transit information
- Began nearly 20 years ago
- Nationally recognized
- Multi-agency contributors

RTAMS CONTENT

- Ridership Statistics
- Digital Document Library
- Services and Stations
- Capital Program / PMO
- RTA Funding Programs
- Jurisdiction Search
- Interactive Mapping
- Data Catalog
- Data Transparency Portal

WHAT'S NEW

- New website “Look and Feel”
- More stable hosting environment (AWS)
- Added content
- Enhanced graphs
- Improved ADA and mobile device compatibility
- Better search and filter options

LIVE DEMONSTRATION

- Digital Document Library
- Ridership Statistics
- Routes, Stations, and Lines
- Transit Projects and Studies
- Jurisdictions
- Maps and GTFS Data
- Search and Download Data
- Data Transparency Portal
- About

RTAMS HAS A NEW LOOK!

Explore
Search
Study



Transit Data for Northeastern Illinois

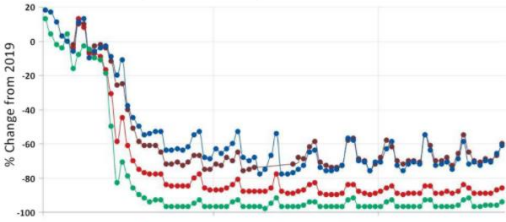
Welcome to the redesigned RTAMS (Regional Transportation Authority Mapping and Statistics) website, a collection of tools for accessing extensive data resources about the six-county metropolitan Chicago region's transit system. Developed and maintained by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), this website replaced the legacy website in January 2021.
For more information, see the [About](#) page.

Featured Datasets and Reports

- COVID-19 Transit Dashboard
- CTA Ridership
- Metra Ridership
- Pace Bus Ridership
- CTA Lines, Stations, And Routes
- Metra Lines & Stations
- Pace Routes
- Sales And Use Tax Reports
- RTA Budgets
- CTA Budgets And Financial Reports
- Metra Budgets And Financial Reports
- Pace Budgets And Financial Reports

Ridership Status

Daily 2020 ridership reduction compared to 2019



● CTA Rail ● CTA Bus ● Metra ● Pace

6d. PRESENTATION OF RTA LAPSED-RIDER SURVEY RESULTS

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BACKGROUND

- RTA Board approval of contract with RSG for RTA Non Rider and Lapsed Rider Survey in August 2019
- Survey rescoped after COVID-19 pandemic
- Goal to understand shifting markets and what can be done to encourage lapsed riders to return to transit
- First regional survey of riders and lapsed riders

SURVEY ADMINISTRATION

- Repeated cross-sectional study
 - Wave 1 – November 2020
 - Wave 2 – January 2021
- Online survey with over 60,000 email invites
- Survey data processed, cleaned and weighted to key demographics
- Analysis focused on segmentation by service board and rider type
 - Current rider: currently uses transit at least once per week
 - Lapsed rider: currently uses transit less than once per week

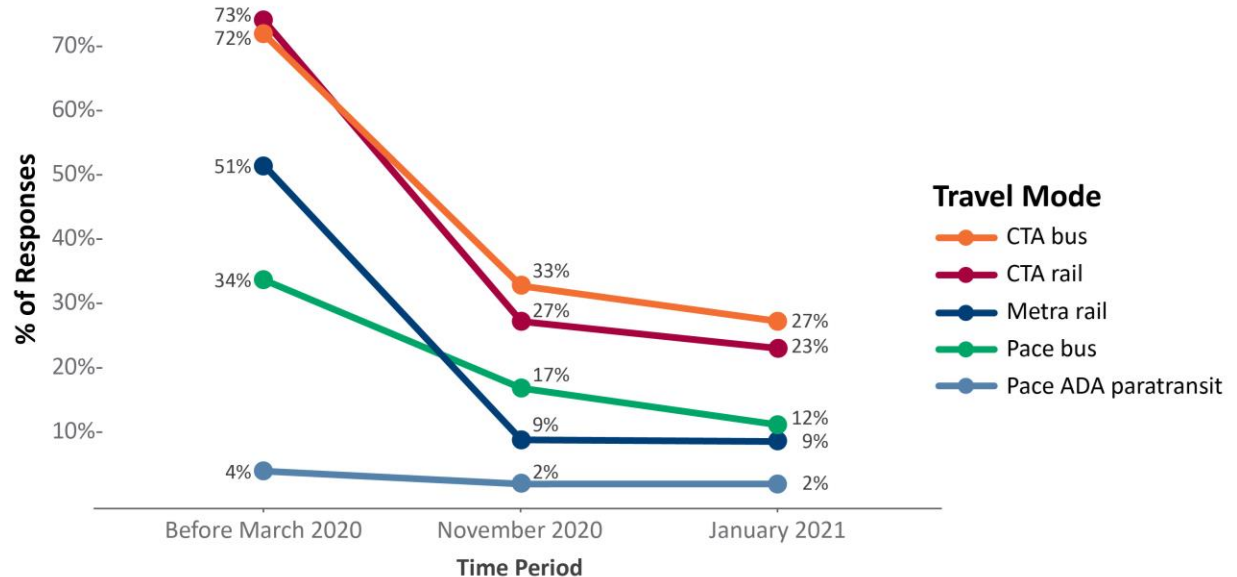
KEY FINDINGS SUMMARY

1. Findings we saw through RTA research, but now have local survey data to confirm
2. Findings that tell us where things might be going
3. Findings that tell us what transit agencies can do to encourage return to transit

KEY FINDINGS

1. Many riders have stopped using transit; no major signs yet of returning

Any Use of Transit By Time Period and Transit Service – Waves 1 & 2

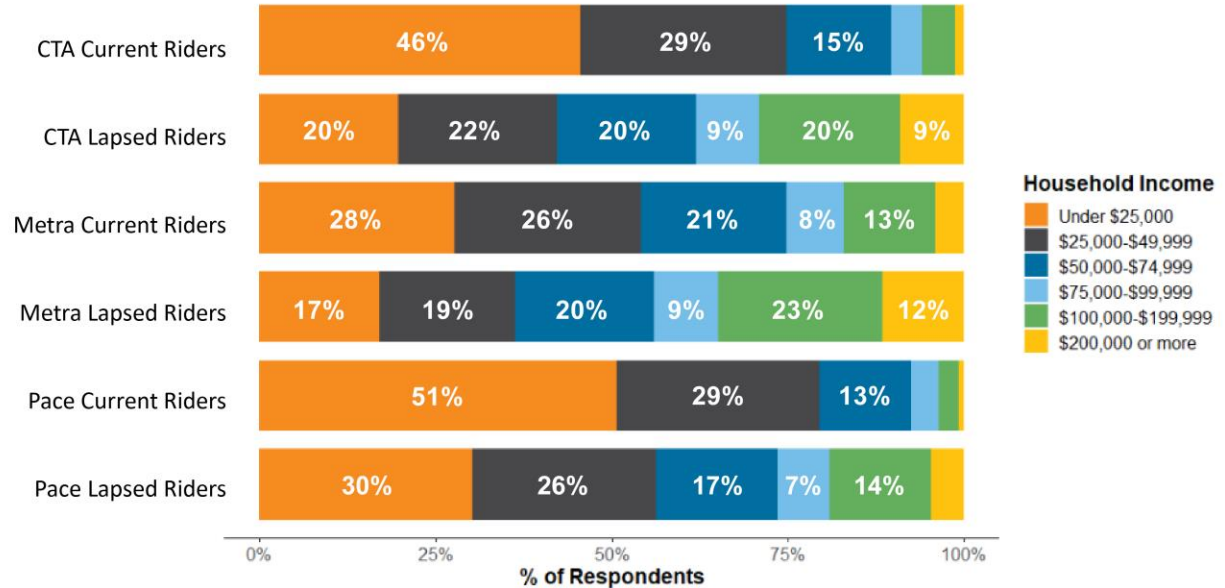


Source: RTA survey of 5,637 current and lapsed riders

KEY FINDINGS

2. Current riders are disproportionately essential workers, identify as Black or Latino, or low-income

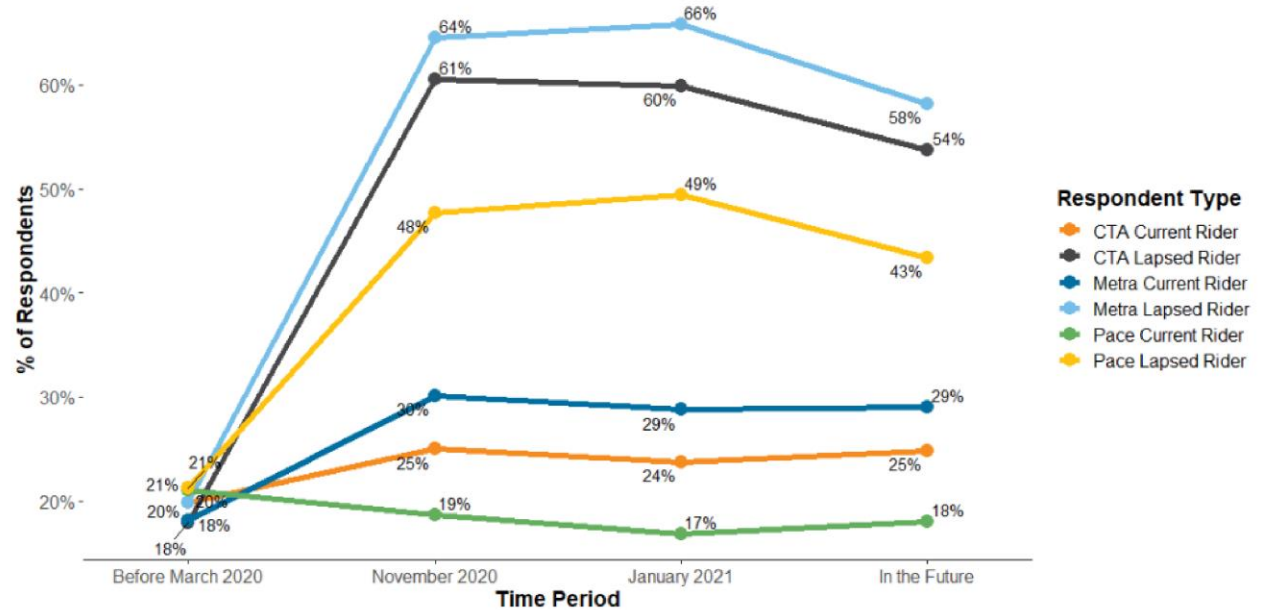
Income by Service Board and Rider Type



KEY FINDINGS

3. Telecommuting has increased greatly and will continue into the future

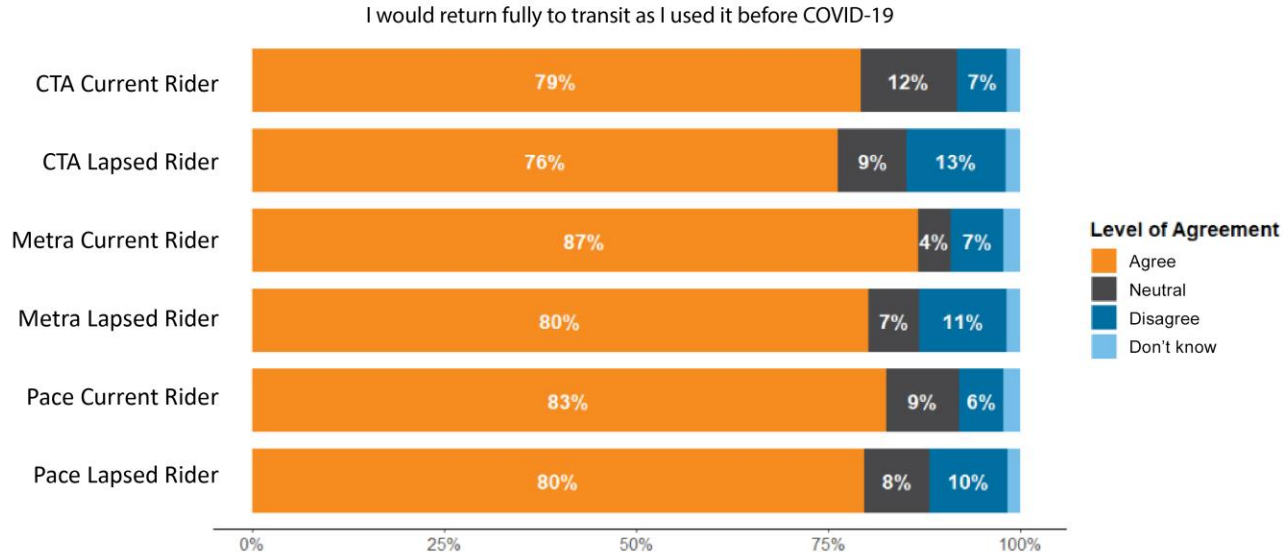
Telecommuting 2+ Days per Week by Time Period and Rider Type



KEY FINDINGS

4. Many lapsed riders do expect to return to transit but telecommuting will limit the rebound

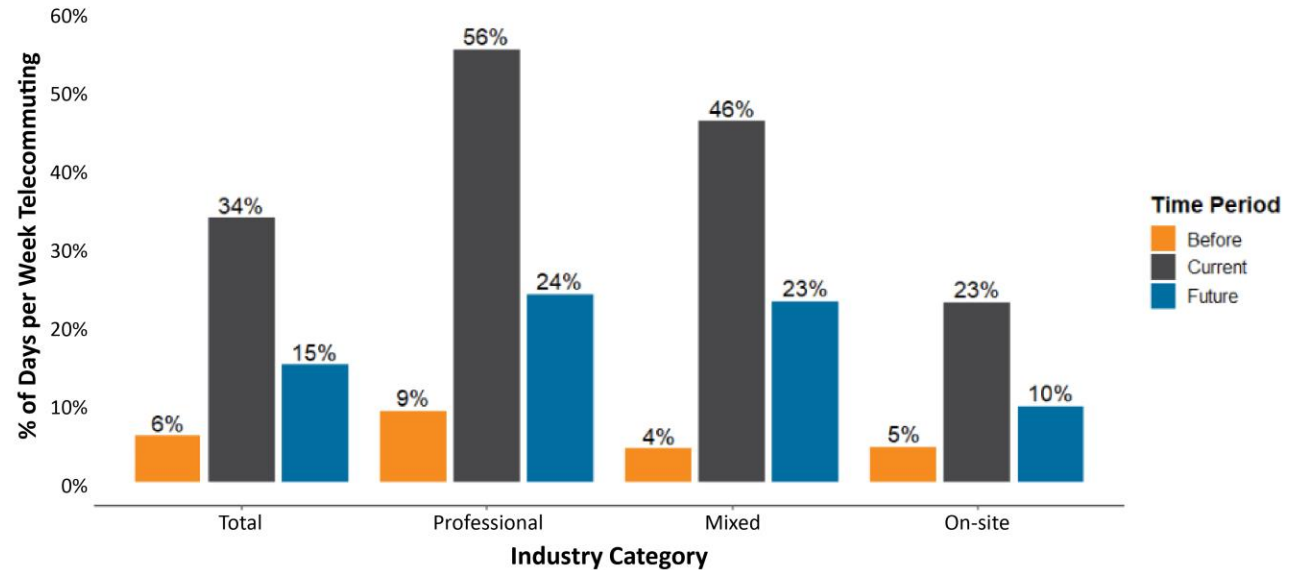
Full Return to Transit After Pandemic by Rider Type



KEY FINDINGS

5. Expectations for future telecommuting do seem to be reducing as the pandemic evolves

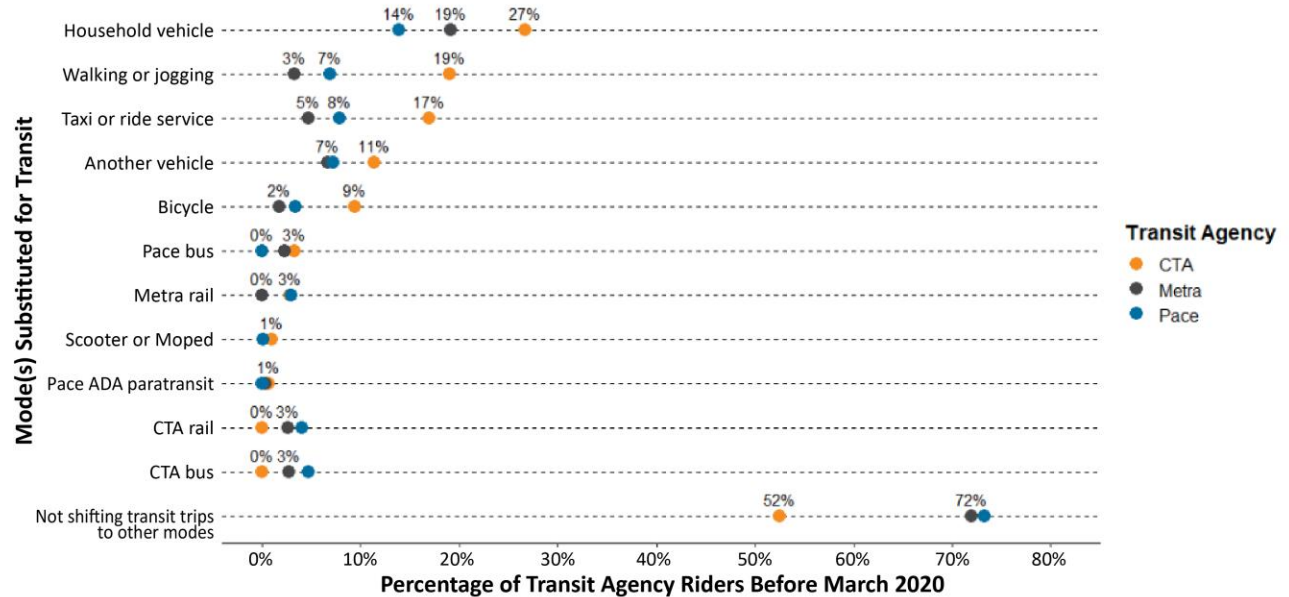
Percent of Days per Week Telecommuting by Industry Category and Time Period as Reported in Wave 2



KEY FINDINGS

6. Household vehicles have replaced some transit trips; many trips forgone

Mode(s) Substituted for Pre-Pandemic Transit Trips by Service Board



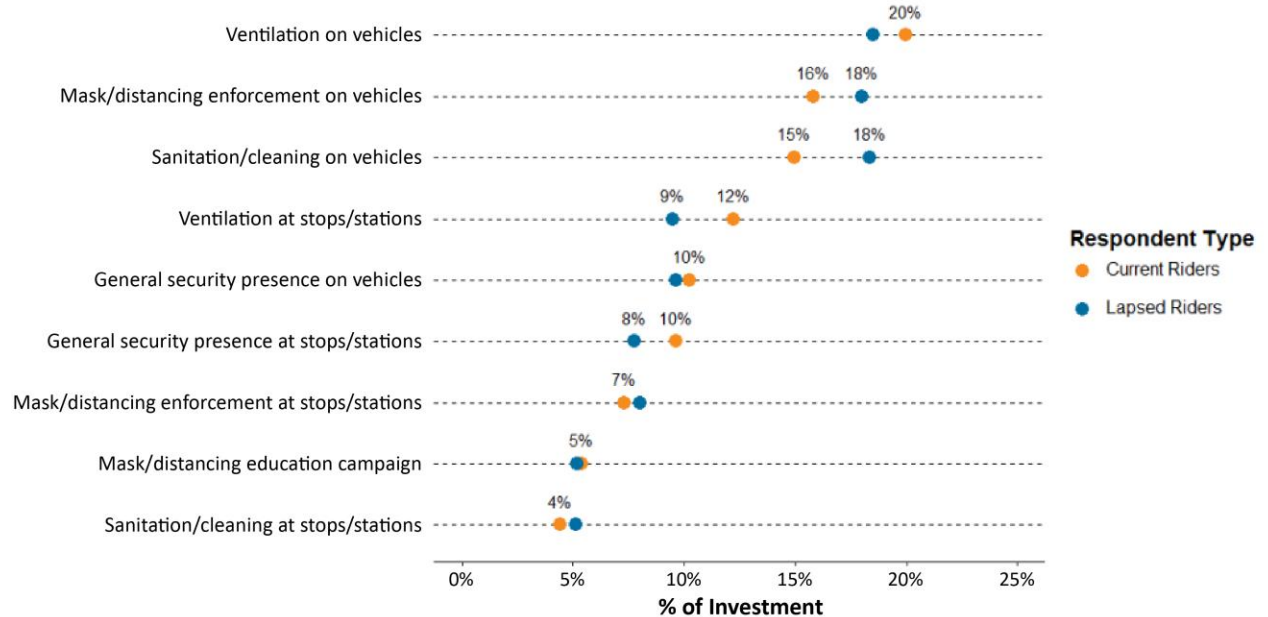
Note: Select all that apply; totals may not sum to 100%

KEY FINDINGS

7. Riders

generally
pleased with
transit's COVID
response;
focus should
remain on
vehicles

Preferred Safety Investments by Rider Type

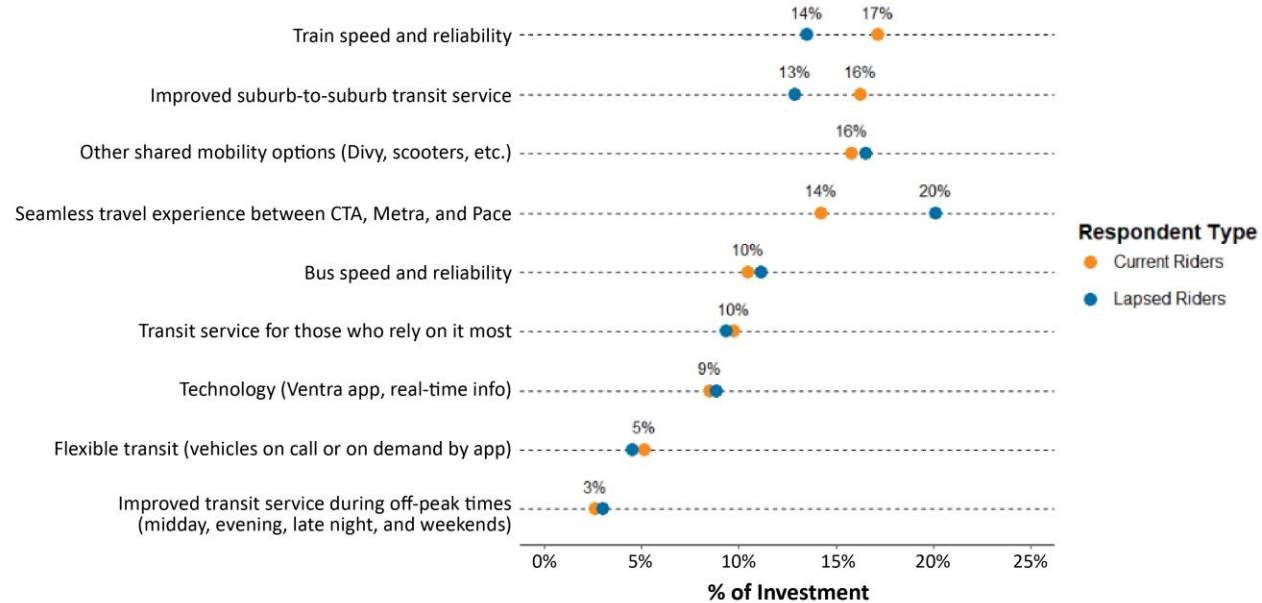


Note: Several respondents qualified as current riders for one Service Board and lapsed riders for another

KEY FINDINGS

8. More generally, riders want to see improved speed and reliability and connections across transportation services and geographies

Preferred General Investments by Rider Type



Note: Several respondents qualified as current riders for one Service Board and lapsed riders for another

NEXT STEPS



Engage in strategic recovery planning and consider how to reinvent transit in the region, with an outlook of 2023 and beyond.

- The survey results will be a valuable tool in Step 3 of the COVID recovery strategy
- Prioritize resources, marketing efforts, and how to reinvent transit in the region to adapt and stay competitive

7. ACTION ITEMS



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7a. ORDINANCE APPOINTING PENSION TRUSTEE

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7b. ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AMENDMENT/ EXTENSION WITH RES PUBLICA FOR MARKETING SERVICES



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7c. APPROVAL OF TRAVEL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT(S)

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8. NEW BUSINESS

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NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the RTA Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, May 20.

We will advise you of the location or virtual nature of this meeting as the date approaches and the status of the COVID-19 situation is updated.

STAY CONNECTED



RTAChicago.org



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



Facebook.com/ChicagoRTA



[@RTA_Chicago](https://twitter.com/RTA_Chicago)



[@RTA_Chicago](https://www.instagram.com/RTA_Chicago)



Youtube.com/RTAChicagoland