# FY 2012 Review of Bus-on-Shoulder Operations 

Johnson Country Transit
January 10, 2013

## Shoulder Use

In the first year of operation, a total of 472 buses used the shoulders of I-35, travelling approximately 1,348 miles on the shoulder. All four Xpress routes have used the shoulder, and shoulder use increased dramatically since beginning the service. Buses on Route 670/L used the shoulder more than any other route by a large margin. Additionally, no BoS-related safety incidents have been reported in the first year of operation.

Shoulder Use by Route


| Month | \# Buses | Shoulder Use by Route$\qquad$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | 661/B | 670/L | 673/N | 678/S |
| Jan | 7 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Feb | 8 | 21 | 11 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Mar | 13 | 32 | 16 | 2 | 7 | 7 |
| Apr | 24 | 57 | 27 | 18 | 12 | 0 |
| May | 27 | 69 | 18 | 39 | 6 | 6 |
| Jun | 39 | 97 | 37 | 46 | 9 | 5 |
| Jul | 38 | 79 | 4 | 57 | 9 | 9 |
| Aug | 53 | 147 | 23 | 108 | 16 | 0 |
| Sep | 47 | 106 | 25 | 60 | 13 | 8 |
| Oct | 60 | 197 | 44 | 128 | 22 | 3 |
| Nov | 75 | 243 | 31 | 165 | 44 | 3 |
| Dec | 81 | 291 | 31 | 208 | 50 | 2 |
| Total | 472 | 1348 | 273 | 844 | 188 | 43 |
| Percent of Total |  |  | 20.3\% | 62.6\% | 13.9\% | 3.2\% |
| Segments per bus |  | 2.9 |  |  |  |  |

## Ridership

Ridership on the four Xpress routes in FY 2012 increased by 10.4 percent compared to FY 2011, higher than the solid ridership growth of 8.3 percent for The JO system as a whole. Route 673/N exhibited the largest growth in FY 2012 while Route 678/S was the only route to decrease in ridership (this route has only two morning and two afternoon trips and thus has limited ability to expand ridership).

| Ridership Trends by Route |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Route | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | \% Change |
| 661/B - Olathe Xpress | 68,112 | 71,064 | 4.3\% |
| 670/L - Gardner-OP Xpress | 38,556 | 44,862 | 16.4\% |
| 671/LN * | 2,164 | 0 | -100.0\% |
| 673/N - South OP Xpress | 29,733 | 39,126 | 31.6\% |
| 678/S - Shawnee Xpress | 18,040 | 17,867 | -1.0\% |
| Xpress Total | 156,605 | 172,919 | 10.4\% |
| The JO Other Routes | 362,916 | 389,471 | 7.3\% |
| The JO Total (includes Xpress) | 519,521 | 562,390 | 8.3\% |

* 671/LN was eliminated at the end of FY 2011, with trips added to 670/L and 673/N


## Operating Details

Use of the shoulder occurred much more on southbound trips than on northbound trips. The three southbound segments between Antioch and $75^{\text {th }}$ Street were the segments where BoS was utilized the most during FY 2012.

| Shoulder Use by Trip <br> Southbound |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Segment | 99 | 57 |
| I-635 to Lamar | 126 | 66 |
| Antioch to l-635 | 192 | 57 |
| Johnson to Antioch | 252 | 37 |
| 67th to Johnson | 222 | 38 |
| 75th to 67th | 108 | 25 |
| US-69 to 75th | 24 | 13 |
| 87th to US-69 | 14 | 1 |
| 95th to 87th | 1037 | 294 |

JCT's analysis of BoS usage also reveals that of the ten trips that used the shoulder the most, nine of these were southbound trips. However, the trip that used the shoulder the most was a northbound Route 670/L trip that operates on I-35 between 7:51 a.m. and 8:14 a.m.

## Shoulder Use by Trip

|  |  | Highway Segment of Trip (Scheduled Timepoints) |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Run | Direction | Segments | Start Location \& Time |  | End Location \& Time |  |
| 670105 | Northbound | 181 |  | Oak Park Mall P\&R | 7:51 AM | 12th \& Washington, KCMO |
| 670252 | Southbound | 172 |  | Union Station, KCMO | 4:20 PM | Oak Park Mall P\&R |
| 670255 | Southbound | 158 |  | Union Station, KCMO | $5: 56$ PM | Oak Park Mall P\&R |

Travel time savings is limited due to the relatively short segment where BoS is allowed and the ability to travel only 10 miles per hour faster than mainline traffic. Based on these factors, JCT estimates that an average of 2.56 minutes is saved each time a bus is able to use the shoulder for at least a two-mile segment. While this assessment is subject to a number of assumptions and data limitations, it does demonstrate that many buses that use the shoulder are able to reduce the impact of traffic congestion on travel time.

## Transit Stations

To improve access to The JO Xpress routes, construction is underway on new transit stations at five popular Park \& Ride lots served by these routes.

- Strang Line Park \& Ride (Heartland Church)
- Great Mall Park \& Ride
- Sheridan \& Kenwood Park \& Ride (Mid-America Nazarene University)
- $137^{\text {th }}$ \& Antioch Park \& Ride (Palazzo 16 Theatre)
- $151^{\text {st }} \&$ Antioch Park \& Ride (Blue Valley Baptist Church)

As of January 2013, concrete work has been completed at each location, with installation of site furniture (shelter, route information kiosks, real-time electronic signs, etc.) to take place in February 2013.

Xpress Station Construction Photos


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