



CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL  
MOBILITY AUTHORITY



# MoPac Express Lane:

## A Real Lane Changer for Travel Demand Management

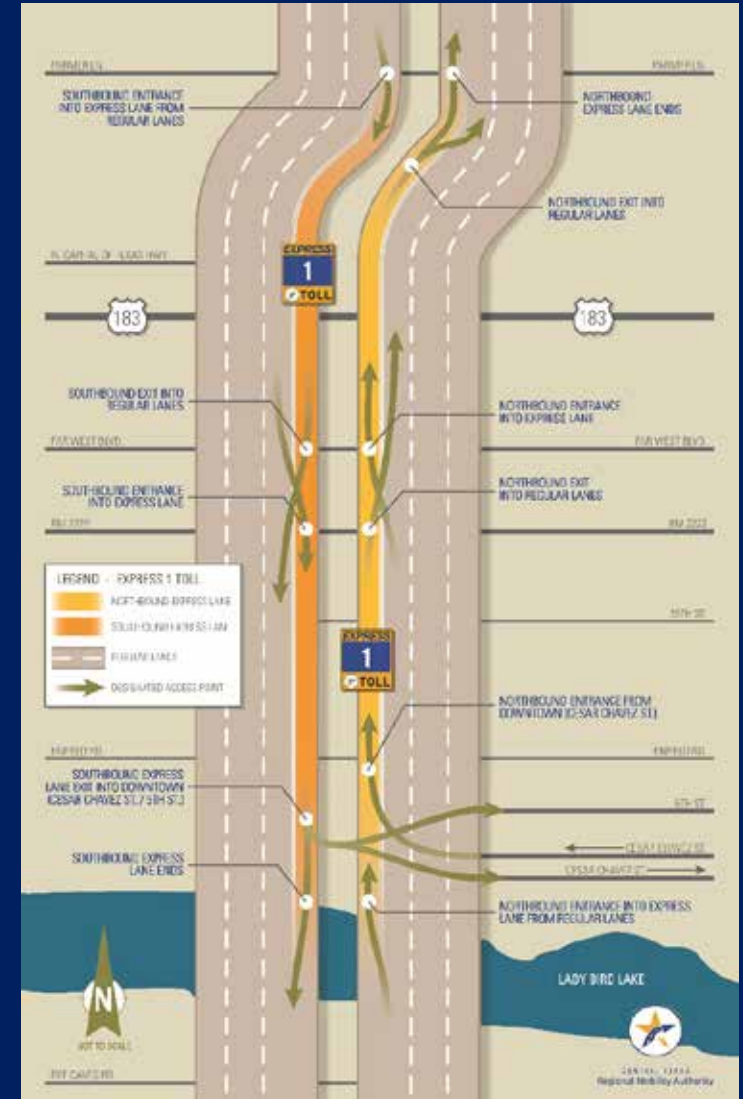
**Mike Heiligenstein**  
Executive Director

# Project Overview



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- 11-mile Express Lane on State Loop 1 (MoPac) north of downtown Austin
  - First Express Lane in Austin
  - Opened in phases (2016-2017)
  - One lane each direction w/delineator post separation
  - Variable pricing (No official cap)
  - Buses/registered vanpools free
  - Multi-axle vehicles prohibited
  - No HOV or EV discounts



# Background



- HOV lane first programmed by MPO in 1994
- Evolved to Tolloed Express Lane in 2005
  - No additional property
  - No elevated structures
  - Must build sound walls
- Extensive grassroots outreach turned neighbors into advocates who squelched anti-toll activists (2010-2012)



# Development Issues



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- Toll rate sensitivity (an unknown)
- Narrowing of travel lanes/loss of shoulders
- Limited to one lane each direction
- Union Pacific rail in median with homes adjacent to right-of-way
- Muted support from public transit agency (Unsure of impact/benefit)

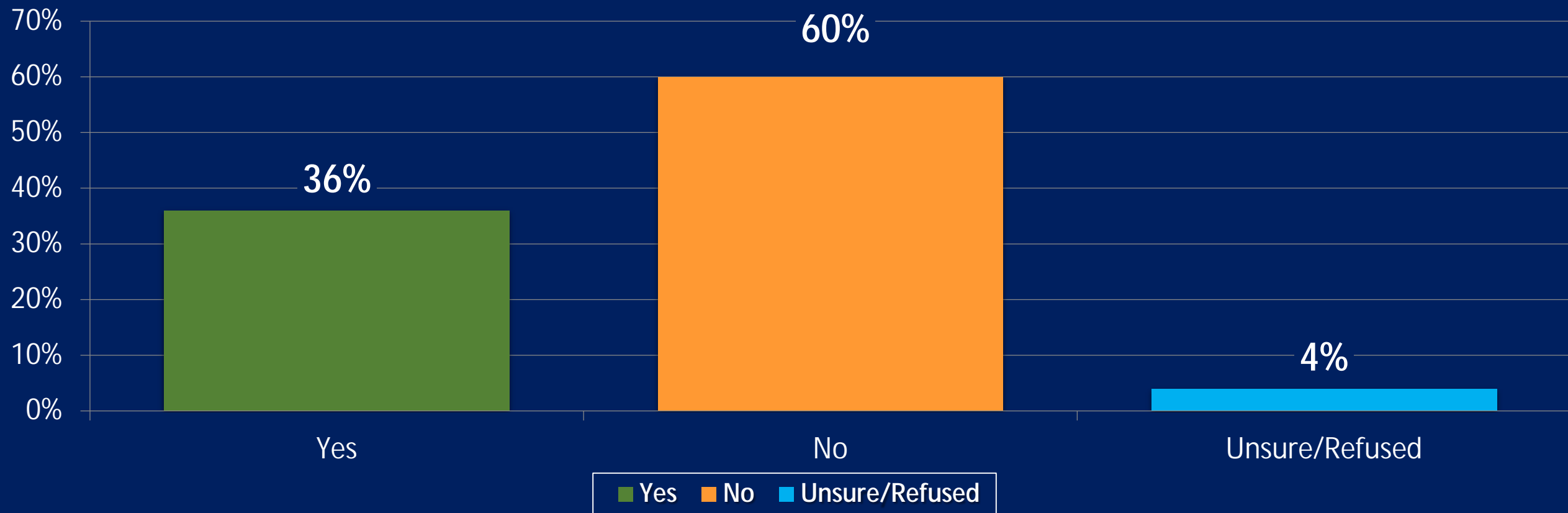


# Transit Familiarity



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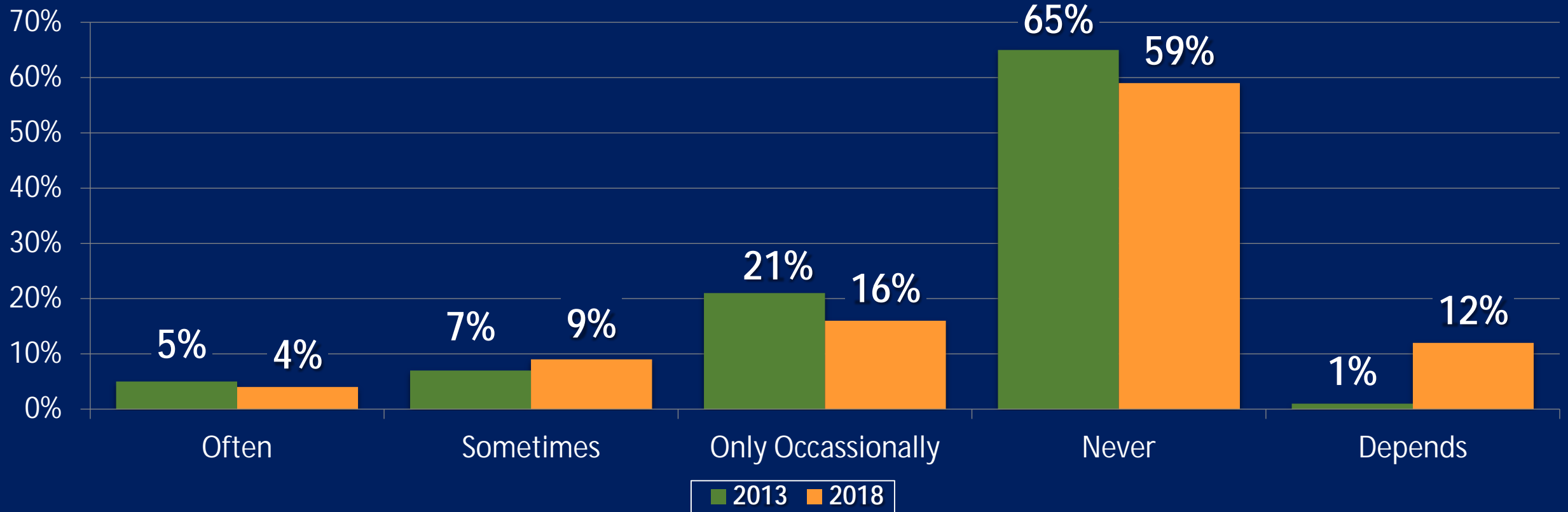
Are you aware if there is Express Bus service in the Express Toll Lane on MoPac?



# Transit Propensity – Pre/Post Construction



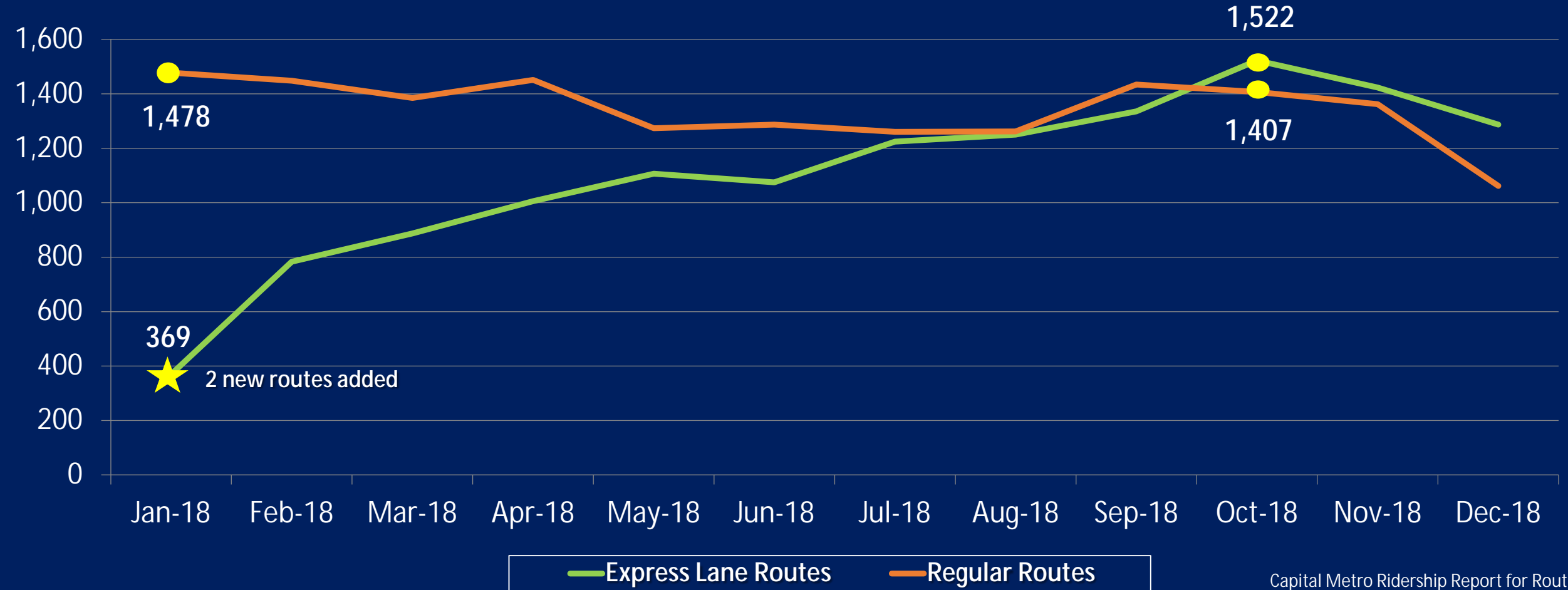
If there was an Express Bus that could travel on a new, dedicated lane on MoPac and bypass congestion...would you use this Express Bus service?



# Express Bus Ridership Trends



### Average Passenger Trips Per Weekday Express Lane Routes versus Regular Express Routes



# Multi-Modal Environmental Benefits



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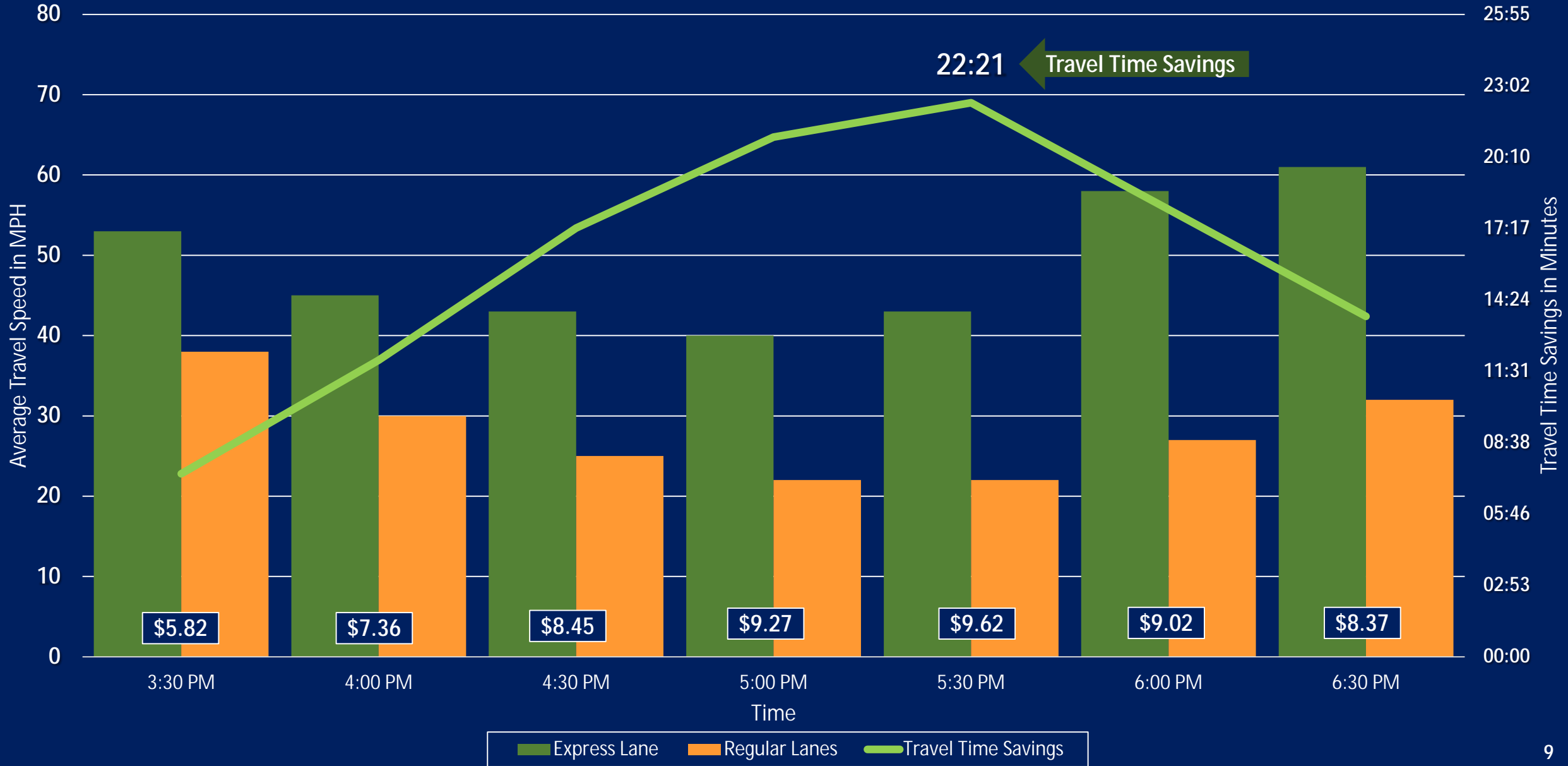
## Benefits of Increased Express Bus Ridership

Criteria Measured	Reduction May 2018
Single Occupant Vehicle Use	46,845 miles per month
Carbon Monoxide Emissions	103 pounds per day
Carbon Dioxide Emissions	9,643 pounds per day
Nitrous Oxide Emissions	6 pounds per day
Gasoline Consumption	514 gallons per day





# MoPac Travel Comparison (Southbound: Parmer Ln to Cesar Chavez St) Thursday, January 24, 2019



# Community Response



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- Express Lanes a game changer
  - Traffic and revenue exceeded expectations
  - Bus ridership demand
  - People want more Express Lanes
  - Express Service at forefront of discussions throughout community





# Where Do We Go From Here?

- Work on enhancements
- Create regional Express Lane network
  - Greatly expand system (understand impacts)
  - Continued evaluation of pricing approach
- Integrate with regional partners
  - Project Connect/transit integration
  - Partnership on Park and Ride Facilities
  - Support multi-modal travel demand programs





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