

# Agenda Item 4 - General Manager's Report February 21, 2024



# General Manager's Report

- Contracts/Procurements over \$100K
- Ridership
- Engineering Team
  - Project Update
- Partial System Closure
- Community Meetings
- 2024 Strategic Plan Development
- Questions

# Contract/Procurements over \$100K

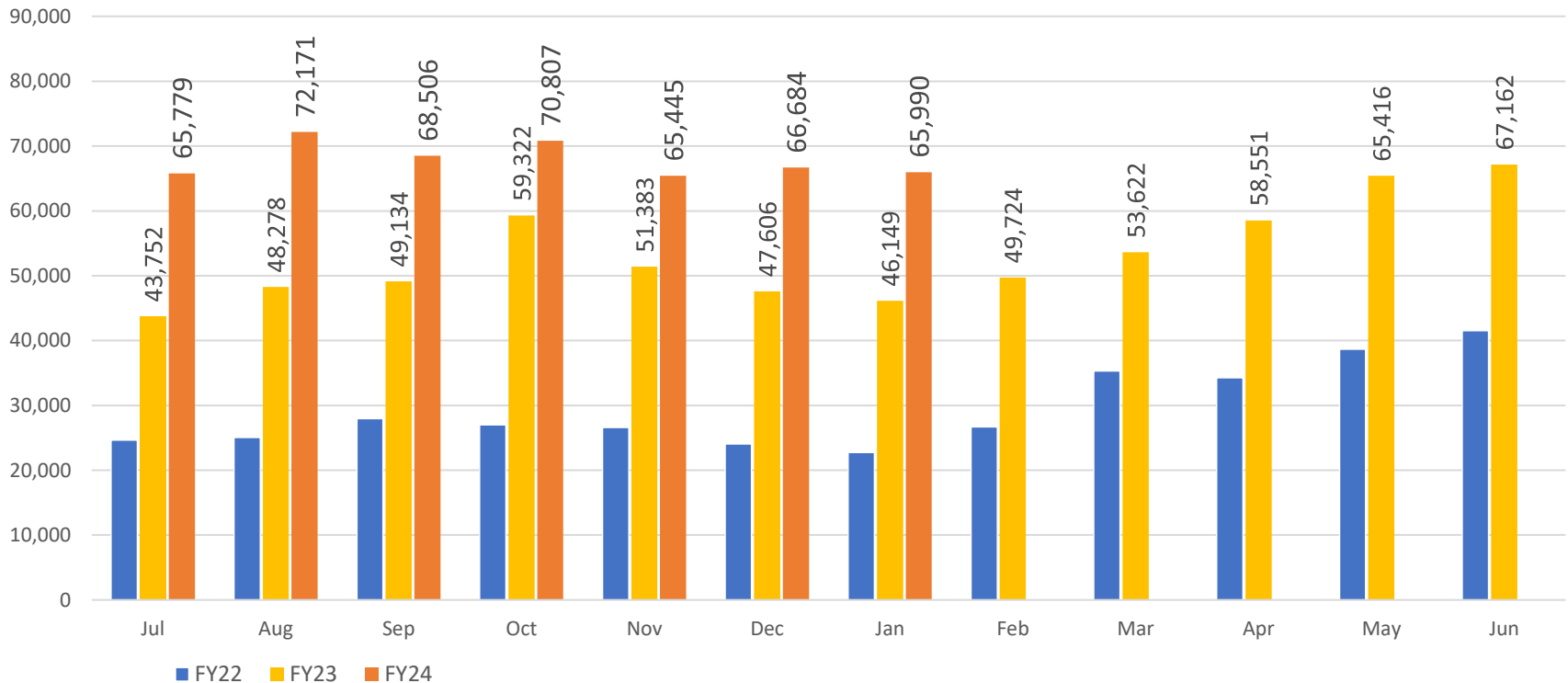
CONTRACTS / PURCHASE ORDERS				
CONTRACT # / PO #	COMPANY NAME	ACTION	DESCRIPTION	AWARD AMOUNT
PO SMT001081	Winner Chevrolet	Purchase Order Issued	Purchase of (3) Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4WD Trucks	\$148,057.02

- Purchase Order # SMT001081 with Winner Chevrolet
- Purchase of (3) Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4WD Trucks leveraging the State of California Contract 1-22-23-20D.
- These trucks will replace three current trucks in the operations department.
- The Purchase Order Amount is \$148,057

# Monthly Ridership

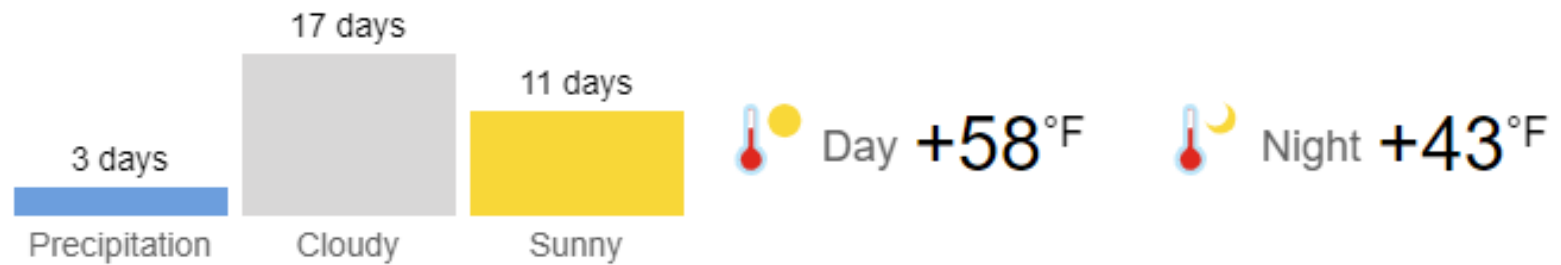
January Ridership = 65,990

- 43% over Jan 2023
- 9% under Jan 2020 (pre-COVID)

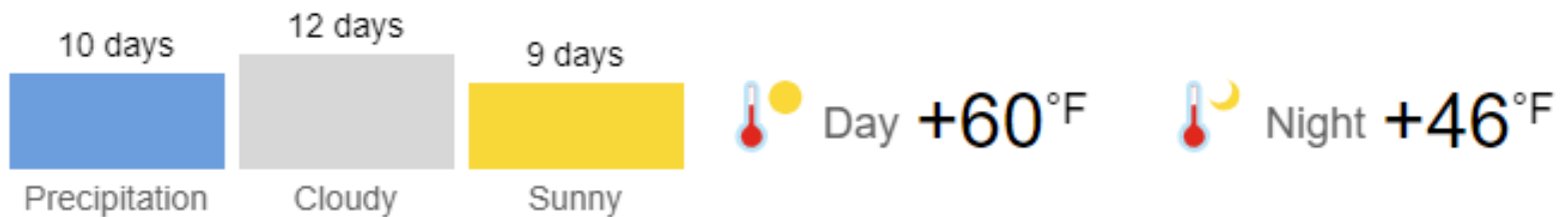


# Monthly Ridership

## Average weather in January 2020



## Average weather in January 2024



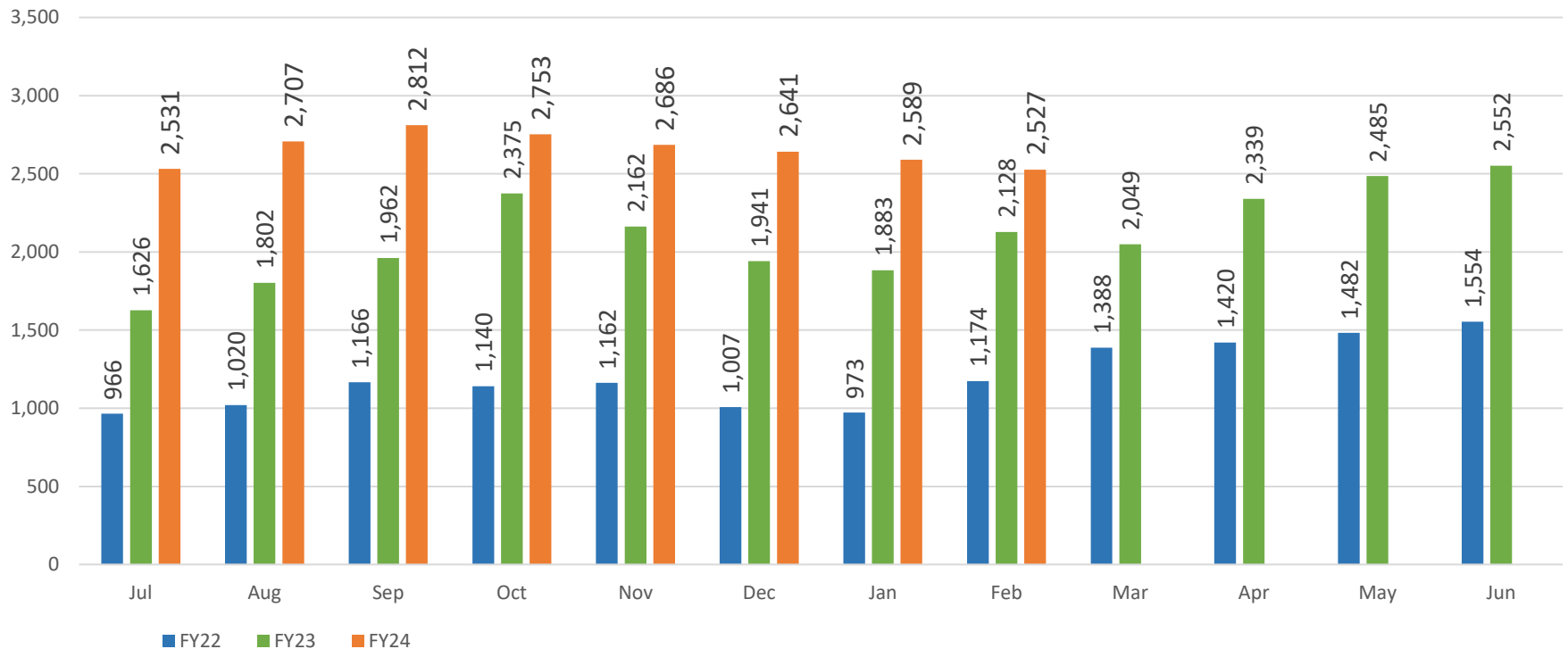
# Average Weekday Ridership

January Average Weekday ridership: 2,589

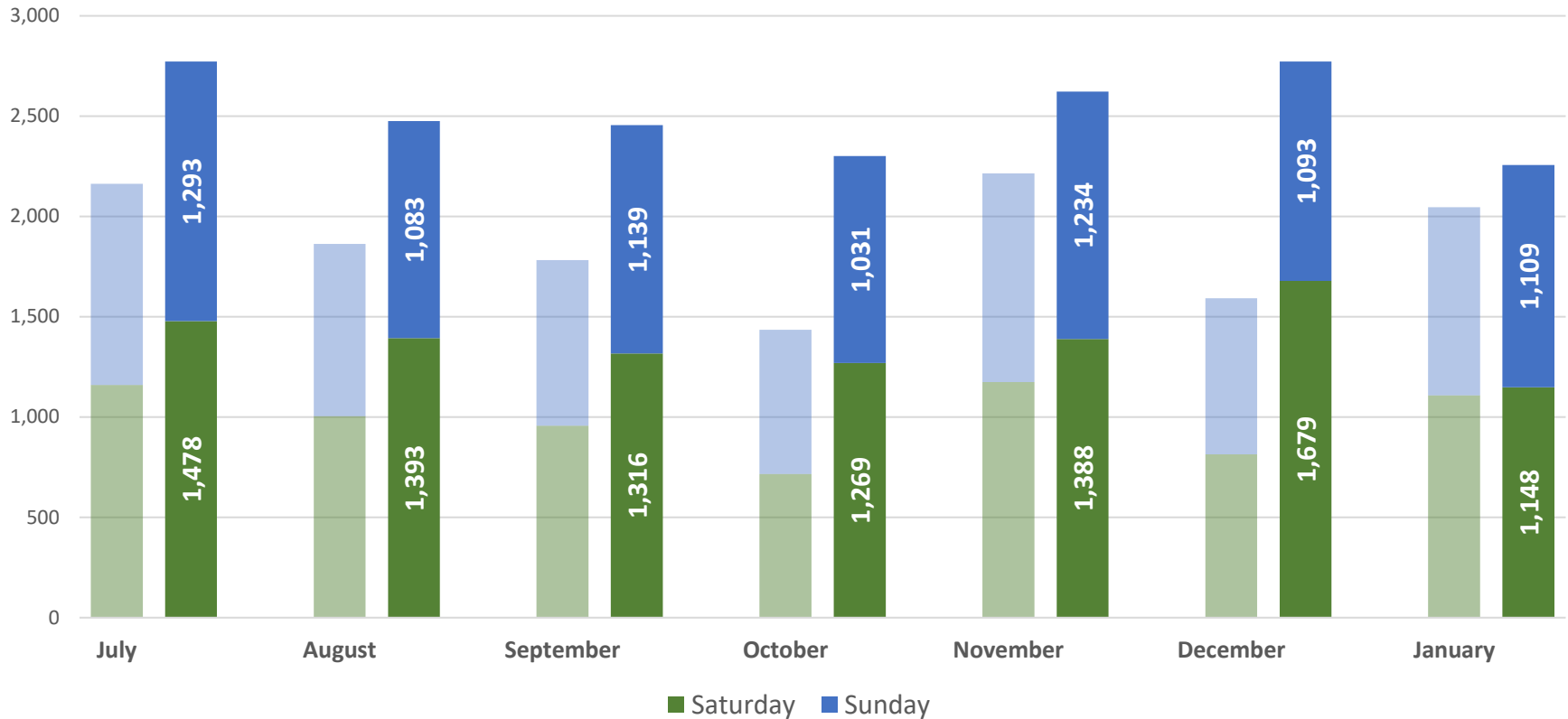
- 38% higher than Jan 2023

February Avg Weekday ridership to date: 2,527

- 19% higher than Feb 2023



# Weekend Ridership (FY19 v FY24)



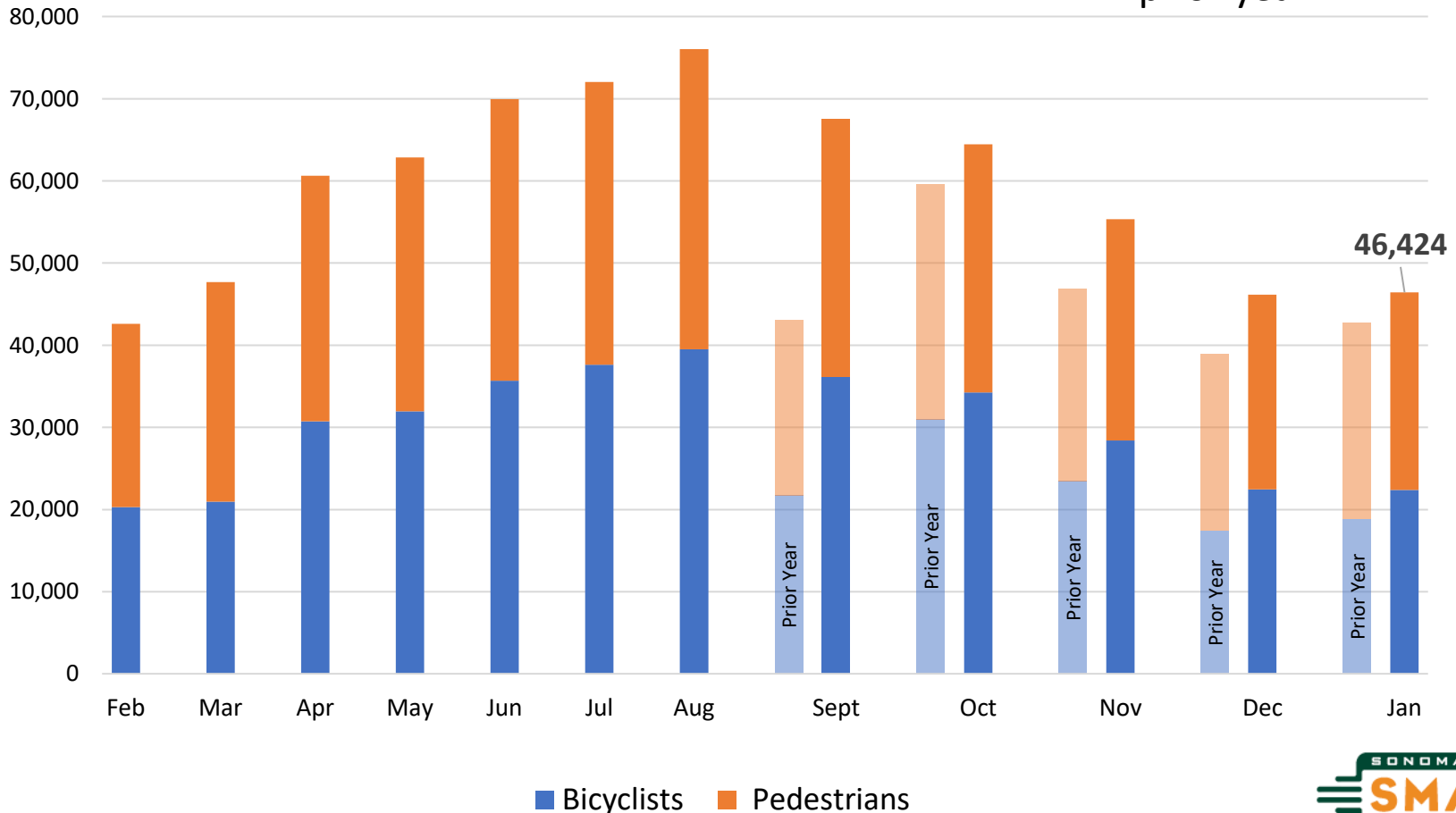
January weekend boardings up 10% over FY19



# Pathway Counts

September 2022 – January 2024

8.5% higher than prior year





# Engineering Team

- Team consists of six engineers
- Key functions include
  - Managing SMART's Capital Projects
  - Managing FRA mandated Bridge Management Program
  - Coordinating with local municipalities for projects/reciprocal work
  - Supporting Operations and Maintenance on smaller projects
  - Supporting Freight with infrastructure repairs and replacements
  - Preparing capital plan cost projections
  - Supporting grant submissions

# Project Update

## Petaluma North Station

- Project Team continued to mobilize project. Activities include:
  - Ordered key long lead materials such as rail, switch machines, and signal equipment
  - Planning for upcoming track shutdown
  - Setting up project site with job site trailer, temporary fencing, and equipment
  - Site work to include excavation for the station platform and “pot holing” to locate buried utilities
  - Received 30 tons of rail for platform track and McDowell crossing reconstruction

# Project Update



Excavation and soil/subgrade preparation for Petaluma North Platform foundation

# Project Update



Contractor inventories underground cable

# Project Update



Contractor excavating underground conduit at Petaluma North

# Project Update



# Project Update

## Windsor Extension

- Field work resumed December 2023. Activities include:
  - Placing concrete bridge decks for the railroad bridges
  - Installing and completing drainage pipes
  - Excavation for the Windsor Station Platform



# Project Update



Setting bridge decks at Windsor Creek



Concrete framework and rebar install for Windsor platform foundation



# Project Update



Setting bridge deck

# Project Update

- Pathway
  - 10 pathway segments in Marin and Sonoma currently in design
  - Permitting of 3 segments underway
- Bridge Inspection Program
  - Inspected several bridges on SMART mainline

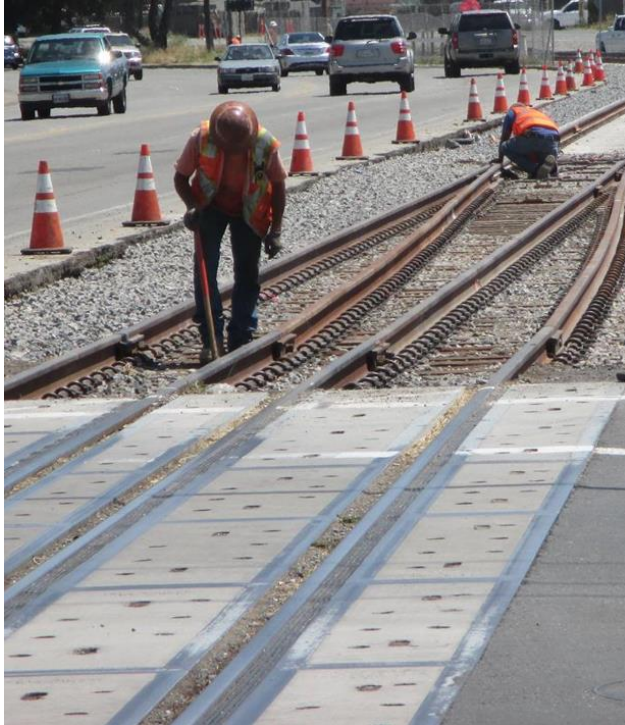


# March Partial System Closure

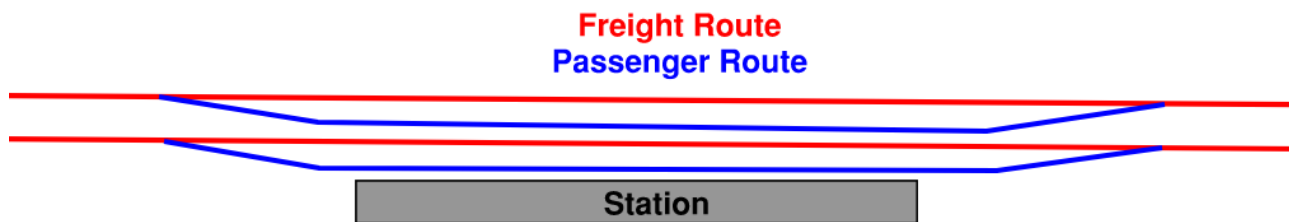
- Petaluma North Station construction requires a weekend service closure from Airport to Cotati Station.
- **March 23 & 24** -- SMART will operate the weekend schedule **from Petaluma Downtown to Larkspur.**
- Section of track will be removed and replaced with switch and a second track (gauntlet track)



# Gauntlet Tracks



- SMART uses gauntlet tracks at stations to allow wider freight trains to pass and narrower passenger trains to pull into the station
- All stations north of the Ignacio Wye were constructed with gauntlet tracks to allow passage of freight trains



# April Partial System Closure

- Second closure in April for railroad crossing reconstruction at McDowell Blvd.
- **April 13 & 14** -- SMART will operate the weekend schedule **from Petaluma Downtown to Larkspur.**
- Extensive outreach will be conducted for both closures, including ferry transfers at Larkspur.



# Partial System Closures



## PARTIAL SYSTEM CLOSURE

March 23-24 and April 13-14

Construction of the new SMART station in northern Petaluma requires a partial system closure on March 23-24 and April 13-14. During these weekends, the SMART rail line will be closed from the Sonoma County Airport station to the Cotati station. Regular weekend service will be offered from the Petaluma Downtown station to the Larkspur station.



Stations closed in this zone

- No service to and from these stations
- Stations will be closed on March 23-24 and April 13-14
- All southbound trips will begin at the Petaluma Downtown station



Regular weekend service

- Trains will operate regular weekend service in this zone
- Parking available at
  - Petaluma Downtown
  - Novato Downtown
  - Novato Hamilton
  - Larkspur
- Trains will continue to connect with Larkspur Ferry for travel to and from San Francisco
- Northbound trips will end at the Petaluma Downtown station

For assistance with trip planning or if you have questions about the Partial System Closure please contact SMART Customer Service at [customerservice@sonomamarintrain.org](mailto:customerservice@sonomamarintrain.org) or at 707-794-3330.

[sonomamarintrain.org/construction-updates](http://sonomamarintrain.org/construction-updates)



## CIERRE PARCIAL DEL SISTEMA

23-24 de marzo y 13-14 de abril

Construcción de una nueva estación en el norte de Petaluma requiere el cierre parcial del sistema los días 23 y 24 de marzo y 13 y 14 de abril. Durante estos fines de semana, la línea ferroviaria SMART estará cerrada desde la estación del Aeropuerto del Condado de Sonoma hasta la estación en Cotati. El servicio regular de fin de semana continuará desde la estación Petaluma Centro hasta la estación en Larkspur.



Estas líneas cerradas en esta zona

- No servicio hacia y desde estas estaciones
- Las estaciones cerradas el 23 y 24 de marzo y el 13 y 14 de abril
- Todos viajes en dirección sur comenzarán en la estación Petaluma Centro



Servicio regular de fin de semana

- En esta zona trenes operarán servicio regular de fin de semana
- Estacionamiento en
  - Petaluma Centro
  - Novato Centro
  - Novato Hamilton
  - Larkspur
- Trenes seguirán conectando con el ferry en Larkspur para viajes hacia y desde San Francisco
- Viajes en dirección norte finalizarán en la estación Petaluma Downtown

Para obtener ayuda con la planificación del viaje o si tiene preguntas sobre el cierre parcial del sistema, comuníquese con nuestro Servicio de Atención al Cliente al 707-794-3330 o [customerservice@sonomamarintrain.org](mailto:customerservice@sonomamarintrain.org).

[sonomamarintrain.org/construction-updates](http://sonomamarintrain.org/construction-updates)



# Community Meetings

## Sonoma Valley Community Advisory Committee

- Presented on freight storage opportunities
- 40-50 attendees
- Majority of attendees and all Commissioners spoke in opposition of LPG storage
- Staff is currently looking at other alternatives to close freight funding gap
  - Working with Caltrain to store locomotives and gallery cars in support of electrification project
  - Working with storage broker regarding storage of non-hazardous vegetable oil tanker cars

# Community Meetings

## Healdsburg City Council Meeting

- Discussed Healdsburg station location
  - Original Depot location
  - Downtown
- 25-30 attendees
- SMART advocated for the Downtown location
- Majority of attendees spoke in favor of the Depot location
- Council determined the Depot location better met the needs of their community



# Strategic Plan – Community Workshops

## SMART's Strategic Plan

**Workshops** are underway, with good attendance and participation so far.

## Completed Workshops

- Jan 31 SWOT Analysis (61)
- Feb 7 Ridership (33)

## Upcoming Workshops

- Feb 28 Pathways
- Mar 14 Extensions
- Mar 27 Freight



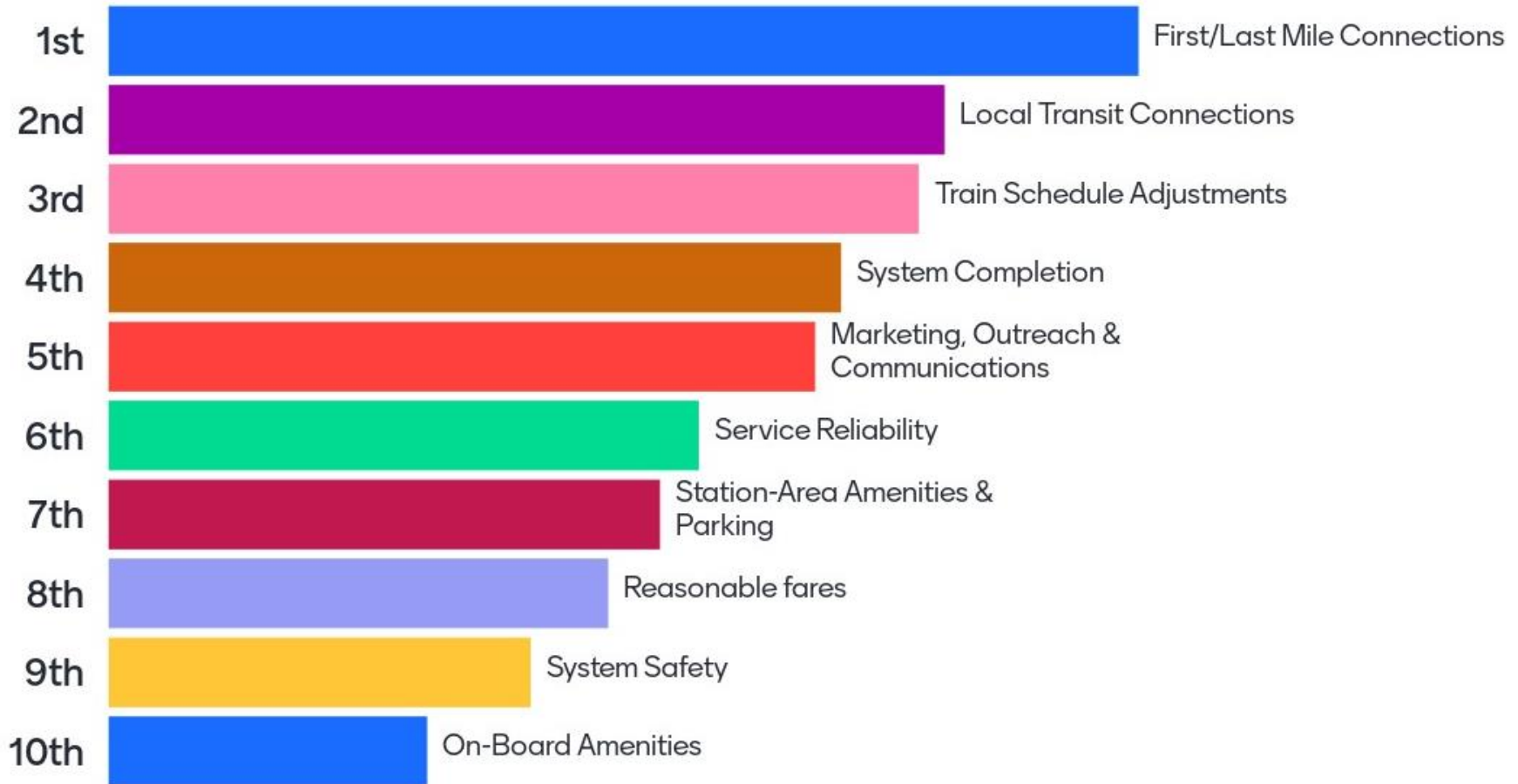




# 2024 Ridership Strategies—Key Themes

- Greater non-peak service hours and train frequency
- Improving first/last mile connections and connections to other transportation options, including the pathway
- Increase public awareness and perception through advertising and personal testimonials
- Targeted marketing to larger user groups and non-commute travelers
- More on-board amenities
- Transit service to special events and host events on the train and at stations
- Ease trip planning and trip making
- Improve parking
- Free, reduced and promotional fares
- Expand the system

# How should SMART prioritize these strategy areas? (click each to rank in order of importance)



# Questions?

# Connect with us:

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



## Customer Service:

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