

ATL BOARD MEETING WILL BEGIN MOMENTARILY



ATL BOARD MEETING

February 2, 2023

ATL Board Meeting

February 2, 2023

- I. Call to Order & Roll Call
- II. Approval of the Board Minutes for January 5, 2023
- III. Approval of the Executive Session Minutes for January 5, 2023
- IV. Approval of the Agenda for February 2, 2023
- V. Public Comment*
- VI. ZEB Fleet Transition Plan – State of ZEB’s in the Transit Market – Abby Marinelli
- VII. Update on Branding Implementation – Ericka Bayonne
- VIII. Ride Gwinnett Brand Roll Out – China Thomas, Gwinnett County
- IX. MARTA Reach App/Pilot Project – Anthony Thomas, MARTA
- X. Executive Director’s Report
- XI. New Business
- XII. Call to Adjourn



Public Comment



REGIONAL ZEB FLEET TRANSITION PLAN TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT

Abby Marinelli
February 2, 2023

PROJECT BACKGROUND

- ▶ Through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, FTA is providing **\$6.1 billion in discretionary funds** primarily targeted for Zero Emission Buses (ZEBs) from FFY2022 - FFY2026.
- ▶ A ZEB Fleet Transition Plan is a **required** component of the Bus and Bus Facilities and Low-No Emissions grant programs.
- ▶ Atlanta-Region Transit Link Authority (ATL) aims to enhance operator competitiveness for these programs by supporting their development of ZEB Fleet Transition Plans.
- ▶ ATL aims create a cohesive and coordinated approach for all regional fixed route public transit operators to transition their bus fleets to ZEBs.



WHY ZERO EMISSION BUSES?

- ▶ More efficient, lower energy consumption compared to ICE vehicles
 - Zero tailpipe emissions
 - Lower source emissions
- ▶ Lower maintenance costs
- ▶ Lower fuel cost in some parts of the country
- ▶ Quieter, preferred by passengers
- ▶ US-produced fuel source



ZEBs: BATTERY ELECTRIC AND HYDROGEN FUEL CELL

Battery Electric Buses (BEB)

- ▶ Readily available buses and charging infrastructure
- ▶ BEBs are already being incorporated into regional fleets (Xpress and MARTA)

Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Buses (FCEB)

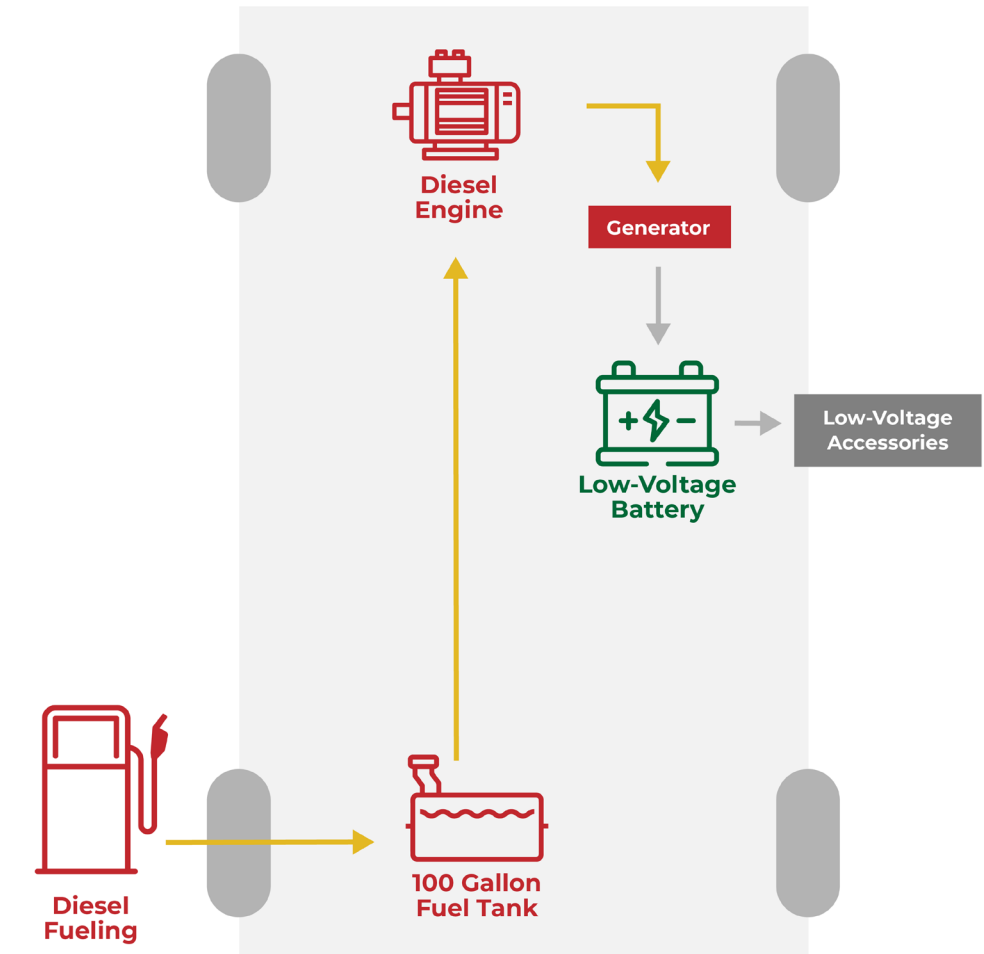
- ▶ Current difficulty around procuring or producing hydrogen efficiently
- ▶ No FCEBs currently in the region
- ▶ Quickly escalating investments across the country, including major investment in distribution centers by the Federal government.



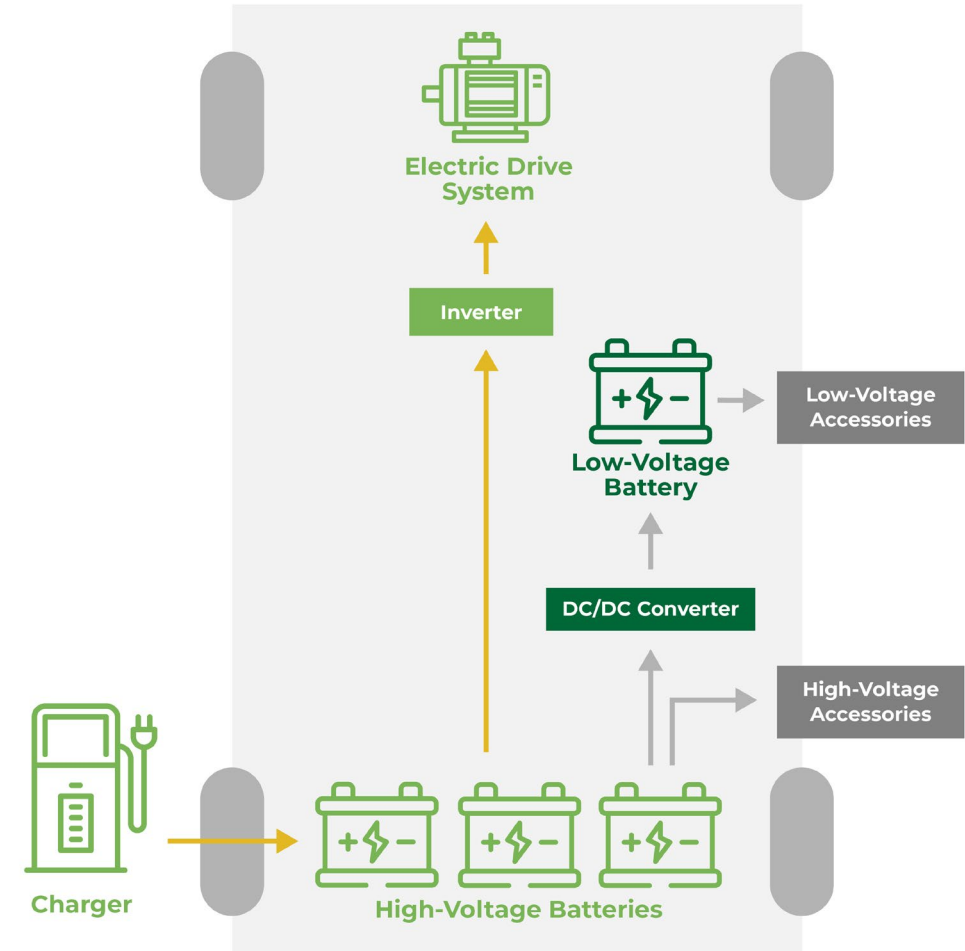
Battery Electric Buses (BEB)

BATTERY ELECTRIC BUSES

DIESEL VEHICLE

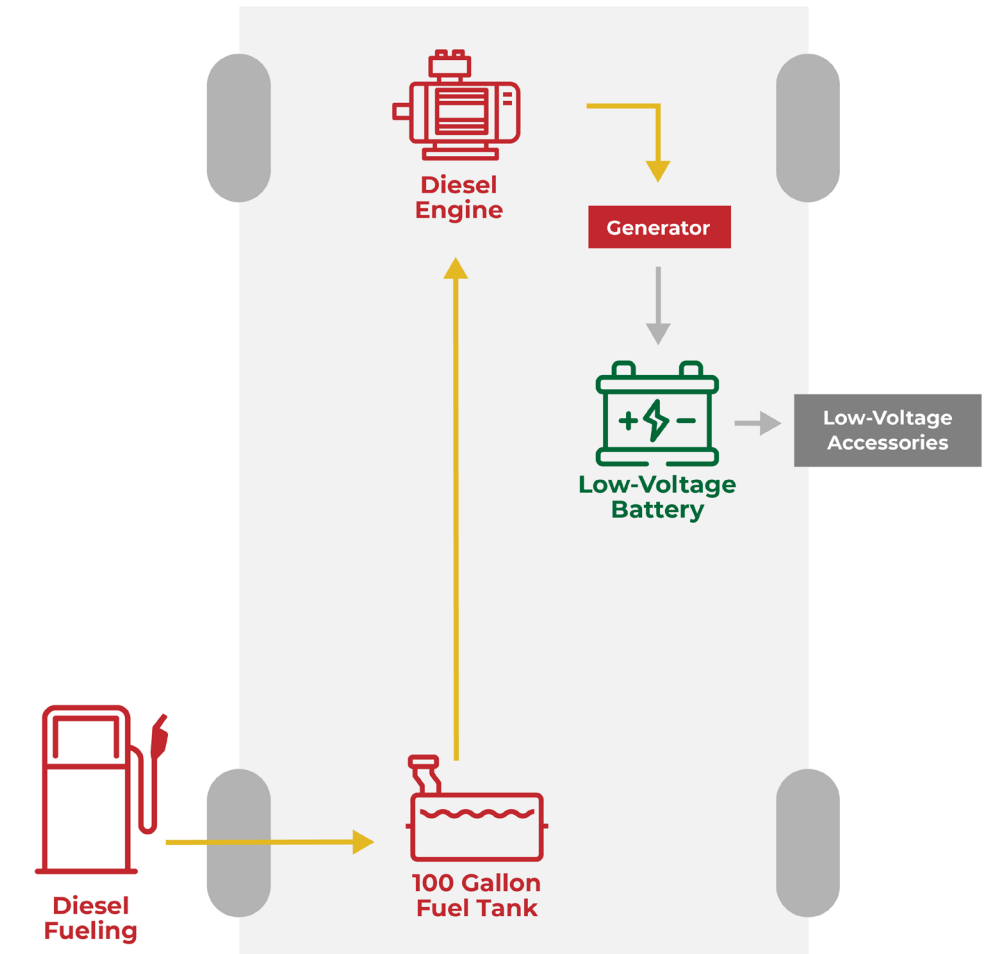


BATTERY ELECTRIC VEHICLE

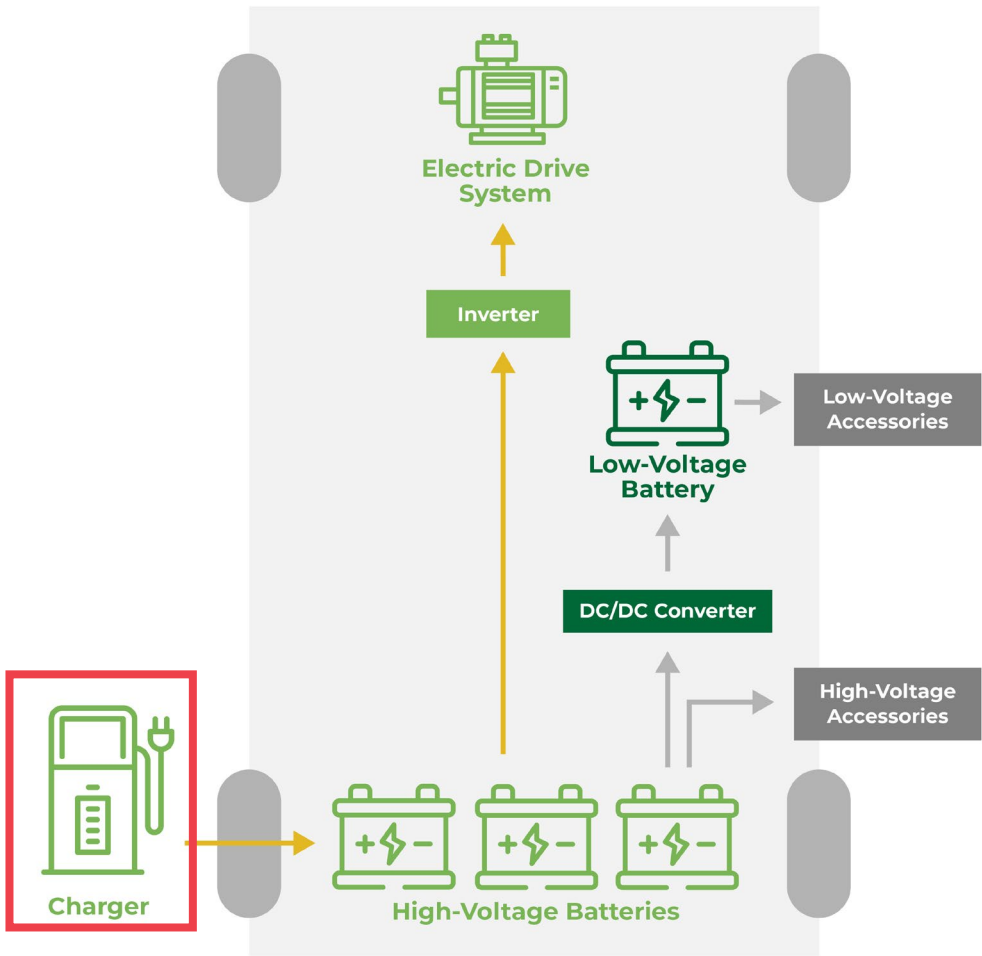


BATTERY ELECTRIC BUSES

DIESEL VEHICLE

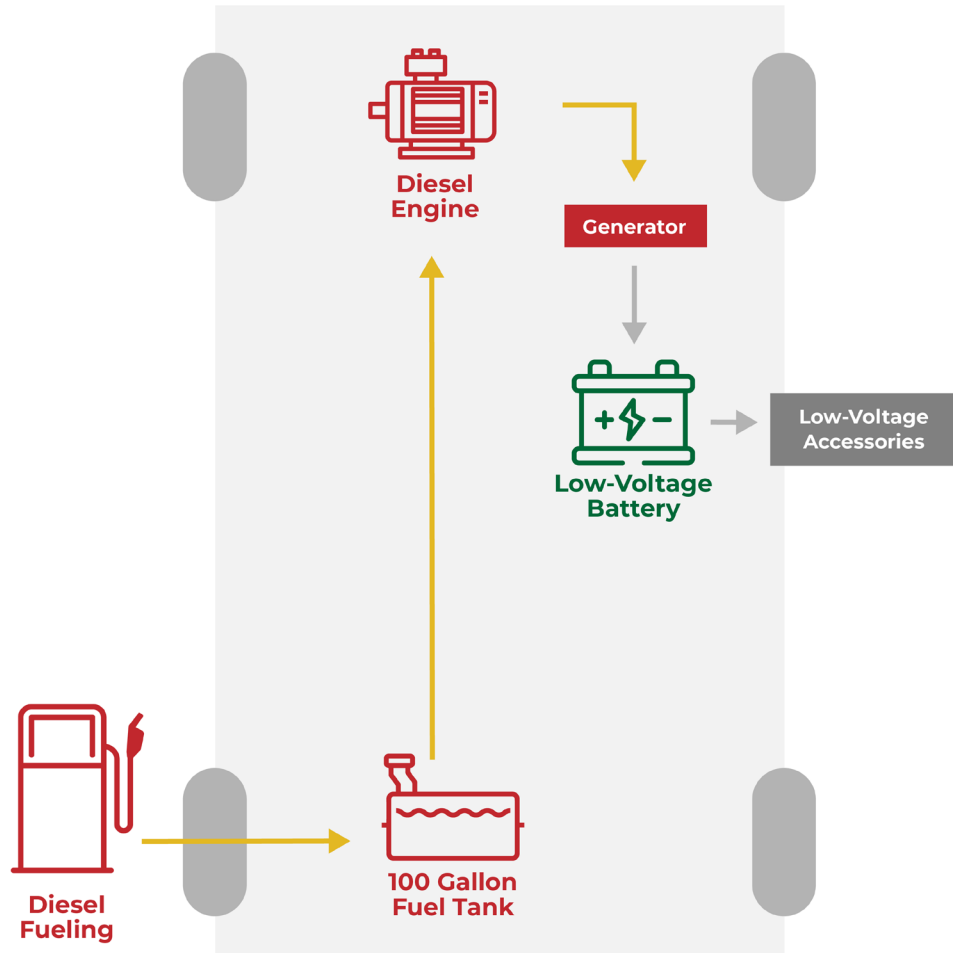


BATTERY ELECTRIC VEHICLE

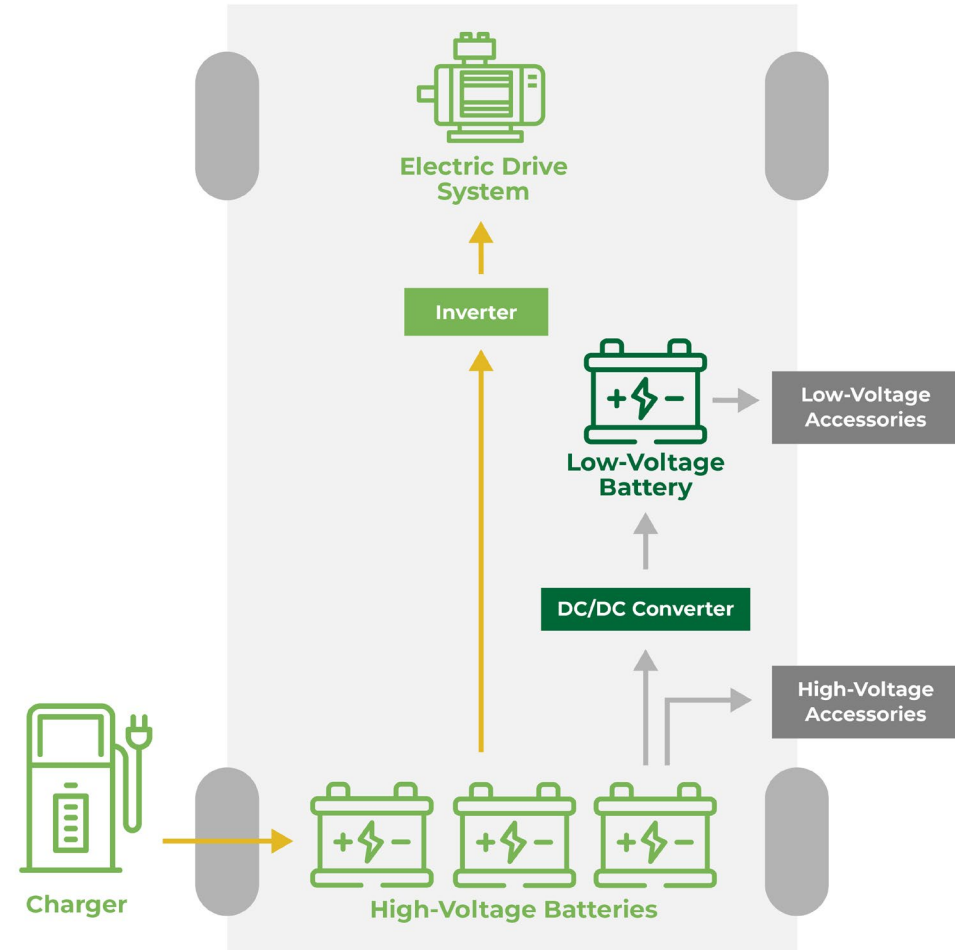


BATTERY ELECTRIC BUSES

DIESEL VEHICLE

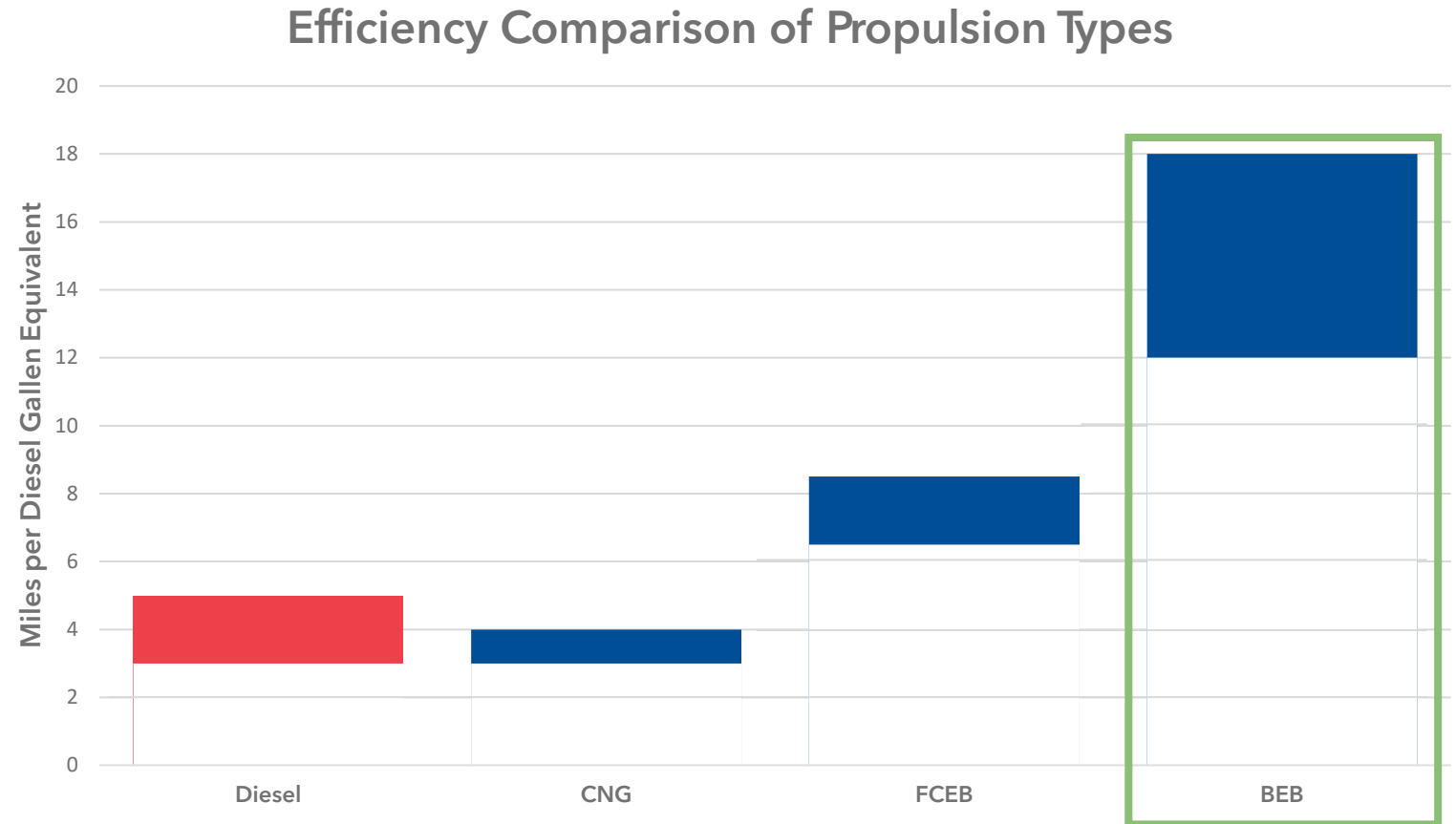


BATTERY ELECTRIC VEHICLE



EFFICIENCY COMPARISON

- ▶ Battery Electric Buses (BEB) are ~4x more efficient than diesel
- ▶ BEB efficiency and range are affected by driving habits and route characteristics.



CHARGERS

- ▶ Variety of charger styles offered by different OEMs
 - Plug-in chargers (Integrated and remote dispensers)
 - Overhead chargers (pantographs up and down)
 - Wireless/Inductive chargers
 - Scalable depot charging (typically overhead cable or pantographs)

CHARGERS

- ▶ Variety of charger styles offered by different OEMs
 - **Plug-in chargers (Integrated and remote dispensers)**
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heliox
Xpress

SIEMENS
MARTA



Integrated charger and dispenser



Charging cabinet with **Remote** dispenser

CHARGERS

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heliox
Xpress

SIEMENS
MARTA



Pantograph Up

Extendible charging arm mounted on bus



Pantograph Down

Charging arm mounted on charging structure

CHARGERS

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In-ground with no physical connections or overhead obstructions.
Alignment is critical.

CHARGERS

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 - Plug-in chargers (Integrated and remote dispensers)
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 - Wireless/Inductive chargers
 - **Scalable depot charging (typically overhead cable or pantographs)**



Overhead Cable

Reel, boom, or hanging styles



Overhead Pantograph

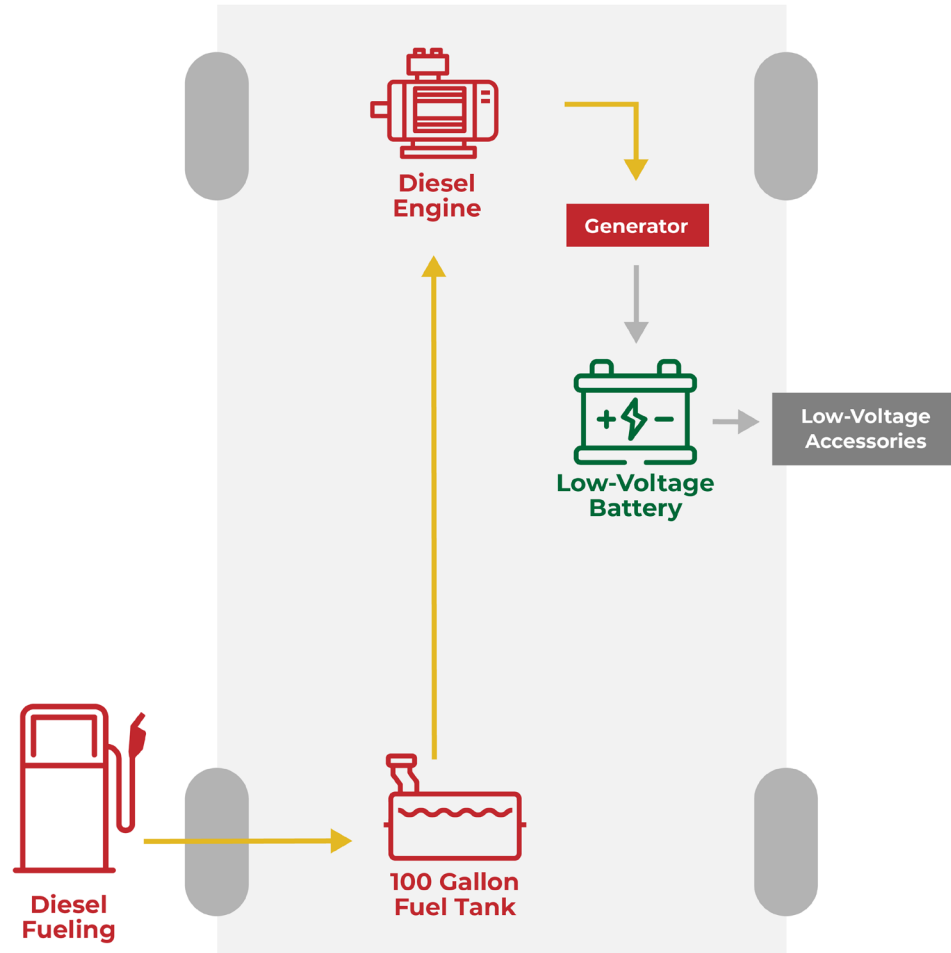
Automated operation with minimal yard obstructions



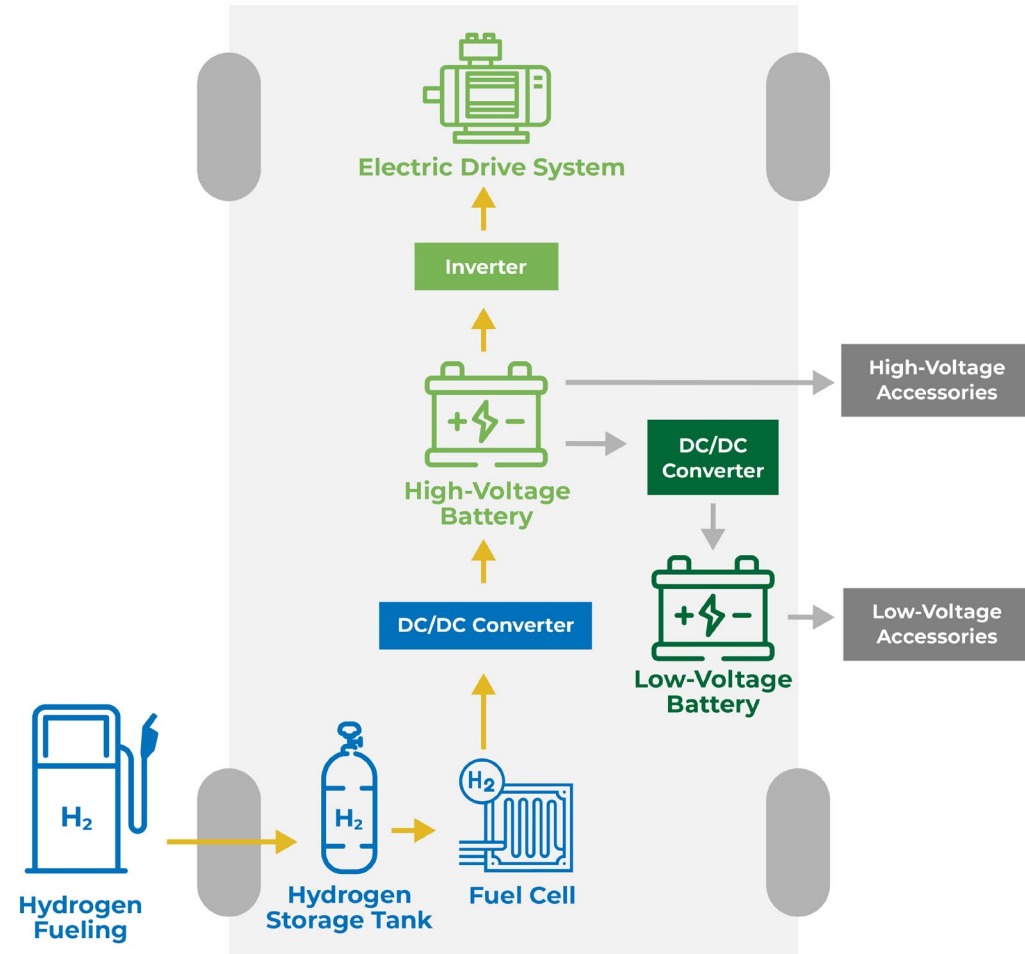
Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Buses (FCEB)

HYDROGEN FUEL CELL ELECTRIC BUSES

DIESEL VEHICLE

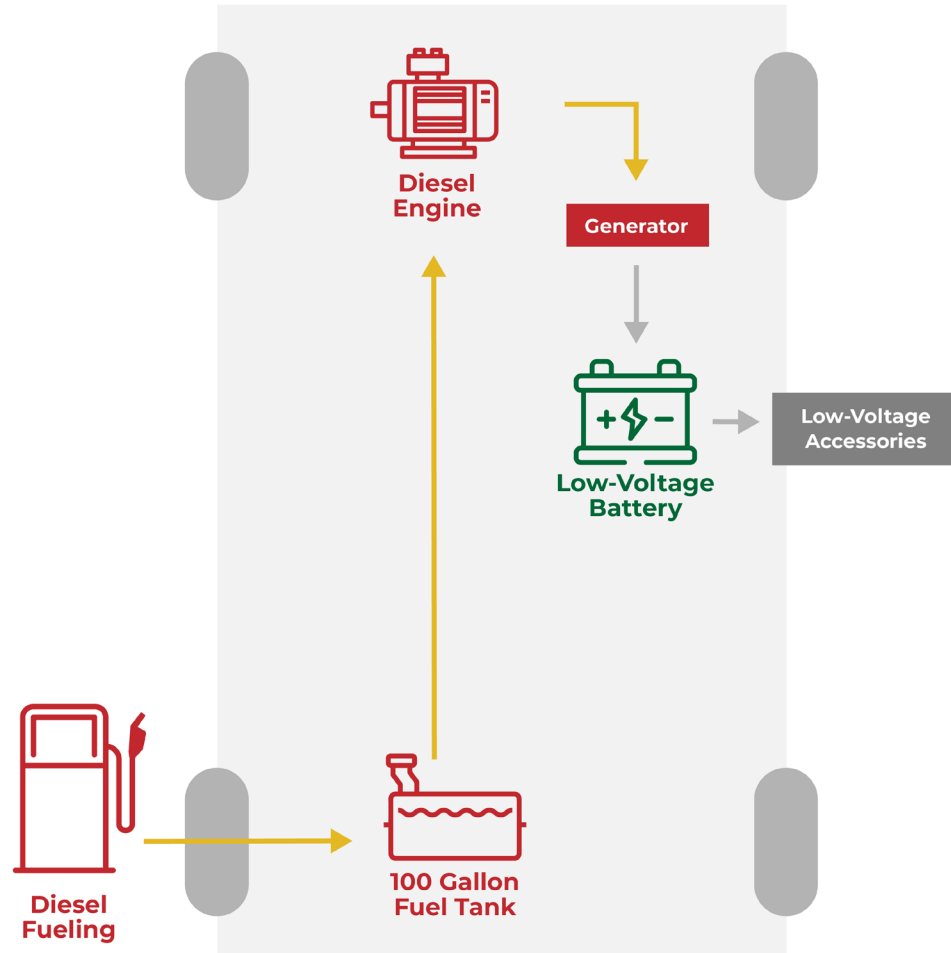


FUEL CELL ELECTRIC VEHICLE

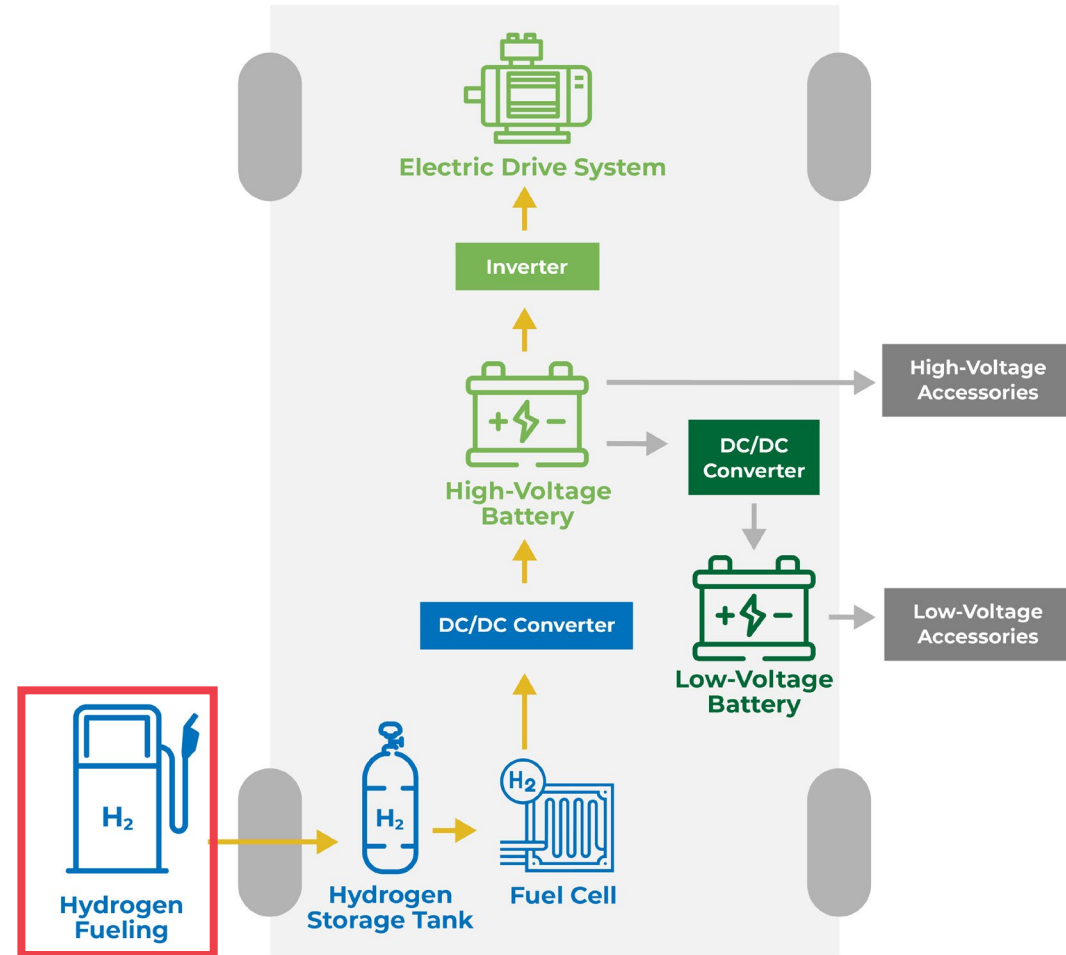


HYDROGEN FUEL CELL ELECTRIC BUSES

DIESEL VEHICLE

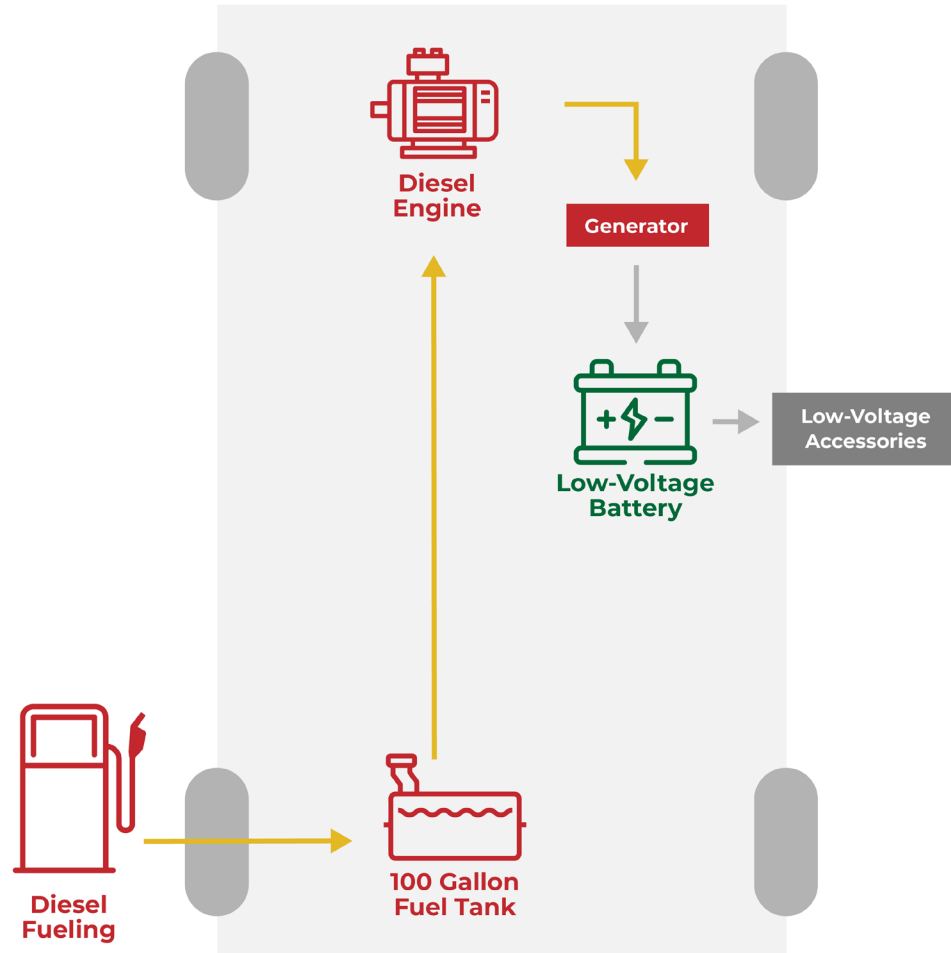


FUEL CELL ELECTRIC VEHICLE

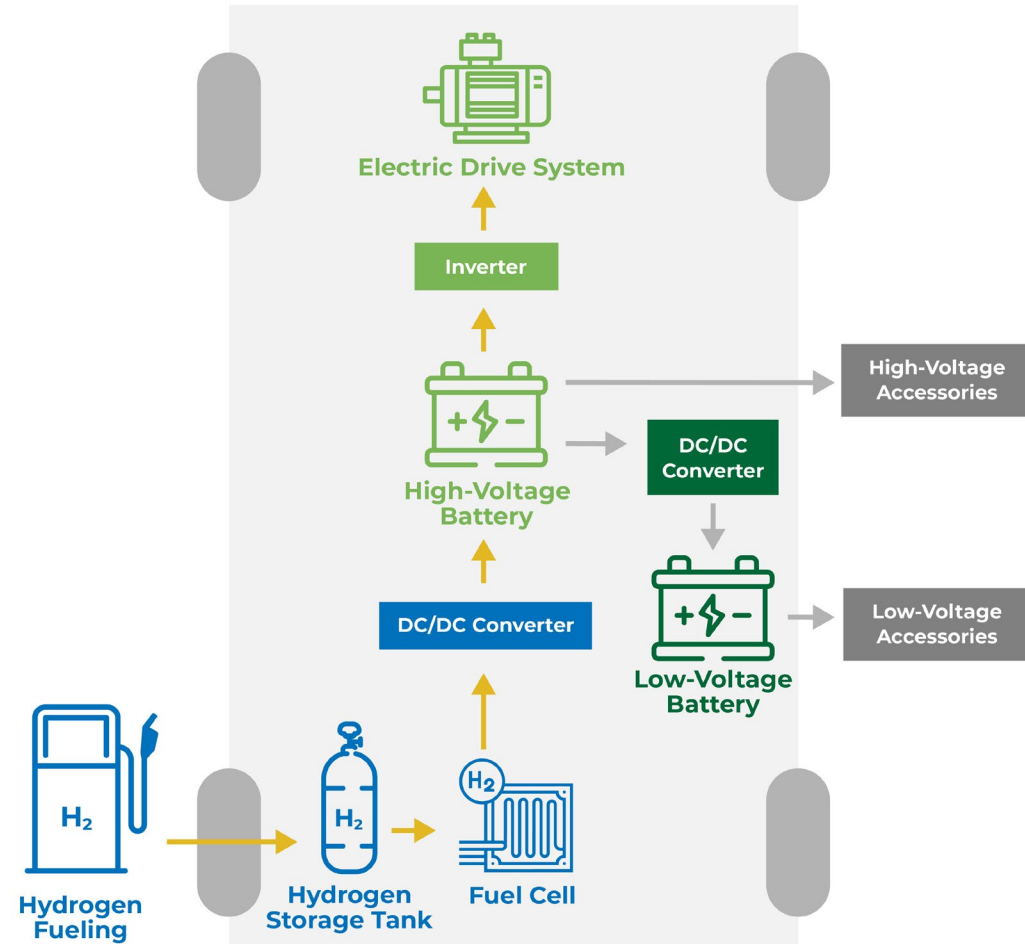


HYDROGEN FUEL CELL ELECTRIC BUSES

DIESEL VEHICLE



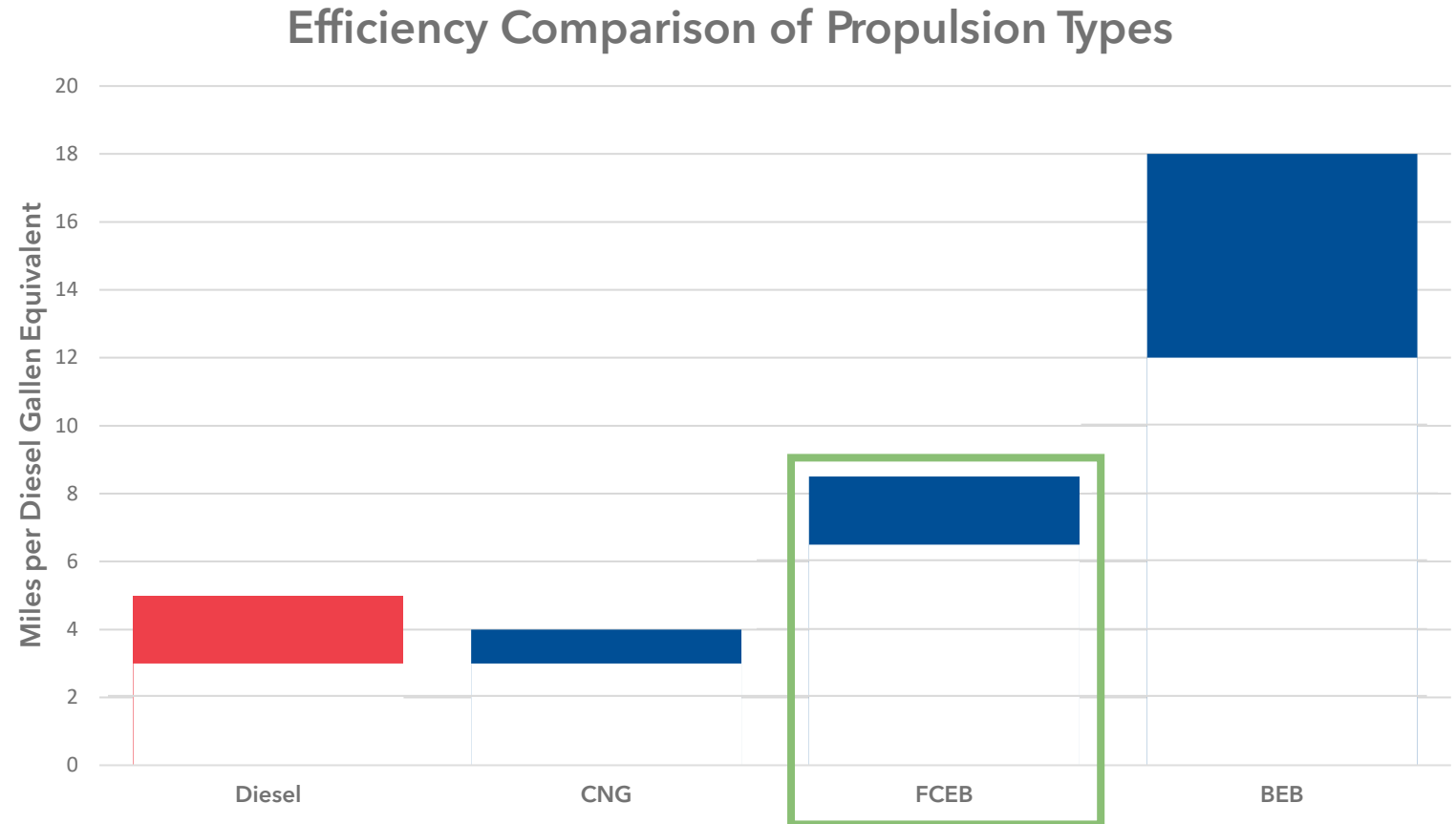
FUEL CELL ELECTRIC VEHICLE



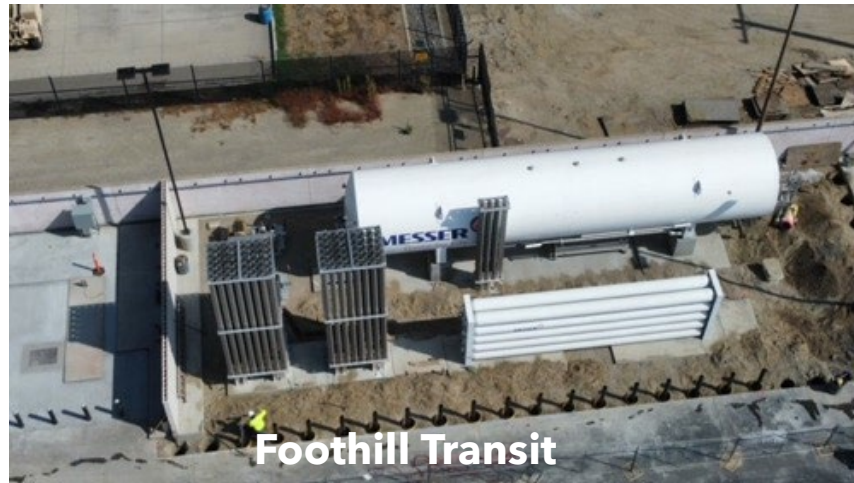
► Time to refuel: 10 min

EFFICIENCY COMPARISON

- ▶ Fuel Cell Electric Bus (FCEB) are less efficient than BEB but more efficient than Diesel
- ▶ FCEB efficiency and range are not affected to the same extent by driving habits and route characteristics.



ACTIVE TRANSIT FCEB STATIONS



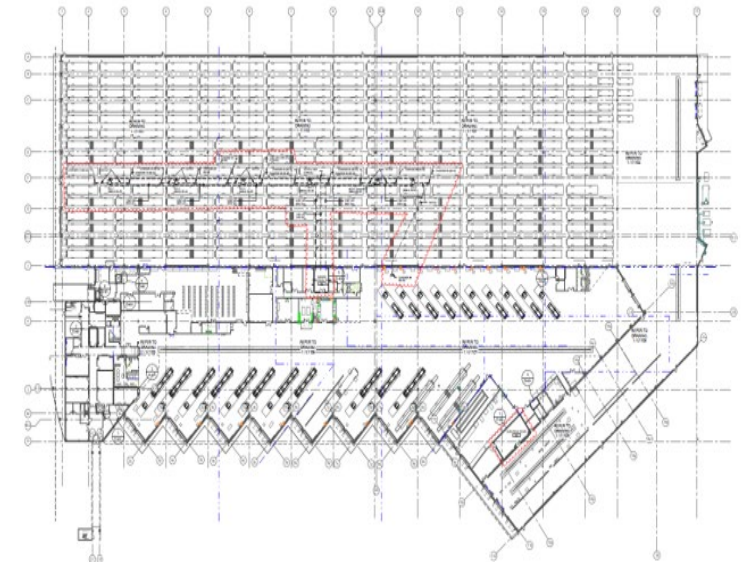
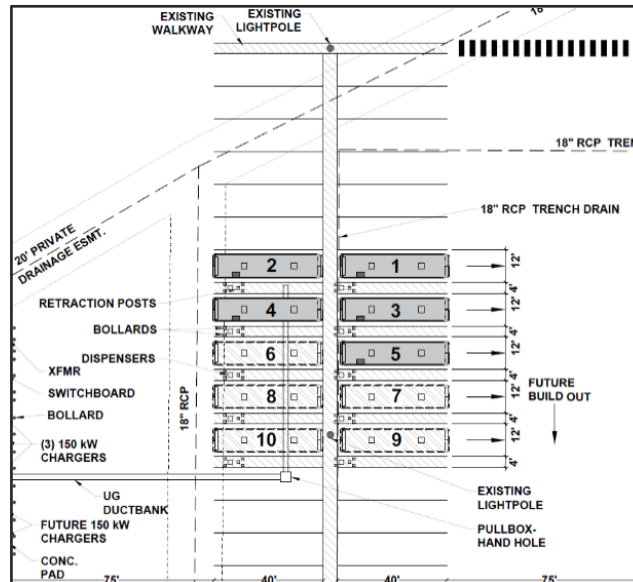
Approximately 36' x 85' footprint



ZEB FACILITY PLANNING

► Key considerations

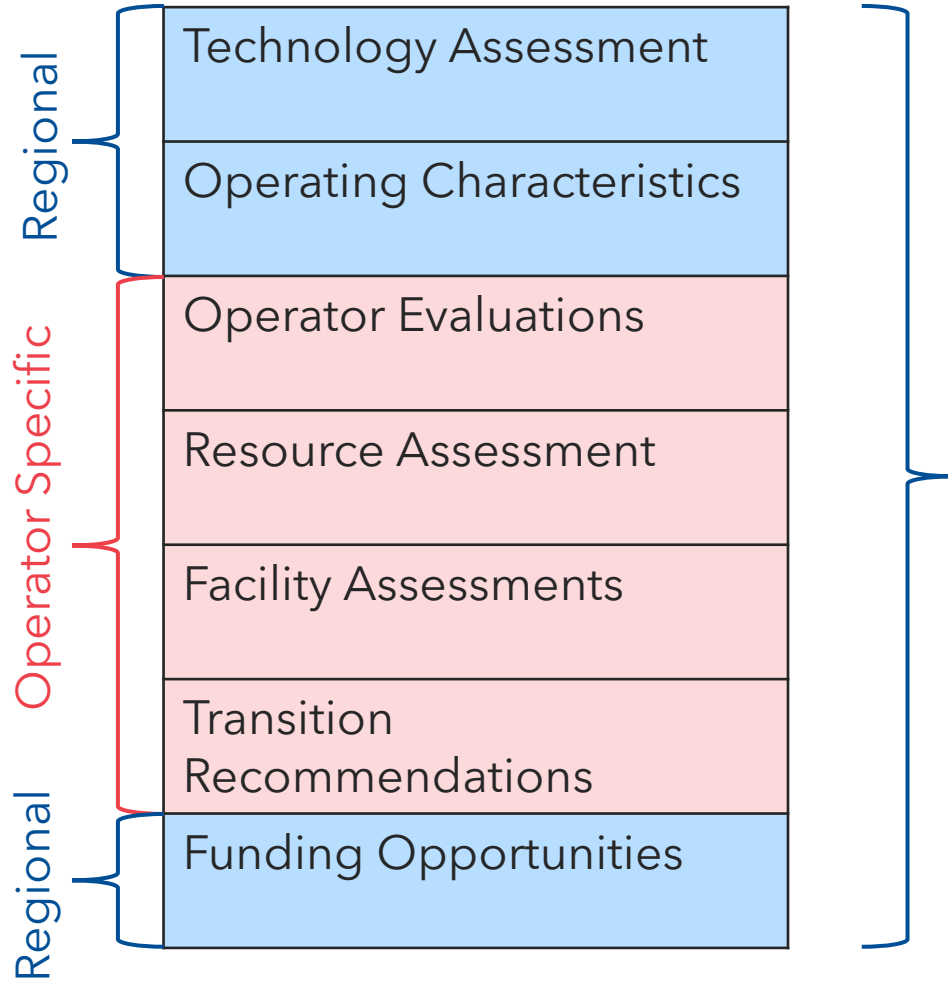
- Changing service needs (overhead servicing, battery lifts)
- Increased ventilation, leak detection, fire detection, fall protection
- Operational flow such as vehicle movements (e.g. counterclockwise, minimize backing)
- Collaboration with the local utility company
- Charge management system





Regional ZEB Fleet Transition Plan

SCOPE ELEMENTS



Regional ZEB Fleet Transition Plan

PROJECT PARTNERS

► This includes providing support to the following agencies in developing their Zero Emission Fleet Transition Plan:

Local Service	Commuter Service
CobbLinc	CobbLinc
Ride Gwinnett	Ride Gwinnett
Cherokee Area Transit	ATL Xpress
Henry County Transit	
Connect Douglas	
MARTA*	

*This study will not directly analyze MARTA’s fleet, instead it will incorporate MARTA’s independent results at the regional scale.



PROJECT PARTNERS

► This includes providing support to the following agencies in developing their Zero Emission Fleet Transition Plan:

	Local Service	Commuter Service
353 buses	CobbLinc	CobbLinc
	Ride Gwinnett	Ride Gwinnett
	Cherokee Area Transit	ATL Xpress
	Henry County Transit	
	Connect Douglas	
539 buses	MARTA*	

*This study will not directly analyze MARTA’s fleet, instead it will incorporate MARTA’s independent results at the regional scale.



PROJECT TEAM



IBI GROUP



TRUEPANI



35+

Bus Operations
& Maintenance
Facilities



75+

Transit
Agencies

25+

ZEB Transition
Plans

70+

BEB
Deployments

30+

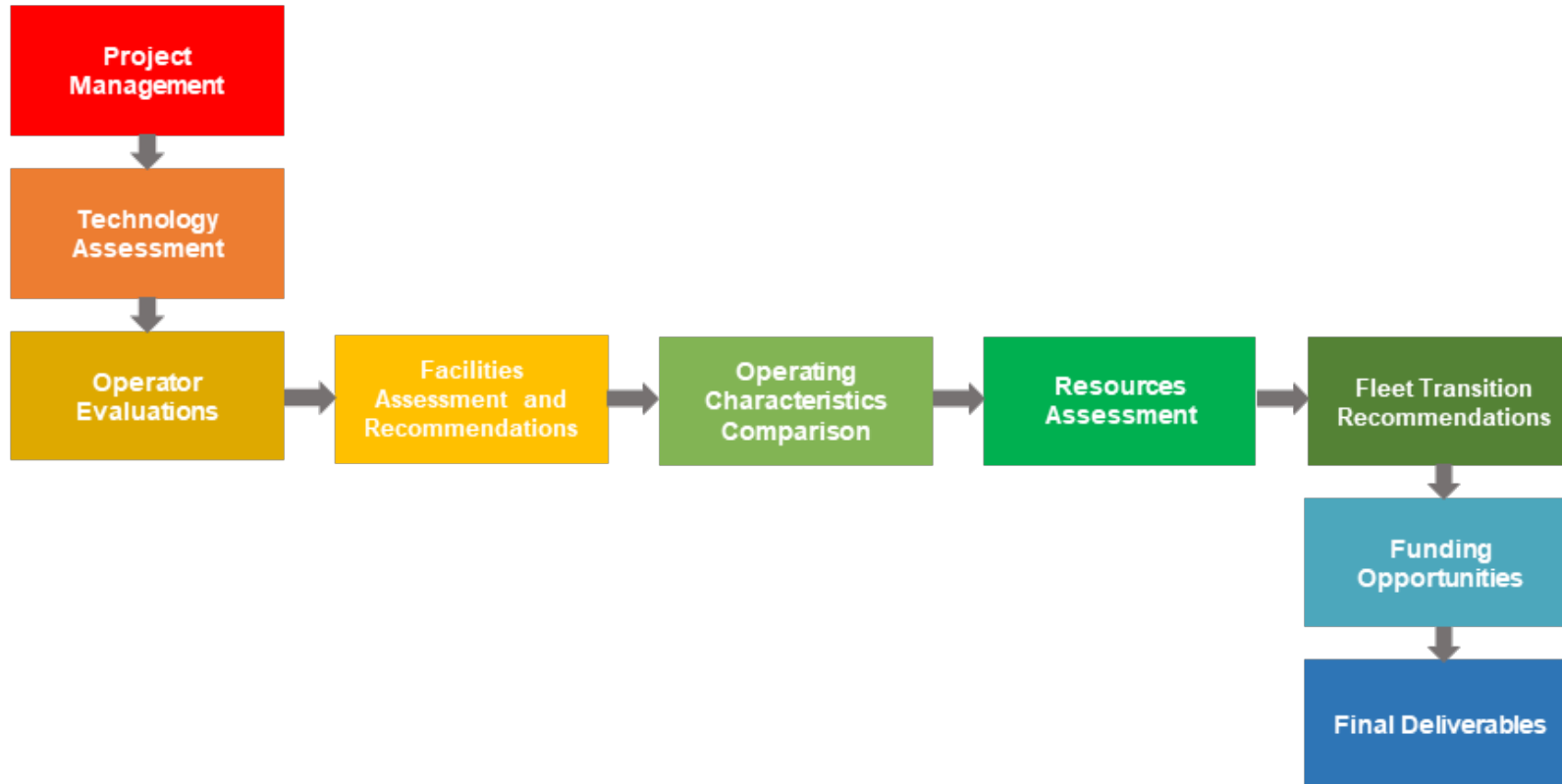
Hydrogen Fueling
Stations



ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE

Fall 2022

Fall 2023





Questions?



UPDATE ON BRANDING

Ericka Bayonne, Ph.D.

February 2, 2023

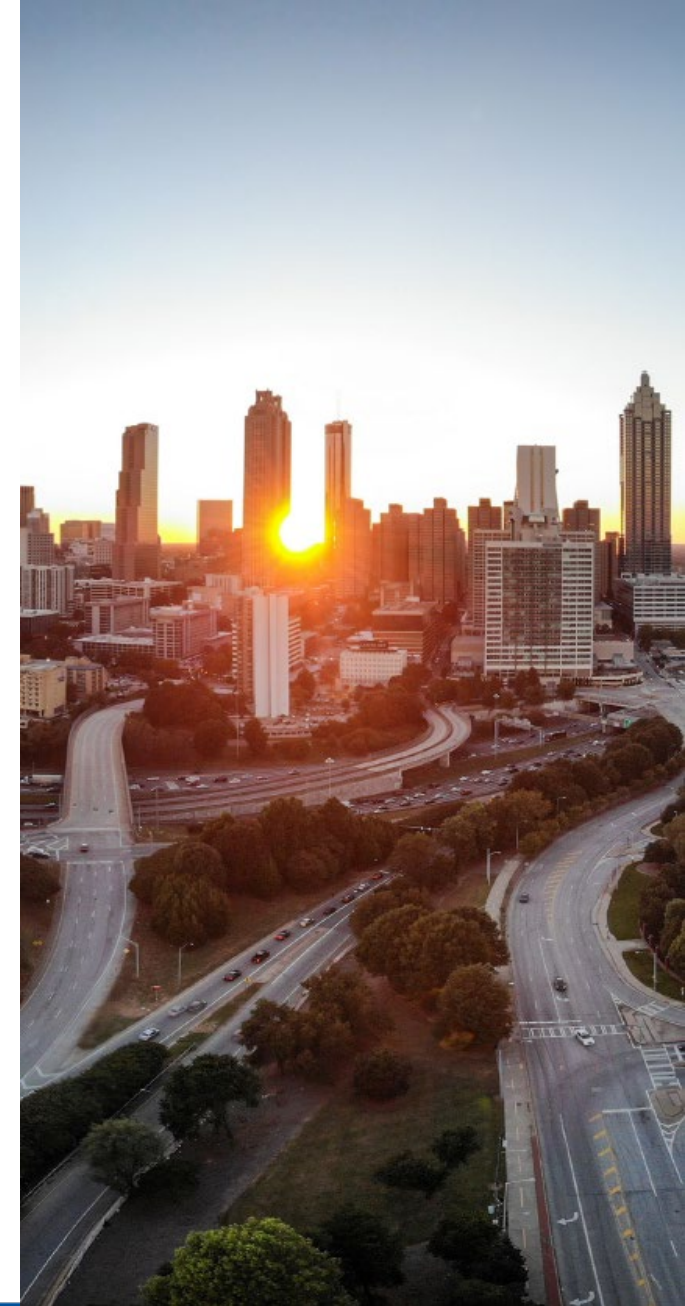
RESOLUTION APPROVED ON JANUARY 6, 2022

- **For Transit Operators-** Incorporate transit operator preferred color palette into the cobranding on legislatively required vehicle assets.
- **For Common Regional Assets-** Incorporate kaleidoscope compass on common regional assets such as the ATL Rides app, Breeze fare media etc.



COBRANDING ARCHITECTURE FINAL REPORT

- Seven transit operators notified the ATL that they would require financial assistance and installation has been completed.
- The seven transit operators that were provided funding for the manufacturing of the logo and or installation were: Cobb, Douglas, Henry, Paulding, Gwinnett, Forsyth and Coweta.
- Current operating transit partners in compliance with legislation:



HB 930 ATL BRANDING EFFORTS

ATL Branding Efforts Under HB 930:

- ✓ ATL Logo
- ✓ Brand Style Guidelines
- ✓ Development of ATL digital communications platforms (website, social media, email)
- ✓ Development of ATL graphic identity (print, publication)
- ✓ ATL Branding of MARTA buses
- ✓ ATL Branding of Xpress coaches
- ✓ ARTP Branding Recommendation of Co-branding
- ✓ Board Approval of Branding Architecture
- ✓ Scope of Work & Vendor Selection for Implementation
- ✓ Budget for Implementation
- ✓ Installation Process
- ✓ ATL Branding of Cherokee Area Transportation System (CATS), CobbLinc, Connect Douglas, Coweta Transit, Forsyth County Dial-A-Ride, Gwinnett County Transit, Henry County Transit, and Paulding Transit.



**BRANDING
COMPLETED!**

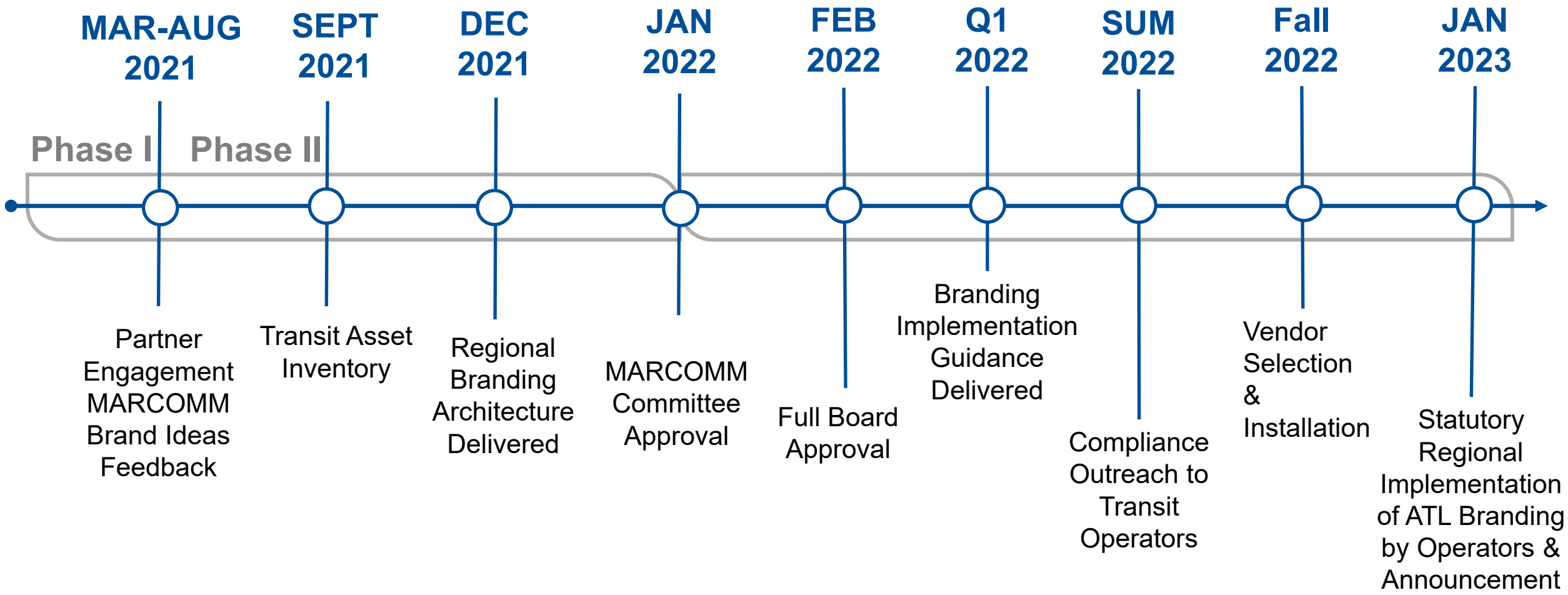








PROJECT TIMELINE



FINAL STEPS

- Distributed Media Kits to transit operators on 1/20/23
- Announced full compliance on 1/25/23
- Brand Style Guide will be updated.





**“Remember to celebrate
milestones as you prepare
for the road ahead.”**

– Nelson Mandela



Rebranding Gwinnett's transit system

China Thomas
February 2, 2023



Gwinnett



Gwinnett's transit system

- Formally Gwinnett County Transit
- Introduced in 2001 with commuter bus service to downtown Atlanta
- Local bus service began in 2002
- Currently has seven local routes, five commuter routes, complimentary paratransit for local routes, three Park and Ride locations, and one transit center

Transit in Gwinnett throughout the years

- Extensive efforts into improving the current local fixed routes and commuter established in 2001
- Successful pilot microtransit program tested in Snellville in 2019
- Gwinnett Transit Development Plan (TDP) in 2022



OUT OF SERVICE



GWINNETT COUNTY TRANSIT

9029



GWINNETT COUNTY TRANSIT



Meet Ride Gwinnett

- Rebranding aligns with County's vibrant brand
- Connects residents to the places they need to go
- Increases awareness about mobility options across the county



RIDE
Gwinnett





Hitting the roads

- Currently in procurement phase
- Includes transit website, buses, and bus stop shelters and signs
- Rollout through 2023



What's next?

- Three new local routes and two microtransit service zones approved in 2023 County budget
- Title VI public meetings in February
- Fall in Love with Transit event for business community



Coming soon

- Transit expansion
- Additional planning efforts to further expand transit network
- TDP – Public meetings and stakeholder roundtables





Questions?

marta



Conley

reach

FORT GILLEM

Lake City

GT Georgia
Tech.



**On-Demand
Multimodal
Transit**

Pilot Overview

February 2, 2023

ATL Board of Directors

Pilot Summary

- Six-month pilot started on **March 1st, 2022**
 - Service ended on **August 31st** at 7:00pm
- Over 7,580 total trips serving **8,335** riders¹
- **739** unique accounts served
- **Average wait time:** ~7 minutes
 - Target was \leq 15 minutes
- **Average travel time:** ~9 minutes

The end of service is not the end of the Reach pilot.

Evaluation is the second half of any successful service pilot.

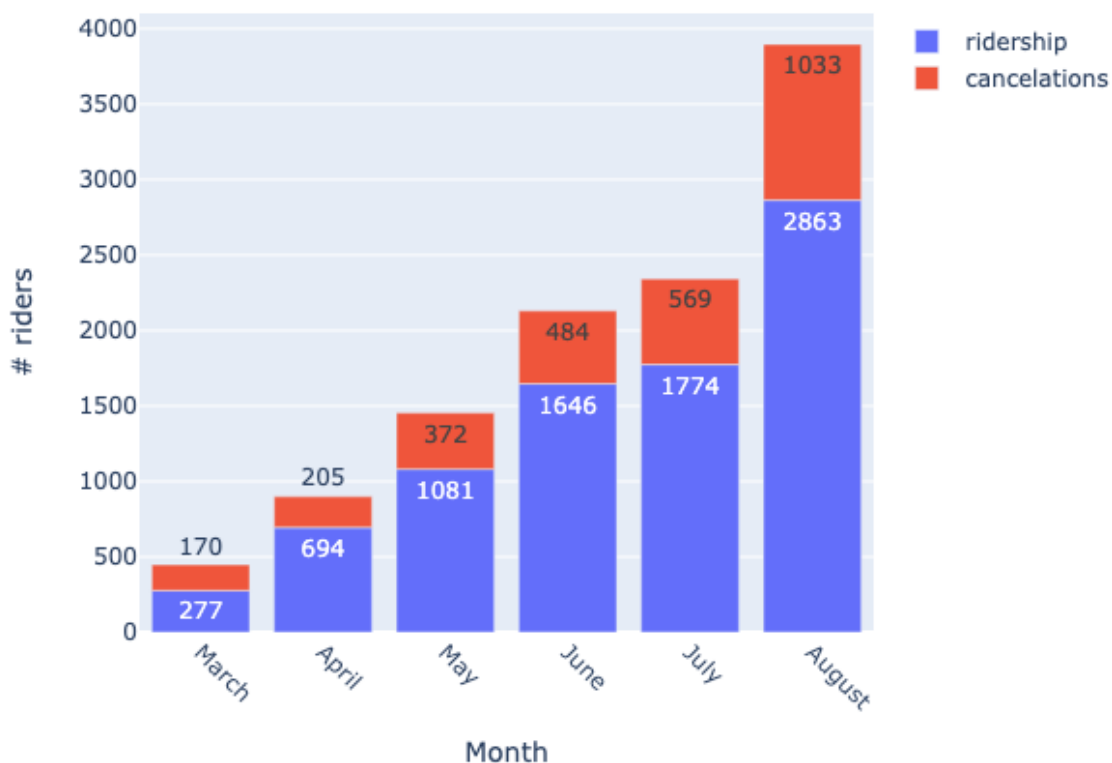


Photo of Reach vehicle

¹Patrons can request trips for up to 4 people. "Riders" are the total number of patrons served through the service.

Ridership Overview

Monthly MARTA Reach Ridership & Cancellation



Note: This is a graph of riders, not trips.

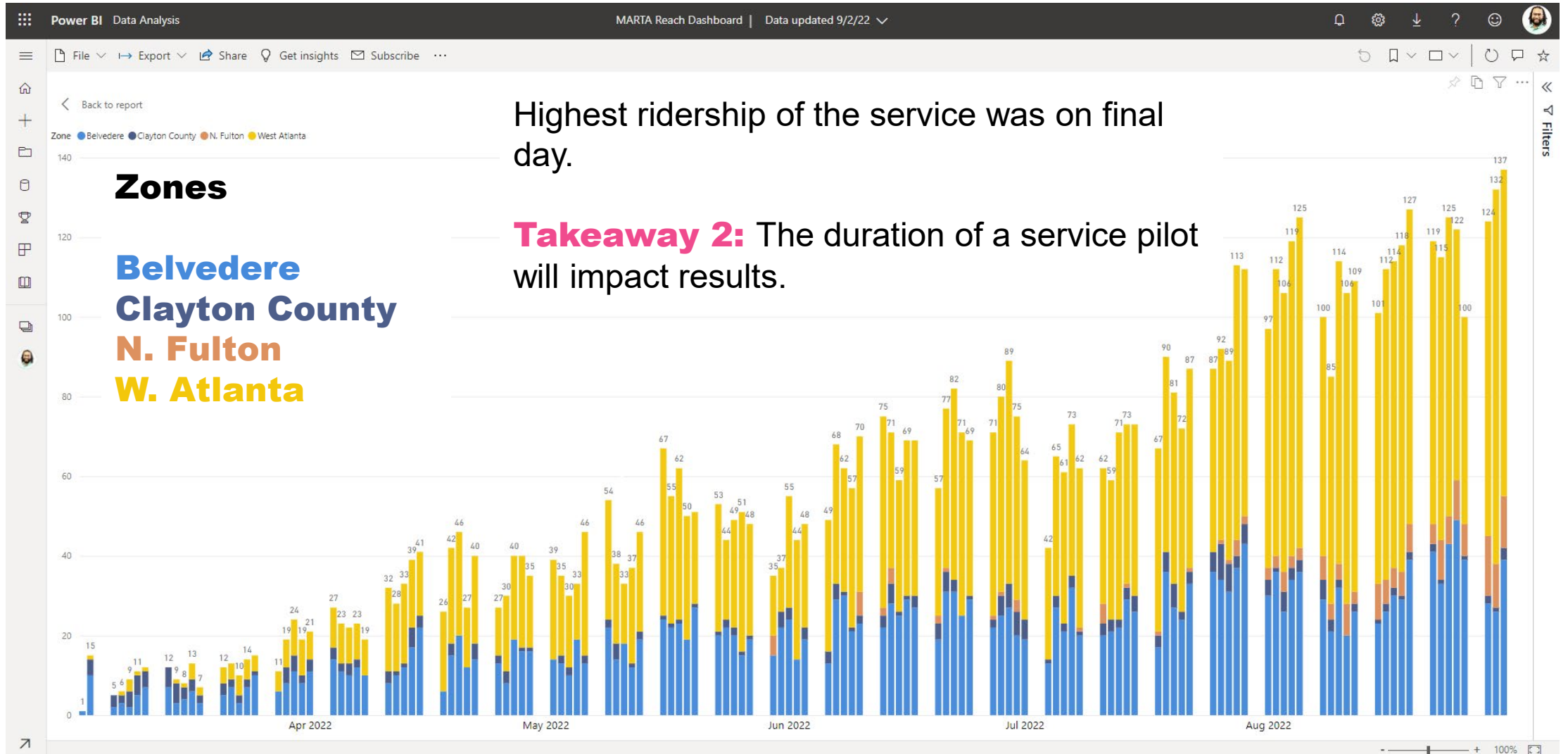
~35% of all Reach trips were taken in August.

Takeaway 1: There is a lag between the introduction of a new service and ridership response.

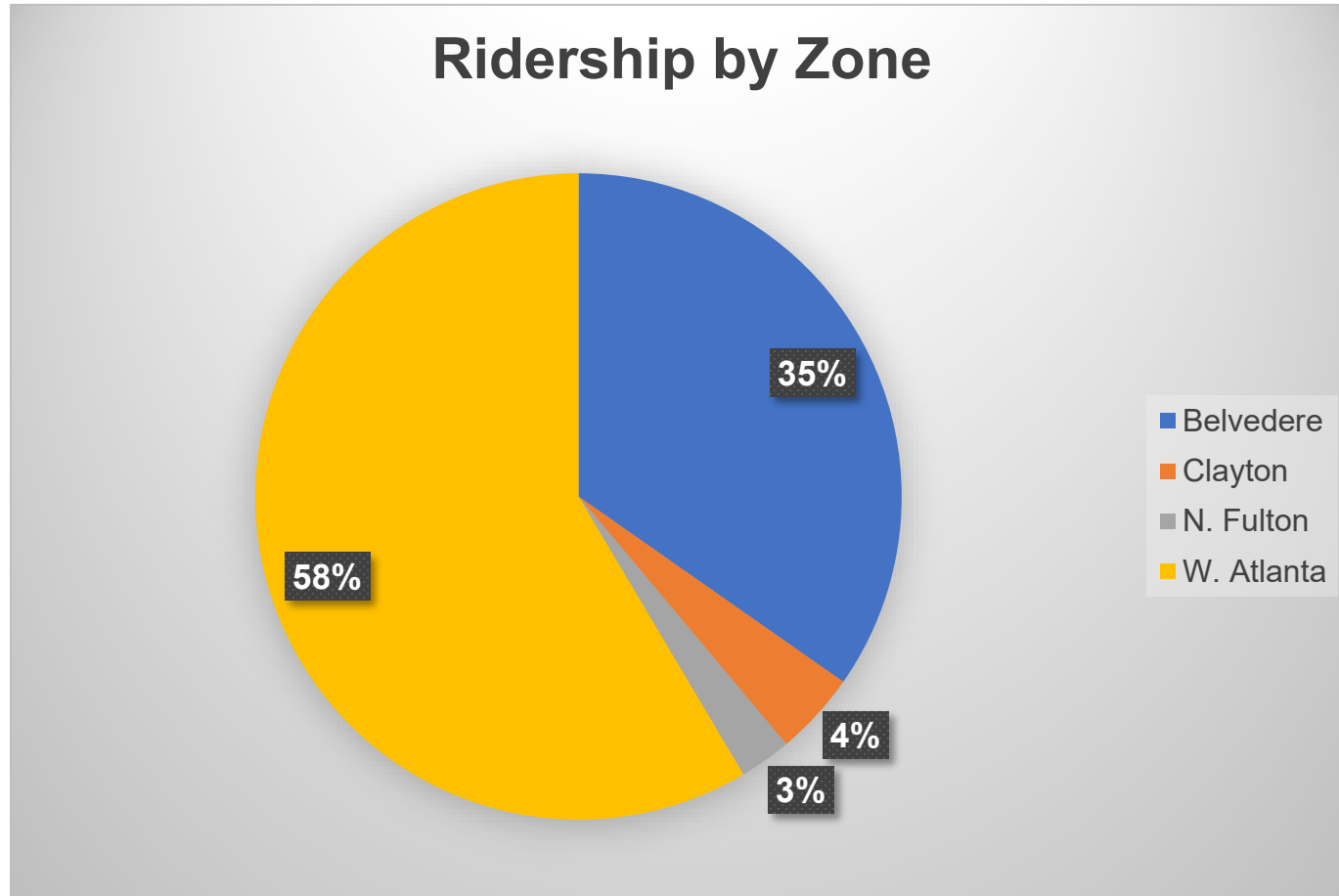
**West Atlanta and Belvedere zones expanded on May 16th*

***Clayton expansion and introduction of N. Fulton zone on May 30th*

Zonal Ridership



Zonal Ridership

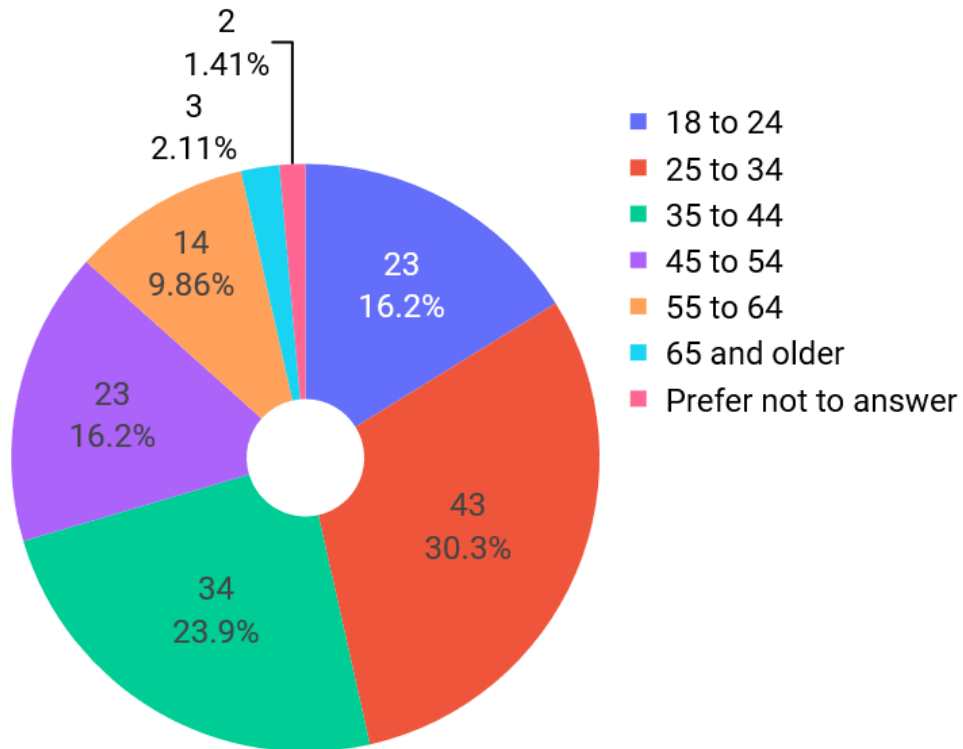


58% of all Reach trips were taken in the W. Atlanta zone.

Takeaway 3: Zone characteristics and available connecting services impact ridership.

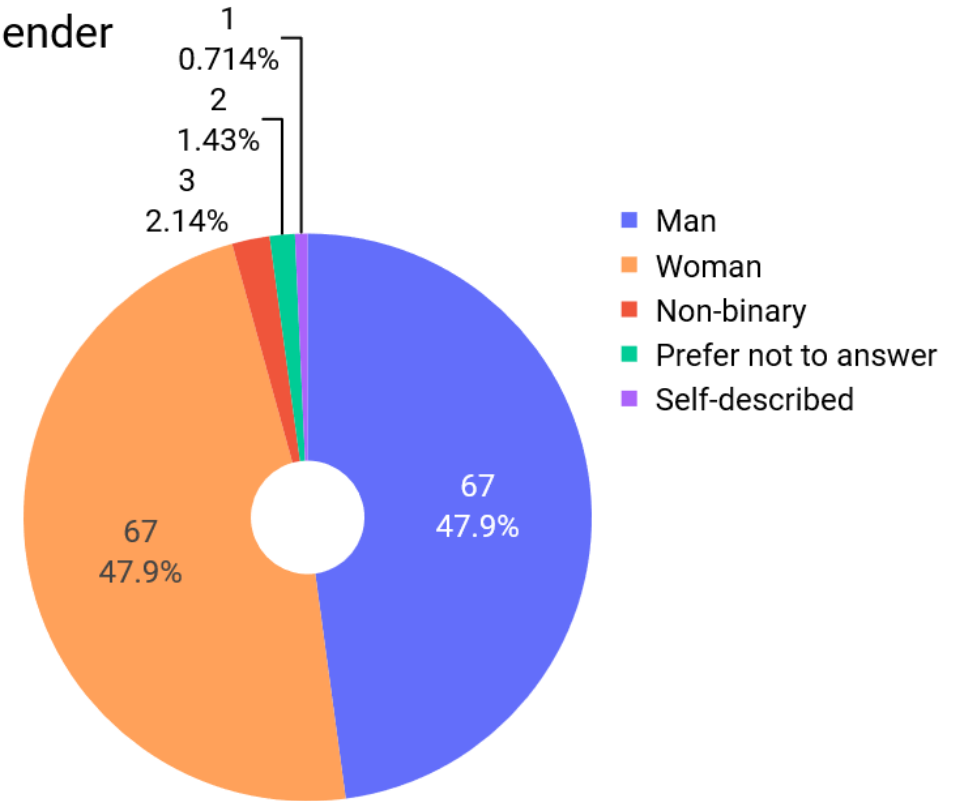
Reach Riders

Age range



N=142

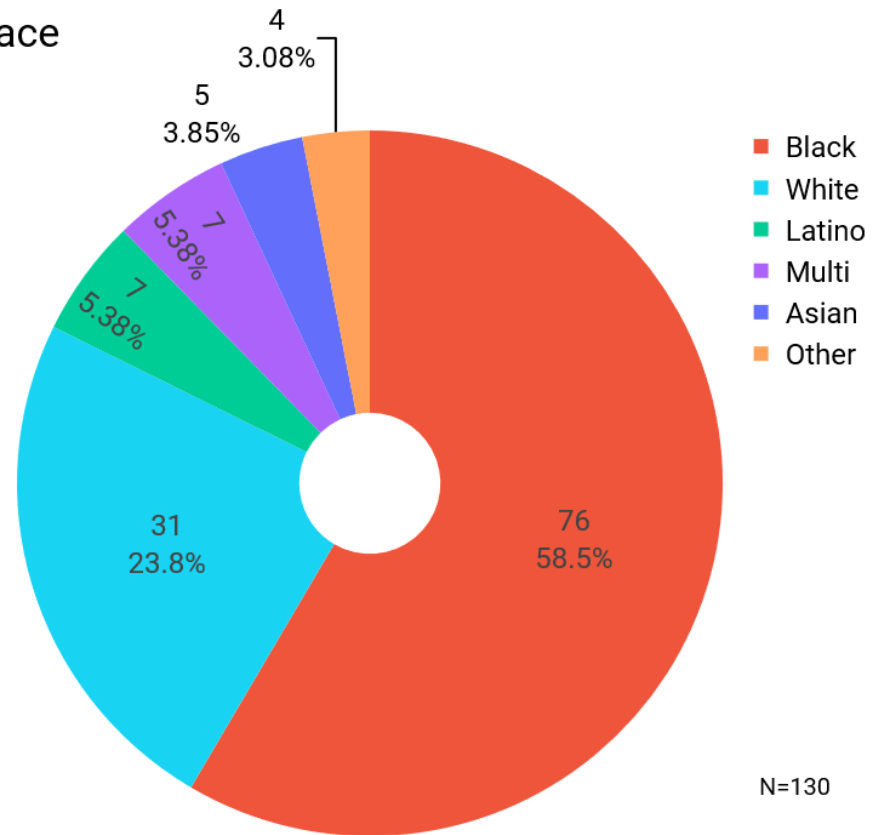
Gender



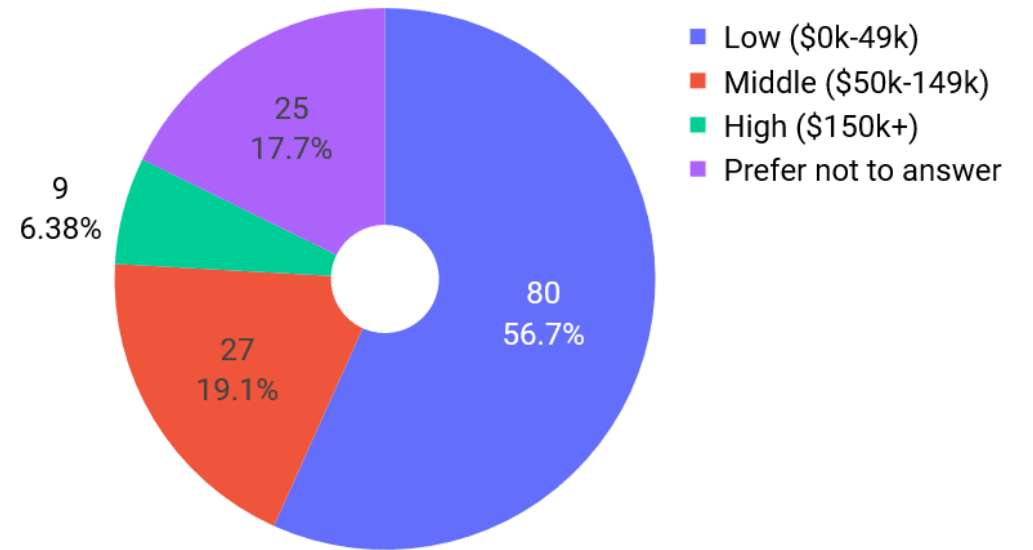
N=140

Reach Riders (cont.)

Race



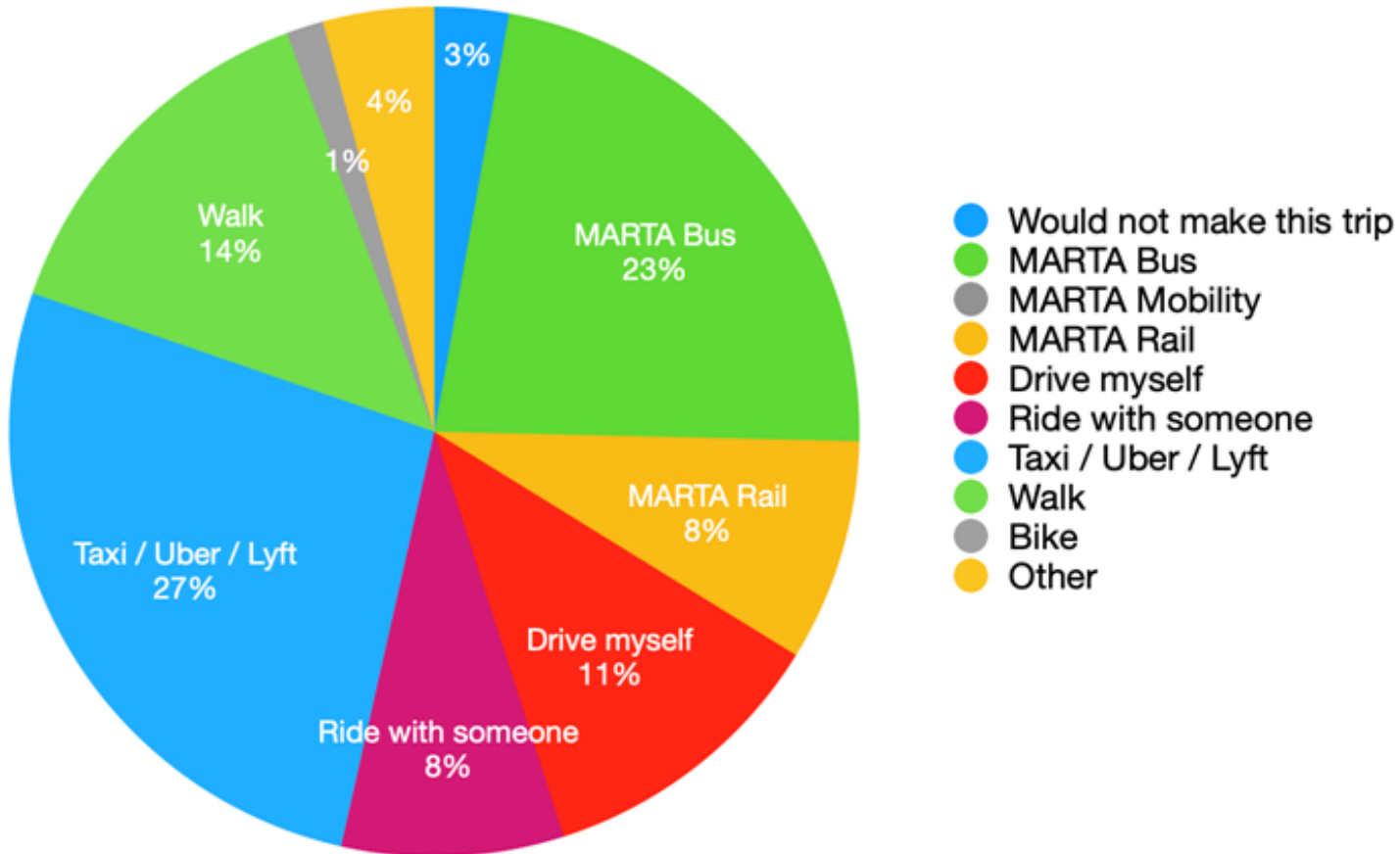
Annual household income



N=141

Trips

How would you made the trip if MARTA Reach was not available?

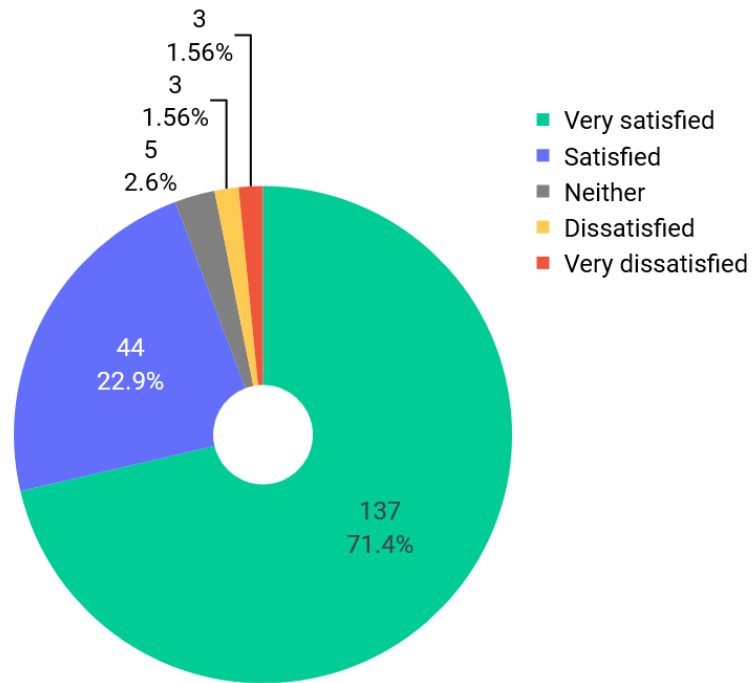


Reach diverted some trips from SOVs, carpooling, and rideshare

Takeaway 4: On-demand transit is a way to decrease dependence on driving, but increased flexibility may also divert some transit trips.

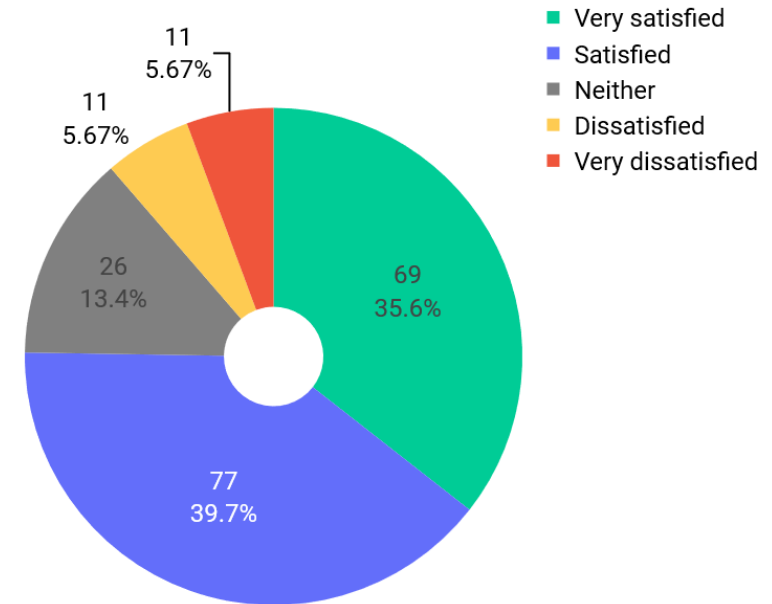
Rider Satisfaction

Satisfaction with Reach



N=192

Satisfaction with MARTA overall



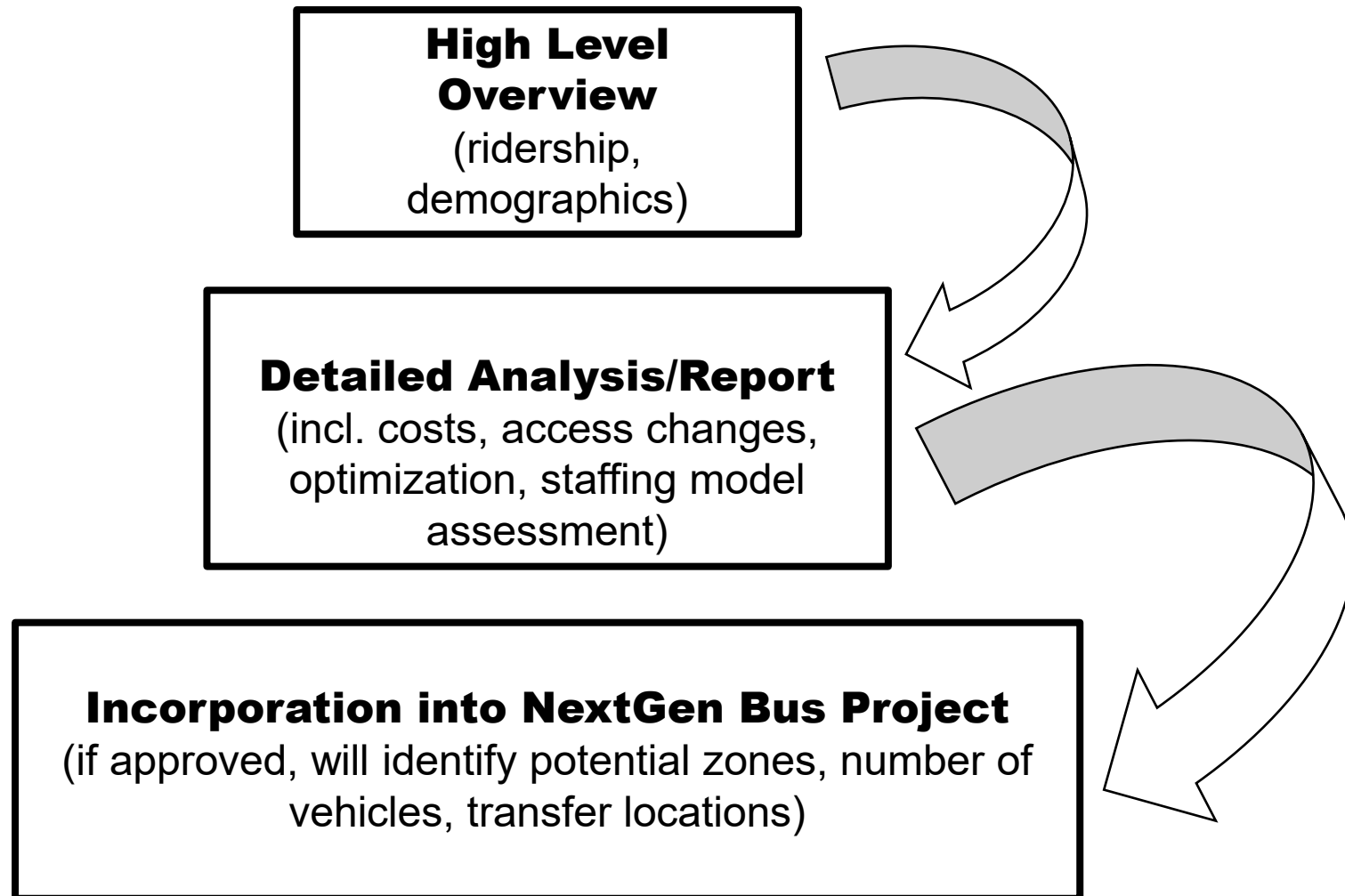
N=194

Takeaway 5: Riders are highly satisfied with on-demand service.

(Some) Lessons Learned

1. Ridership seems to be driven by connections to reliable, high frequency service.
2. Technology should be simple and intuitive. Create accessible options for folks who don't use or can't use technology.
3. Service quality highly impacts ridership – fewer people will use the service, if they anticipate that the service will be poor.
4. Technology must anticipate real world behavior: software should be defensive.
5. To mitigate issues at shift change, overlap shift times: 1 vehicle, 1 Operator.
6. Make sure your stops are in safe, accessible locations. More places for vehicles to idle = better service.
7. There is a disconnect between highly efficient on-demand service and safety (e.g., Operator Distraction Policy).
8. Word of mouth is critically important: improve community engagement to encourage community information spread.

Reach Next Steps



marta



Conley

reach

FORT GILLEM

Lake City



Thank you!

More information at
www.itsmarta.com/reach.aspx

Email us at
reach@itsmarta.com

Anthony Thomas
Program Manager, Customer
Experience Innovation
athomas5@itsmarta.com

Executive Director's Report

1. What Matters to **ATL's Customers TODAY**
2. What Matters to **ATL's Customers NEXT**
3. What Will Matter to **ATL's FUTURE Customers**



New Business



ADJOURN