

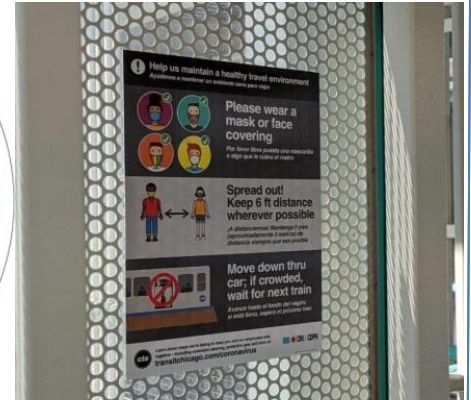
# **RETURNING TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN A POST-PANDEMIC CHICAGO**

Chicago Advanced Energy

*February 2021*

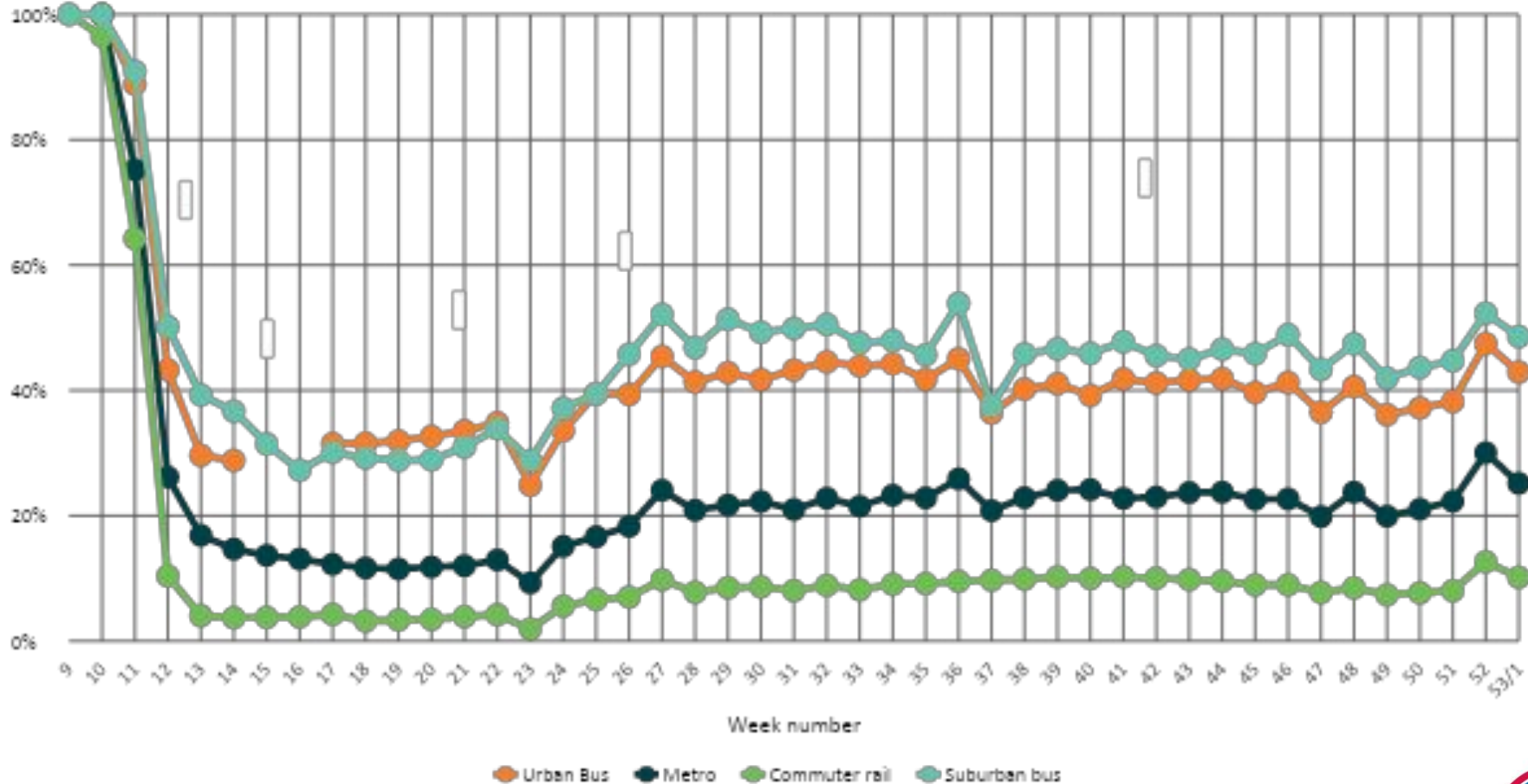


# CTA's PANDEMIC INVESTMENTS



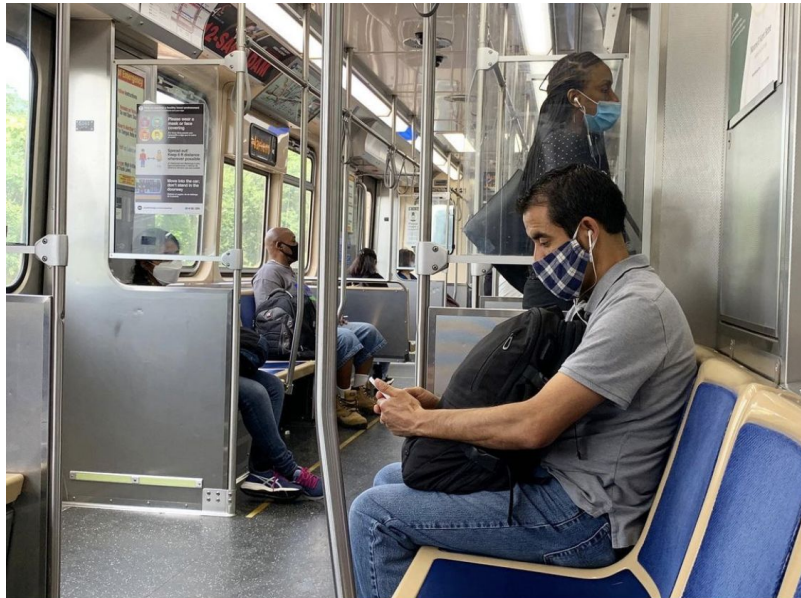
- Rigorous cleaning regimens and new cleaning technology
- Running as much service as possible
- Establishing bus and rail car passenger limits
- Adding extra buses to address crowding
- Launching mobile-responsive webpage with passenger crowding data
- Free masks and hand sanitizer
- Pop Up Essential Bus Lanes on two high ridership routes

# LOW RIDERSHIP DRIVING STEEP REVENUE DECLINE & ONGOING RIDERSHIP CHANGES WILL HAVE LASTING IMPACT ON ECONOMY AND CARBON EMISSIONS



# LONG-TERM ECONOMIC, EMISSIONS AND EQUITY CONCERNS

- Recent Argonne study anticipates growth in telecommuting & lingering concerns about safety of transit
  - Increased congestion with as much as ten (10) more minutes on road for drivers for each trip
  - Approx. 20% decline in transit ridership
  - Up to \$3.7B reduction in discretionary spending at the regional level
  - Up to 325,000 more gallons of fuel consumed each day and 573,000 ton increase in GHG emissions



# **PANDEMIC HEADWINDS REQUIRE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS WORKING TOGETHER**

- Employers shifting transportation benefits – cancelling transit benefits
- Growth in work from home
- Concerns about transit safety & risk of virus spread
- Issues pre-COVID remain that will drive rider decisions – transit vehicle crowding, service reliability

**If transit recovers, this will drive economic recovery; continue use of high-efficiency, shared modes; maintain affordable transportation access, and drive investments in more reliable service and lower transit maintenance cost**

**If transit does not recover, this could lead to decline in downtown core and TOD investments; rise in car usage; growth in urban sprawl; community divestment and growth in inequality**





***REGARDING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESILIENCE,  
TO ACHIEVE CHICAGO'S CARBON & EQUITY GOALS, A  
CRITICAL OBSTACLE FOR CTA TO OVERCOME THAT  
REQUIRES STAKEHOLDER ACTION IS RETURN CUSTOMERS TO  
A SAFE, RELIABLE, MODERN PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM.***

