

## South Portland City Bus Service

South Portland City Bus Service (SPBS) provides fixed route services in South Portland, with connections to Portland.

### *Service Description and Fares*

SPBS consists of three fixed routes, and corresponding paratransit service, operating between South Portland and Portland. Services are operated on varying headways of between 45 and 120 minutes. Service is operated from Monday through Sunday, between 6:30 AM and 11:00 PM, with reduced hours of service on Sundays, depending on the specific route.

With all three routes operating into Downtown Portland, Congress Street in Portland is a major transfer point, providing connections to Greater Portland Metro, BSOOB Transit, and RTP routes. Portland additionally provides access to intercity bus and rail transit services.

Fare information is shown in Table 1 below:

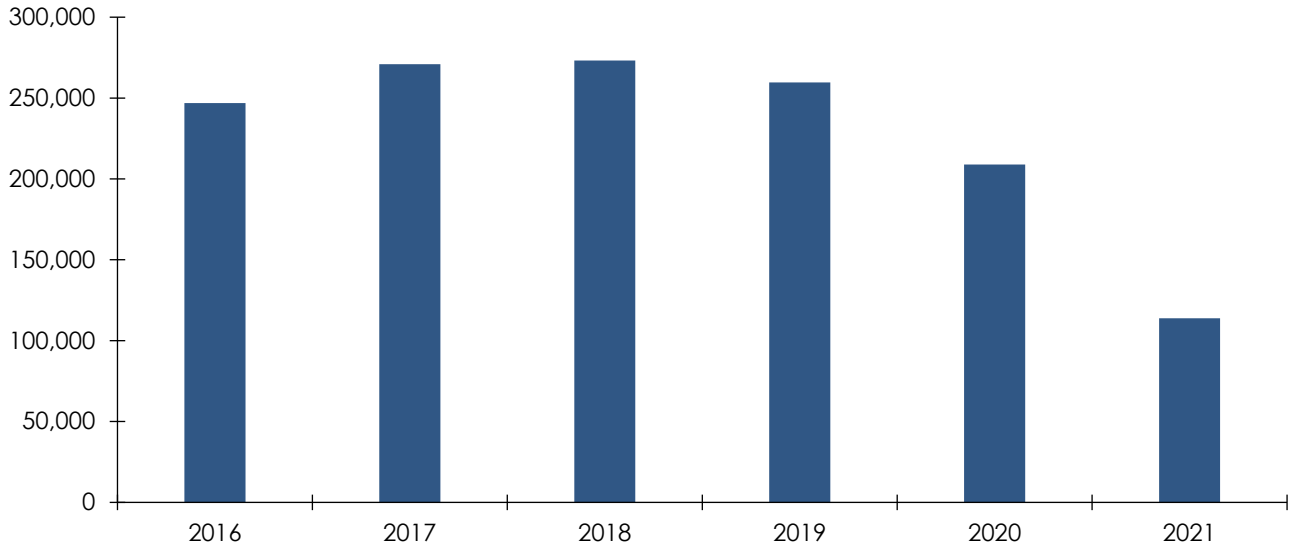
**Table 1**      **Fare Information**

<b>General</b>	
General Public	\$2.00
Half Fare	\$1.00
Youth Fare	\$1.00

## Ridership

Total ridership for 2016 through 2021 is shown in Figure 1. Through 2018, ridership rose to a high of approximately 273,000, before dropping in 2019. With the onset of COVID-19 in 2020, ridership dropped through 2021 to approximately 113,000.

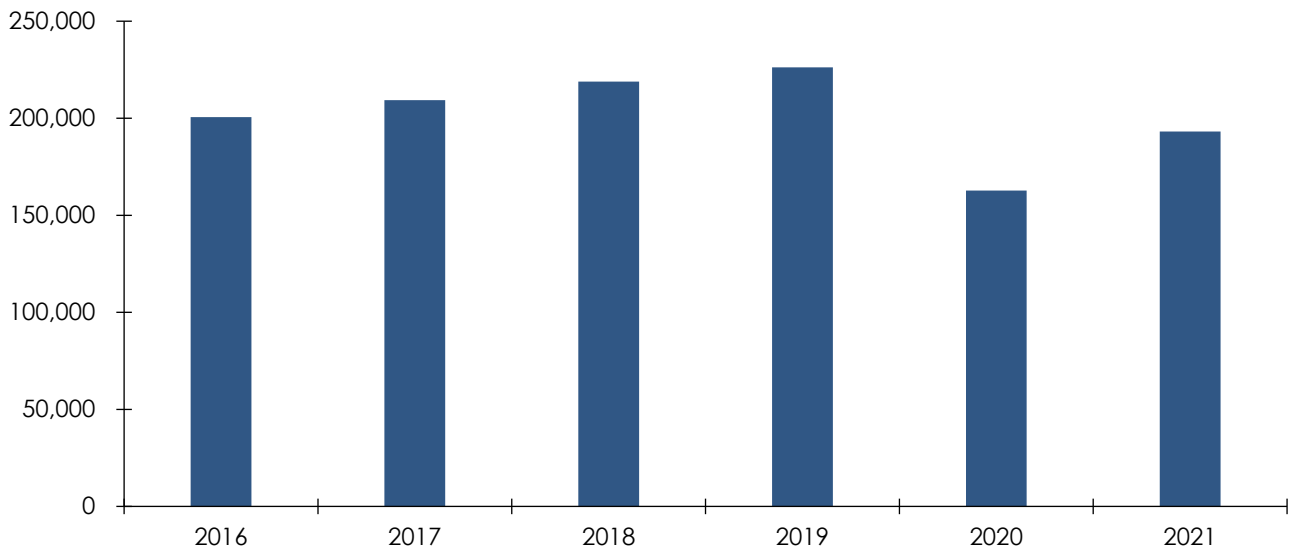
**Figure 1** SPBS Transit Annual Unlinked Trips (2016–2021)



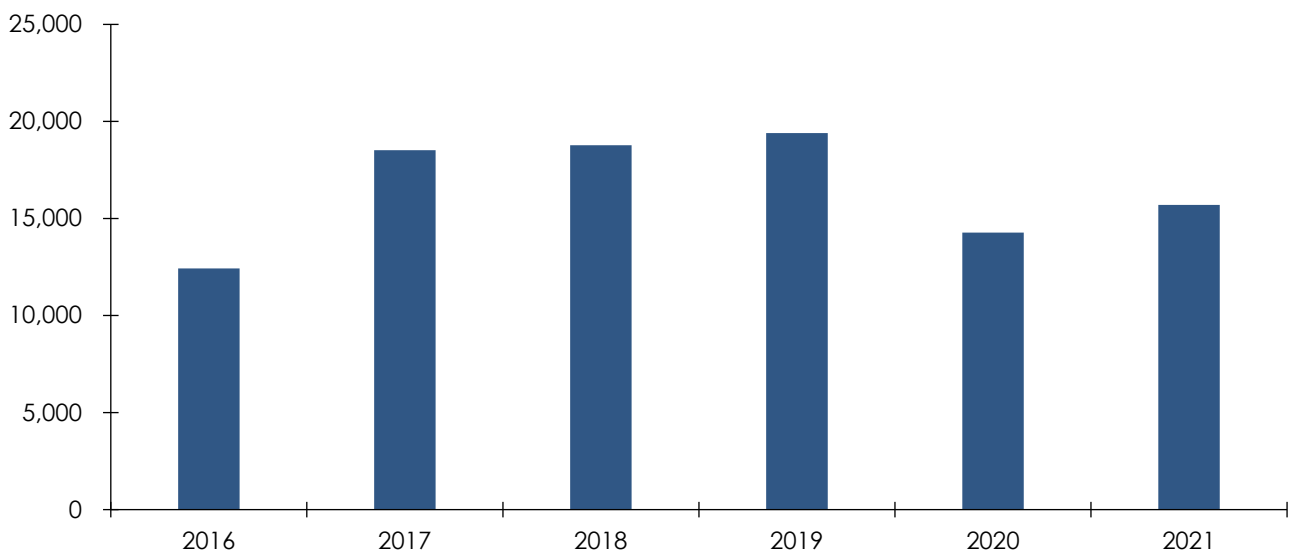
## Modal Operating Characteristics

Revenue miles and revenue hours are shown in Figure 2 and Figure 3. Both metrics followed similar patterns of increases from 2016 through 2019, followed by a drop in 2020, and a subsequent rebound in 2021. In 2019, both metrics peaked, at approximately 226,000 revenue hours and 16,000 revenue miles.

**Figure 2** SPBS Transit Vehicle Revenue Miles (2016–2021)



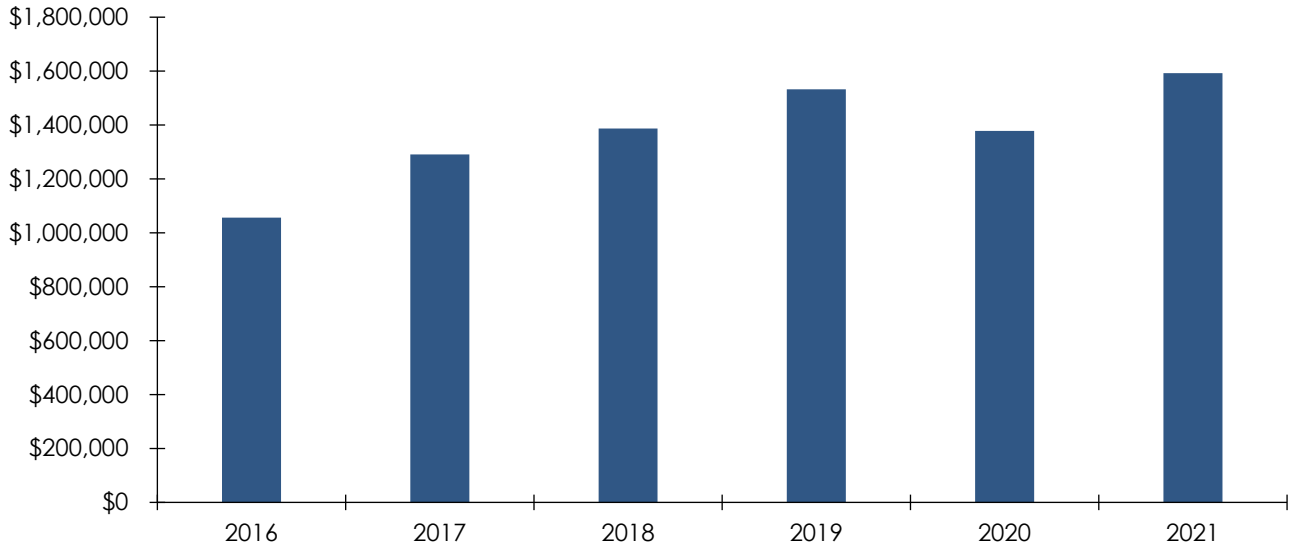
**Figure 3** SPBS Transit Vehicle Revenue Hours (2016–2021)



## Budget Metrics

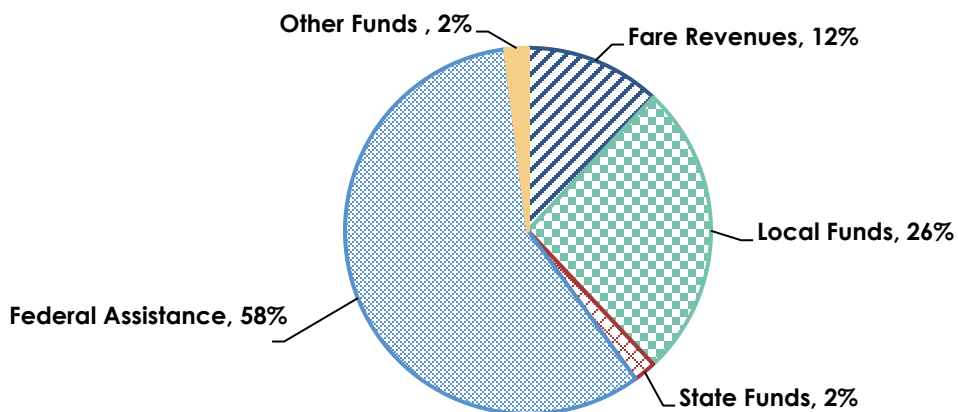
Annual operating expenses for 2016 through 2021 are shown in Figure 4 below. From 2016 through 2019, operating expenses increased. Despite a drop in 2020, operating expenses reached a high of approximately \$1.6 million in 2021.

**Figure 4** SPBS Operating Expenses (2016–2021)



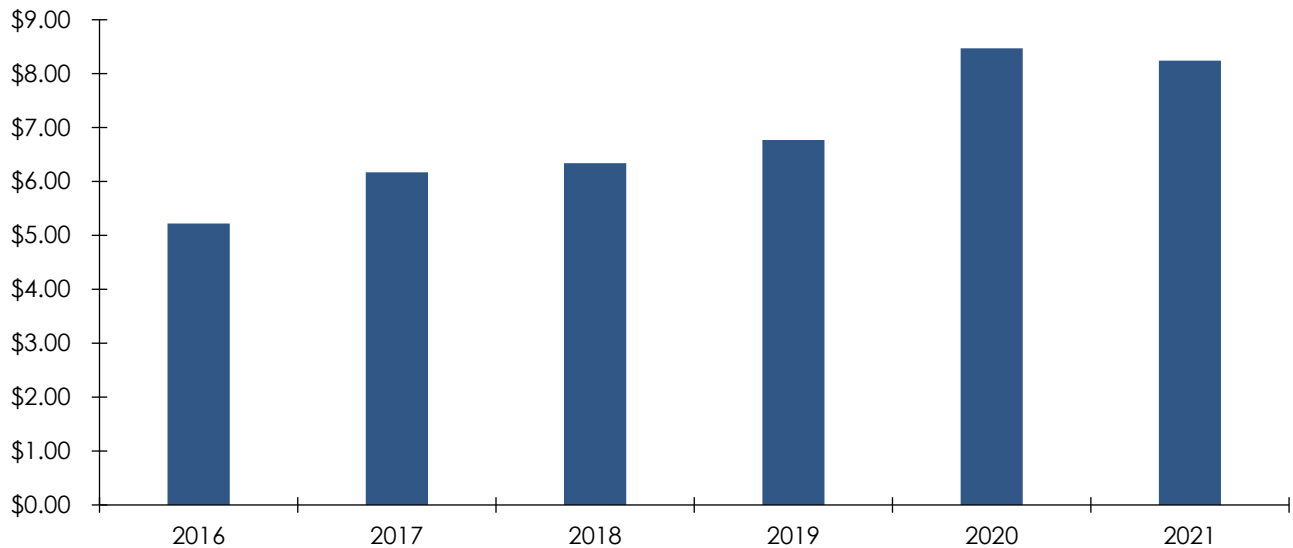
The breakdown of operating expense funding sources for 2020 is shown in Figure 5. In 2020, federal assistance accounted for 58 percent of operating expense funding. Farebox revenue accounted for 12 percent of funding. Remaining funding was largely comprised of local funds, which accounted for 26 percent of total funding.

**Figure 5** SPBS Transit Operating Funding Sources (2020)

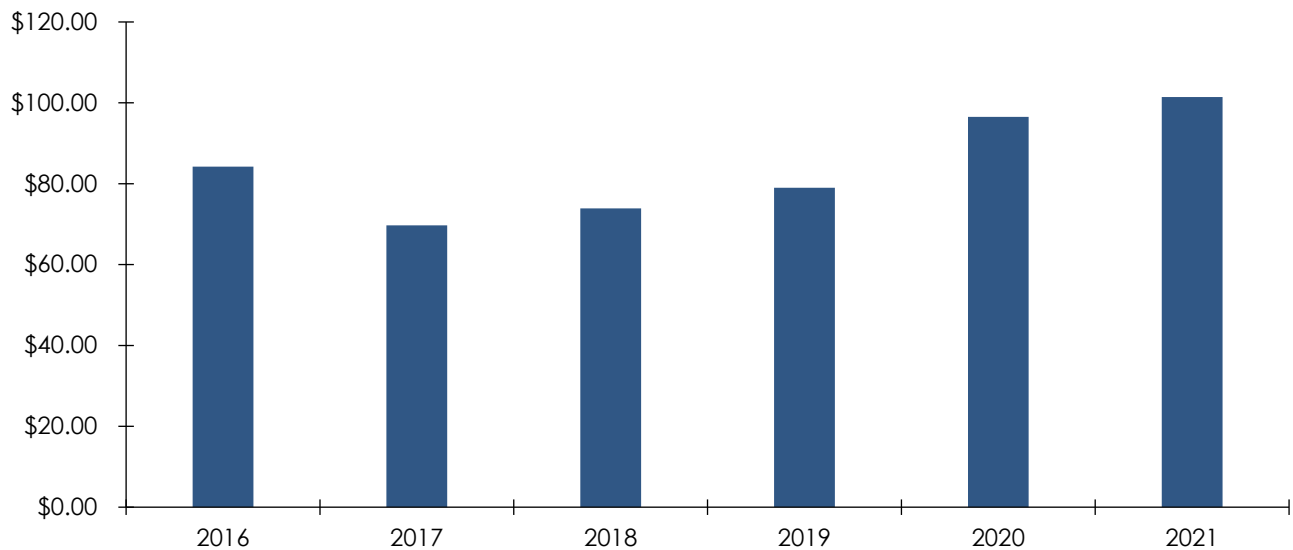


Service efficiency metrics are shown in Figure 6 and Figure 7. Vehicle revenue mile operating expenses increased between 2016 and 2020 to nearly \$8.50, before dropping in 2021. Vehicle revenue hour operating expenses dropped in 2017, before rising to a high of over \$100 in 2021.

**Figure 6** SPBS Operating Expenses per Vehicle Revenue Mile (2016–2021)

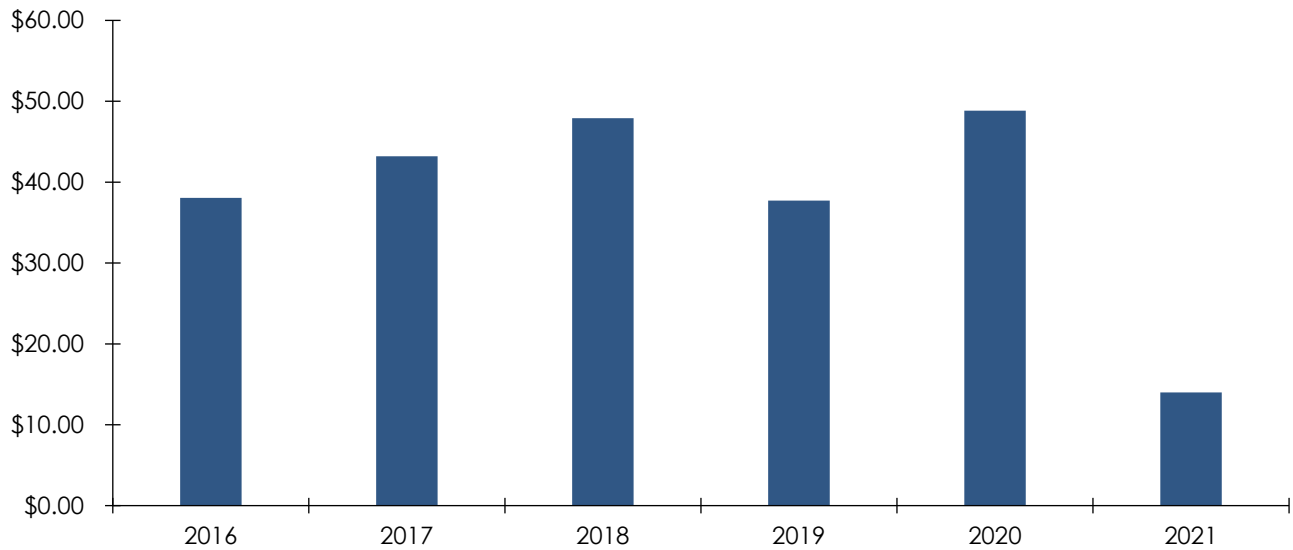


**Figure 7** SPBS Operating Expenses per Vehicle Revenue Hour (2016–2021)



Operating expenses per unlinked passenger trip are shown in Figure 8. Between 2016 and 2020, per passenger operating expenses fluctuated between \$35.00 and \$50.00. In 2021, per passenger operating expenses dropped to approximately \$14.00.

**Figure 8** SPBS Operating Expenses per Unlinked Passenger Trip (2016–2021)



## *Organizational Management Structure*

Management of SPBS is comprised of:

- » Director
- » Operations Supervisor
- » Planning and Technical Specialist
- » City Council (oversight/funding)

## *Asset Management*

Transit asset management is managed through the SPBS Transit Asset Management Plan. In 2020, the SPBS transit fleet consisted of:

- » 7 revenue vehicles
- » 2 service vehicles

The SPBS transit fleet utilized for maximum service consisted of:

- » 7 buses

## *Technology Capabilities*

SPBS utilizes the following software in their operations:

- » **Scheduling Software:** Sched21
- » **Fare Payment System:** Cubic Umo
- » **Asset Management Software:** RTA
- » **Computer Aided Dispatch/Automatic Vehicle Location (CAD/AVL):** Clever Devices
- » **GTFS:** Output by Clever Devices CAD/AVL system
- » **Electric Buses:** Planned for 2025
- » **Other Technology:** Transit signal priority, digital display at Mill Creek Hub, onboard cellular modems