Metro Transit

FORWARD

University of Minnesota Universal Pass renewals for 26R008 Staff & Faculty and 26R009 Students

- Robert Casseday | Senior Manager, Revenue Operations

University of Minnesota Universal Pass Program

- **Program Overview**
  - Provide affordable and unlimited transit ride pass for eligible participants
  - Valid for the entire academic semester
  - Universal Pass is loaded on the University's U Card
  - Continued partnership with renewal for both agreements with a term of December 1, 2026 – July 31, 2030

University of Minnesota

- **Universal Student Pass**
  - Launched in August 2022 as a pilot program replacing the UMN Zone Pass
  - Reviewed the initial Universal Pass performance
  - Reviewed most recent prior year ridership and usage trends to inform year 1 Pricing
  - Years 2-4 reflect minimum increase of 2.5% annually
  - Student eligibility
    - Free if they pay the University's Transportation and Safety Fee
    - If not paying Transportation and Safety Fee, can opt-in program each semester

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- **Universal Staff and Faculty Pass**
  - Launched in August 2023
  - Faculty and Staff eligibility
    - No additional cost to employees with 75-100% appointment
    - 50-74% appointment may opt-in at their cost

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- **Participation**
  - 41,000 students
  - 19,000 staff and faculty
- **Financial Outlook**
  - $15.3M over 4-year term for Universal Student Pass
  - $3.2M over 4-year term for Universal Staff and Faculty Pass
- **Proposed Action**
  - That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to:
    - Negotiate, enter into, and execute the renewal Universal Pass agreements for 26R008 Staff and Faculty and 26R009 Students, with the University of Minnesota for the period of December 1, 2026 – July 31, 2030

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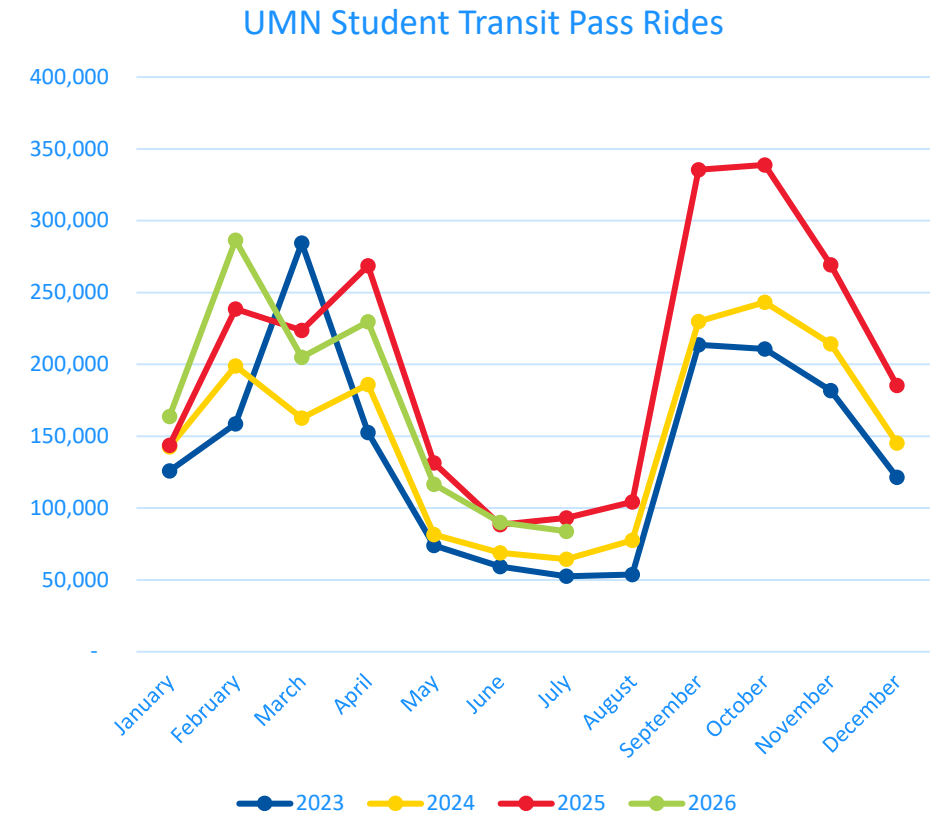
- Student ridership details
- 2023 January-December 1,688,821 rides
- 2024 January-December 1,815,408 rides
- 2025 January-December 2,421,165 rides
- 2026 January-present 1,175,187 rides



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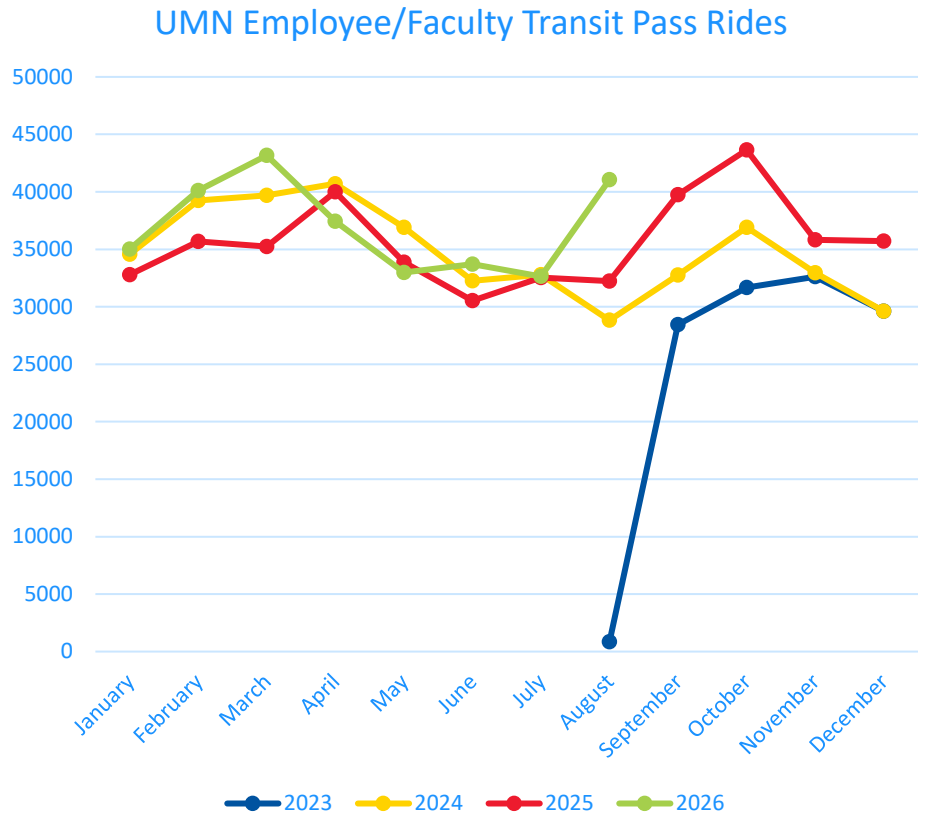
- Employee and Faculty ridership details
- 2023 August-December 123,175 rides
- 2024 January-December 417,249 rides
- 2025 January-December 429,854 rides
- 2026 January-present 296,128 rides



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Thank You!

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