

## **John Niles**

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**From:** "Tober, Ron" <toberr@soundtransit.org>  
**To:** "John Niles" <niles@globaltelematics.com>  
**Cc:** "Covington, Vida" <vida.covington@soundtransit.org>; "Bergman, Mike" <mike.bergman@soundtransit.org>; "Todd, Bonnie" <toddb@soundtransit.org>; "Perry, Michael" <perrym@soundtransit.org>; "Denison, Paul" <denisonp@soundtransit.org>; "Patrick, Geoff" <geoff.patrick@soundtransit.org>; "Gray, Bruce" <bruce.gray@soundtransit.org>; "Ilgenfritz, Ric" <ric.ilgenfritz@soundtransit.org>; "Klein, Ron" <kleinr@soundtransit.org>; "Earl, Joni" <joni.earl@soundtransit.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 11:24 PM  
**Attach:** 2009 CentralLinkWeekdayRidership.xls  
**Subject:** Light Rail Ridership Numbers Redux  
John:

Your interest in the differences between your average ridership number of 14,914 and our number of 14,806 was a factor in our taking a look at what was going on since these numbers are coming from the same source: ST. I wanted to understand why the numbers were different. I also wanted to be sure that the problems we had last fall with the APC's on the trains had in fact been fixed. In this re-look at numbers we discovered a couple of things which not only help to explain the differences but also have resulted in us increasing the "official" average weekday ridership achieved on Link thru the end of 2009 to 15,546 vs. the 14,806 I had previously reported to you. This work is why it has taken us this time to get back to you. Per your request, attached is the corrected stream of weekday ridership numbers that produce the 15,546 average daily traffic number.

Our re-look found that the software being used to process and record APC data was incorrectly assigning boarding's from TIB Station late last summer and in September. Once a formula was applied to reassign the boarding's, approximately 6% of total trips that once were classified as bad data now had be reconsidered, which resulted in an estimated 4-5% increase in ridership. We also found that there was a problem with the counting and assignment system after the extension to the Airport opened up in late December. Finally, it is my understanding that your numbers did not reflect the fact that Veterans Day in November was a day when we actually ran a regular weekday schedule.

I should also note that the problems we were having last fall with the APC system were in fact resolved in October.

Let me know if you have additional questions.

Ron Tober  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
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