

### **COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE**

#### Friday, September 5, 2025

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### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR FRANK CAMPION

60 East Main Street, Welland, Ontario L3B 3X4 Phone 905-735-1700 Fax 905-735-1543

September 4, 2025

The Right Honourable Prime Minister Mark Carney Prime Minister of Canada Office of the Prime Minister 80 Wellington Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Re: Call for Reforms Following Heinous Crime in Welland

Dear Prime Minister Carney.

On behalf of the City of Welland, I write to you with a heavy and aggrieved heart following the recent brutal sexual assault of a three-year-old child in our community. This appalling act has shaken the community to its core, leaving families devastated and our entire city demanding swift and decisive action to ensure such an atrocity can never happen again. While no legislation can undo the profound trauma inflicted, this horrific crime demands that we confront the shortcomings of our justice system in protecting society's most vulnerable. I therefore urge your government to take immediate and decisive action by considering:

- Reform to bail and sentencing provisions to ensure that individuals charged with, or convicted of, violent sexual crimes, especially when involving minors, face stricter consequences, with no opportunity for early release in cases of extreme brutality.
- Elimination of parole for heinous offences of this nature, ensuring that offenders serve their full sentences without exception.
- More stringent use and enforcement of the National Sex Offender Registry, with mechanisms to better protect communities by ensuring timely awareness of offenders residing in their midst.

Canadians must have absolute confidence that our justice system places public safety—especially the protection of children—above all else. Communities like Welland cannot and should not live under the shadow of legislative or enforcement gaps that risk allowing such offenders to strike again. Mr. Prime Minister, I must impress upon you that strengthening these protections at the national level is not so much a request, but a collective responsibility that must be met without delay. Our residents, and indeed all Canadians, demand the assurance that every possible measure is being taken to safeguard our children.

This is an urgent call to action, and I expect your government's leadership to match the gravity of this moment. I stand ready to work with you in advancing the decisive reforms our communities so desperately need.

Sincerely,

Frank Campion

Mayor

C.c.: Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Public Safety Fred Davies, Member of Parliament



### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR FRANK CAMPION

60 East Main Street, Welland, Ontario L3B 3X4 Phone 905-735-1700 Fax 905-735-1543

September 4, 2025

The Hounourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Re: Call for Reforms Following Heinous Crime in Welland

Dear Premier Ford,

On behalf of the City of Welland, I write to you with a heavy heart following the recent brutal sexual assault of a three-year-old child in our community. This devastating act has shocked and horrified our residents, leaving families shaken and demanding urgent action to ensure such a tragedy is never repeated.

While no legislation can erase the trauma inflicted, this horrific crime compels us to reflect on the inadequacy of our current justice system in protecting the most vulnerable. Specifically, I urge your government to consider:

- Reform to bail and sentencing provisions to ensure that individuals charged with, or convicted of, violent sexual crimes face stricter consequences, with no opportunity for early release in cases of extreme brutality.
- Elimination of parole for heinous offences of this nature, ensuring that offenders serve their full sentences without exception.
- More stringent use and enforcement of the National Sex Offender Registry, with mechanisms to better protect communities by ensuring timely awareness of offenders residing in their midst.

Canadians must be confident that our justice system prioritizes public safety above all else, and particularly the safety of children. Communities like Welland cannot bear the weight of knowing that gaps in legislation or enforcement might allow such offenders to harm again.

Premier Ford, I ask for your leadership in strengthening these protections at the national level. Our residents, and indeed all Canadians, deserve to know that every measure possible is being taken to safeguard our children.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you and your government.

Sincerely,

Frank Campion

Mayor

C.c.: Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General Sam Oosterhoff, Member of Provincial Parliament



**Legislative Services** 

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8 · www.portcolborne.ca

**T** 905.228.8031

F 905.834.5746

E charlotte.madden@portcolborne.ca

September 3, 2025

Sent via Email: <u>Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca</u>

Ann-Marie Norio
Office of the Regional Clerk, Niagara Region
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way,
P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Dear Ms. Norio:

Re: City of Port Colborne Supports the Resolution from the Niagara Region, Niagara Regional Council regarding "Elect Respect" Campaign

Please be advised that, at its meeting of August 26, 2025 the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne supported the resolution from Niagara Regional Council regarding the "Elect Respect" Campaign.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Madden

C. Madden

City Clerk

ec: Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario's Big City Mayors
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Local Members of Parliament
Local Members of Provincial Parliament
Niagara Regional Police
Ontario Provincial Police
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Local Area Municipalities



September 2, 2025

Mayor and Council City of Welland 60 East Main St. Welland, ON L3B 3X4

Dear Mayor Campion and Council,

I am pleased to provide the 2025 Q2 statistics from our commingled services. We provide this data to our Board, Regional Council, and local municipalities on an ongoing basis. Building on the outcomes and observations reported in Q1, this update highlights ridership trends, operational insights, and service developments specific to the second quarter of 2025.

During Q2 2025, the commingled service provided a total of 65,171 trips. This represents a 3% increase compared to the 2023 baseline data, though a 12.7% decrease relative to the same period in 2024. In comparison to Q1 2025, which realized a total of 70,856 trips, Q2 serviced approximately 435 fewer trips per week on average. While seasonality may be a factor, the presence of user trip denials suggests the demand exists.

Specialized transit ridership totaled 11,039 trips, representing a 4% increase over the RFP baseline and a 19.4% decrease compared to Q2 2024. However, due to the comingled integrated service, registered specialized customers were able to book 2,581 local microtransit trips reflecting an increase in accessibility. Microtransit accounted for 51,551 trips, excluding the 2,581 provided to registered specialized transit users. Combined there were a total of 54,132 microtransit trips booked which represents a 2% increase over the RFP data and an 11% reduction compared to Q2 2024. In comparison to Q1 2025, which realized a 9.3% growth over the RFP data, Q2 only realized a 2% growth over the RFP data.



For further information, please see the <u>full report</u> presented at the August 26, 2025 meeting of the Niagara Transit Commission.

Thank you for your ongoing support of transit. Together we're continuing to create a truly connected, barrier free Niagara.

Sincerely,

Carla Stout

General Manager, Niagara Transit

### Overall NT+ Service Metrics - 2025 (Q2)

Number of Passengers

89,414

**Number of Trips** 

79,887

Number of Accessible Trips

12,988

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

928

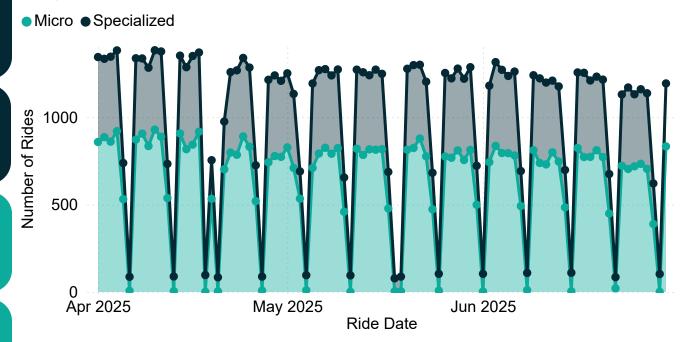
Average Direct Distance (km)

9.51

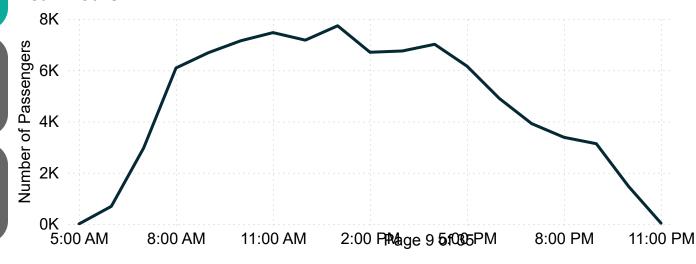
Average Time On-Board (min)

17.97

#### **Daily Ridership**

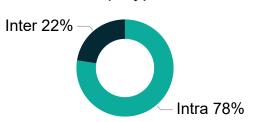




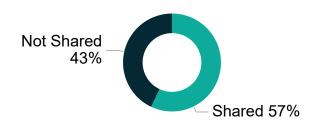




Trip Type



**Trip Utilization** 



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	3081	13874	16955
Арр	29510	29501	59011
Subscription		3921	3921
Total	32591	47296	79887

### Overall NT+ In-House Service Metrics - 2025 (Q2)

Number of Passengers

21,237

**Number of Trips** 

18,023

Number of Accessible Trips

7,304

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

68

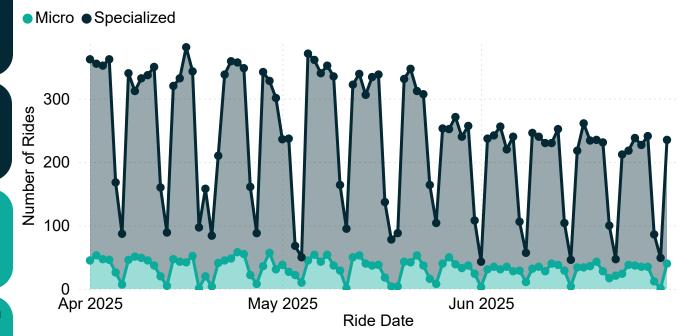
Average Direct Distance (km)

5.12

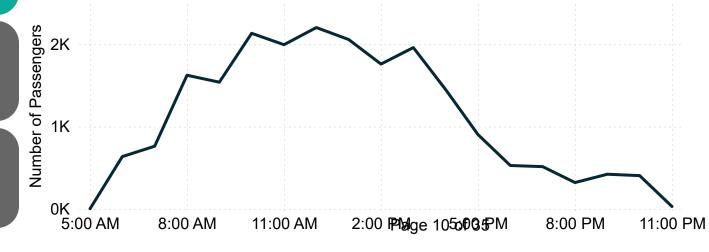
Average Time On-Board (min)

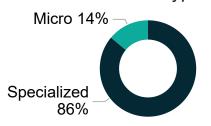
17.67



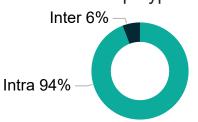




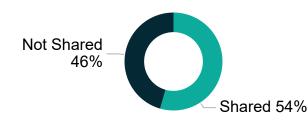




Trip Type



**Trip Utilization** 



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	1005	7719	8724
Арр	2596	6138	8734
Subscription		565	565
Total	3601	14422	18023

### Overall NT+ In-House 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Niagara Falls

Number of Passengers

3,816

**Number of Trips** 

3,311

Number of Accessible Trips

1,180

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

(Blank)

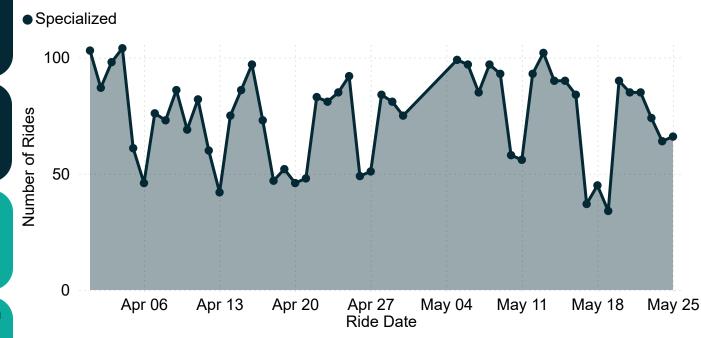
Average Direct Distance (km)

5.07

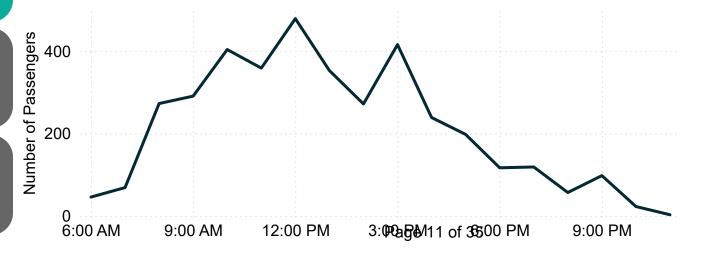
Average Time On-Board (min)

17.65

#### **Daily Ridership**









Trip Type



**Trip Utilization** 



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	281	1534	1815
Арр	344	587	931
Subscription		565	565
Total	625	2686	3311

### Overall NT+ In-House 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - St. Catharines

Number of Passengers

9,640

**Number of Trips** 

7,795

Number of Accessible Trips

3,515

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

3

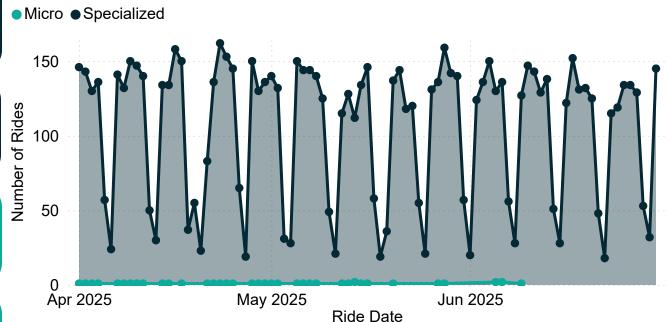
Average Direct Distance (km)

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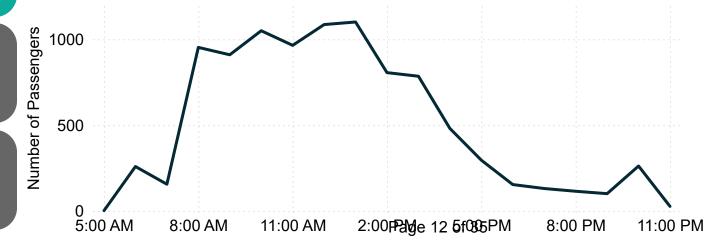
Average Time On-Board (min)

18.77

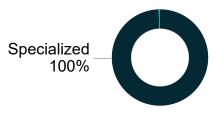


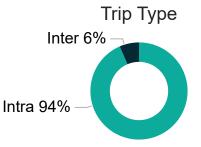


#### **Peak Hours**



Service Type







**Trip Utilization** 

Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	444	3555	3999
<b>Д</b> рр	554	3242	3796
Total	998	6797	7795

# Overall NT+ In-House 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Thorold

Number of Passengers

649

**Number of Trips** 

599

Number of Accessible Trips

399

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

(Blank)

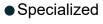
Average Direct Distance (km)

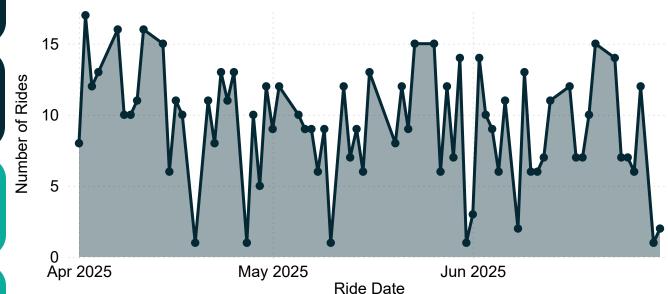
8.06

Average Time On-Board (min)

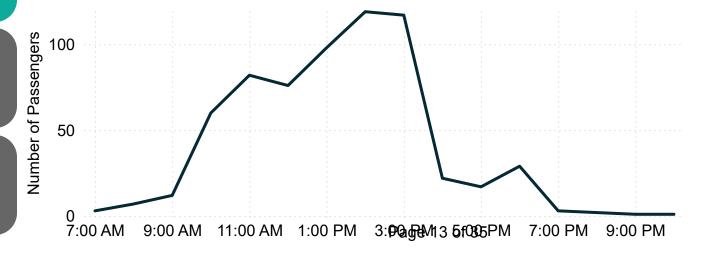
22.29





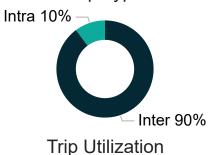


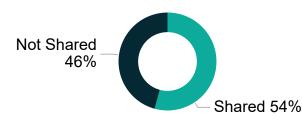
#### **Peak Hours**











Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	18	178	196
Арр	37	366	403
Total	55	544	599

# Overall NT+ In-House 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Welland

Number of Passengers

7,116

**Number of Trips** 

6,309

Number of Accessible Trips

2,206

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

65

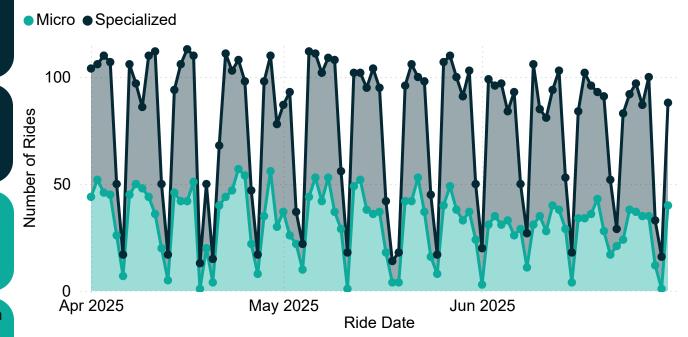
Average Direct Distance (km)

4.88

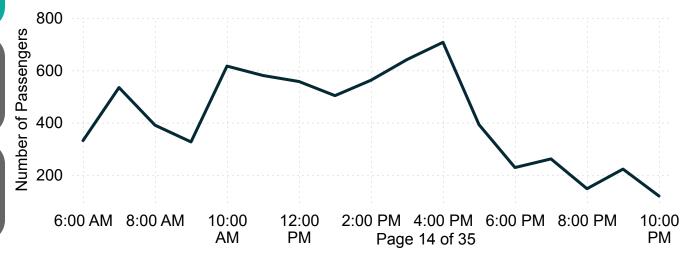
Average Time On-Board (min)

15.86

#### **Daily Ridership**





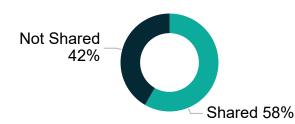




Trip Type



Trip Utilization



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	262	2449	2711
Арр	1661	1937	3598
Total	1923	4386	6309

### Overall NT+ (Contract) Voyago Service Metrics - 2025 (Q2)

Number of Passengers

65,171

**Number of Trips** 

59,223

Number of Accessible Trips

4,766

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

860

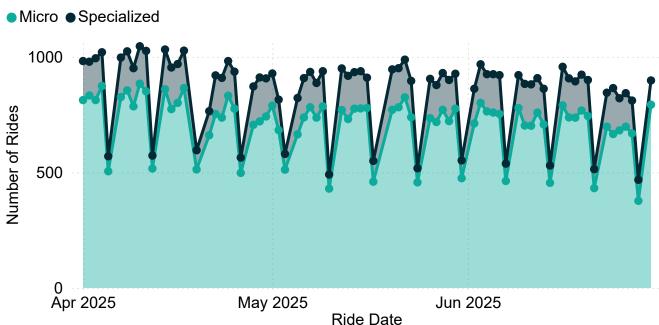
Average Direct Distance (km)

11.06

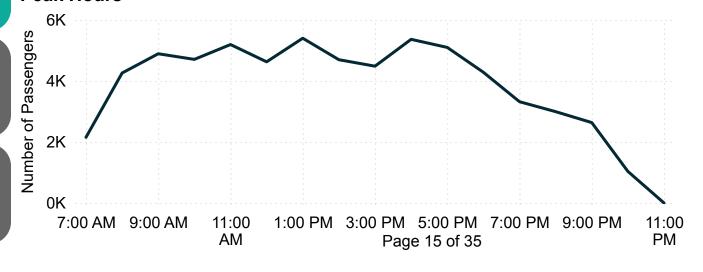
Average Time On-Board (min)

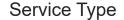
18.13

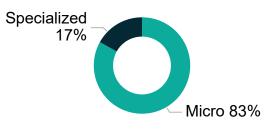




#### **Peak Hours**



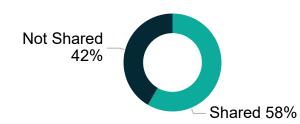




Trip Type



Trip Utilization



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	1775	4988	6763
Арр	26558	22960	49518
Subscription		2942	2942
Total	28333	30890	59223

### NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Fort Erie

Number of Passengers

24,406

**Number of Trips** 

21,314

Number of Accessible Trips

1,042

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

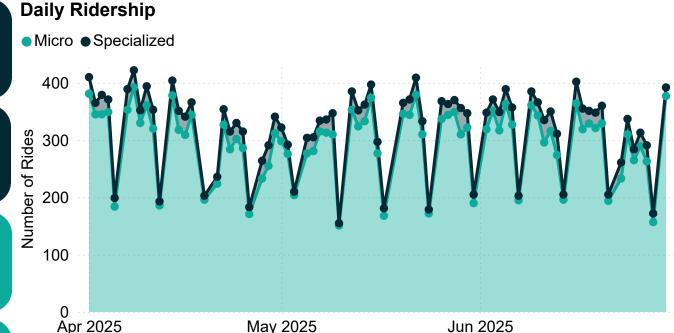
409

Average Direct Distance (km)

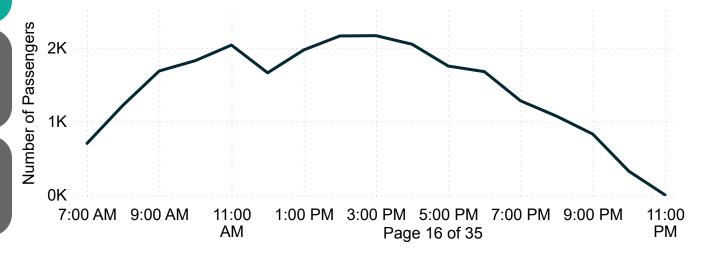
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Average Time On-Board (min)

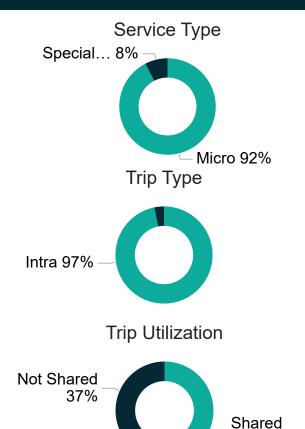
14.34







Ride Date



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	1027	1250	2277
<del>\</del> pp	12131	6334	18465
Subscription		572	572
<b>Total</b>	13158	8156	21314

63%

# NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Grimsby

Number of Passengers

6,255

**Number of Trips** 

5,910

Number of Accessible Trips

186

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

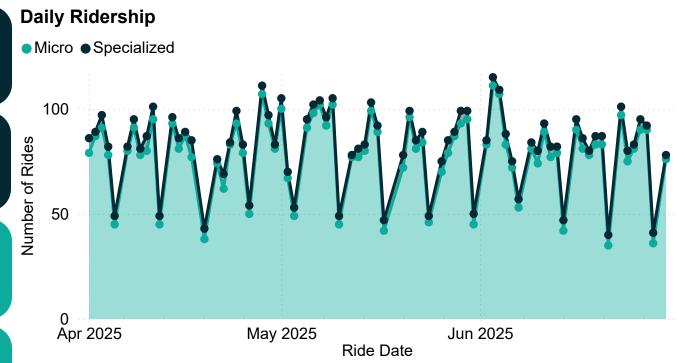
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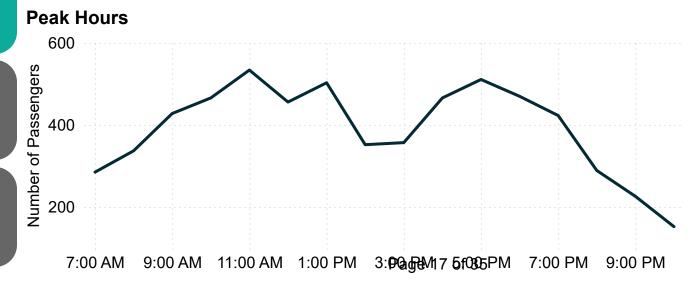
Average Direct Distance (km)

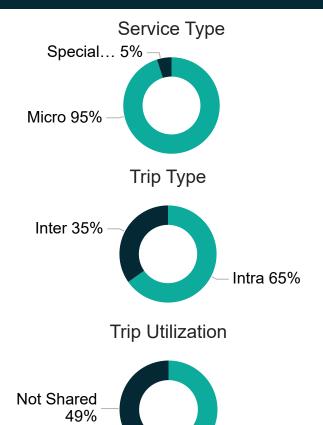
9.77

Average Time On-Board (min)

15.89







Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	138	229	367
\pp	2510	2859	5369
Subscription		174	174
otal	2648	3262	5910

Shared 51%

# NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Lincoln

Number of Passengers

5,856

**Number of Trips** 

5,520

Number of Accessible Trips

241

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

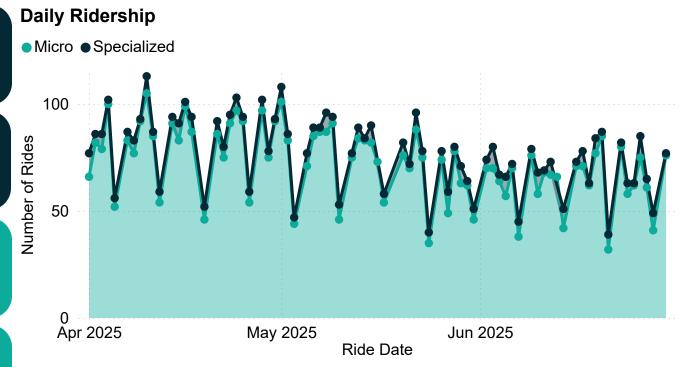
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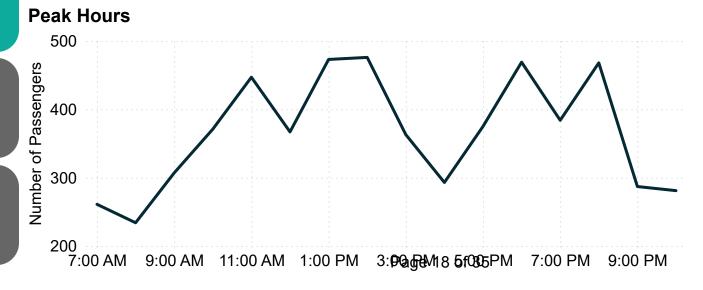
Average Direct Distance (km)

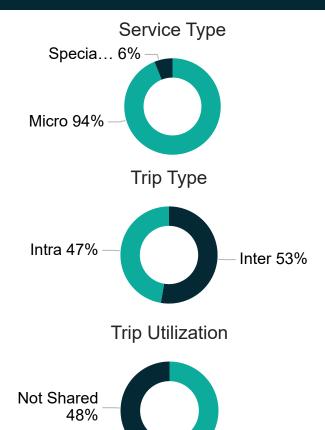
12.04

Average Time On-Board (min)

18.29







Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	89	219	308
\pp	2390	2704	5094
Subscription		118	118
otal	2479	3041	5520

Shared 52%

### NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Niagara Falls

Number of Passengers

2,125

**Number of Trips** 

1,859

Number of Accessible Trips

724

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

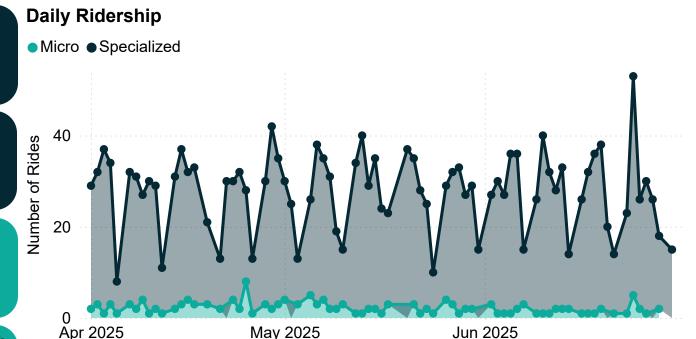
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Average Direct Distance (km)

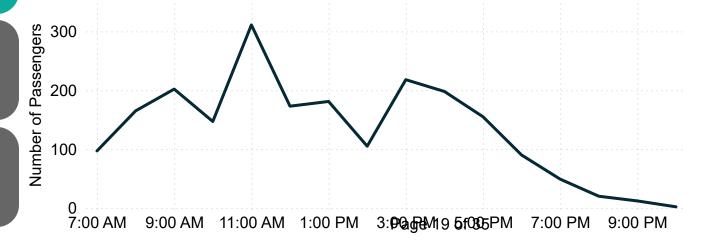
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Average Time On-Board (min)

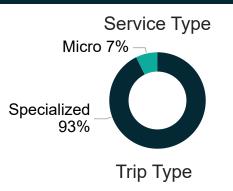
34.16



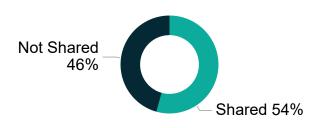




Ride Date







**Trip Utilization** 

Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total	
Agent	23	766	789	
Арр	112	478	590	
Subscription		480	480	
Total	135	1724	1859	

### NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Niagara-on-the-Lake

Number of Passengers

12,212

**Number of Trips** 

11,536

Number of Accessible Trips

242

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

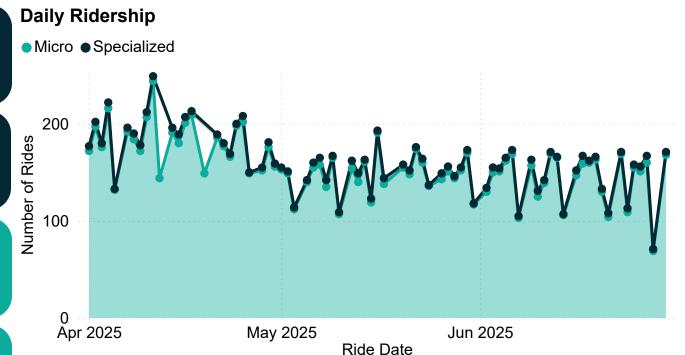
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Average Direct Distance (km)

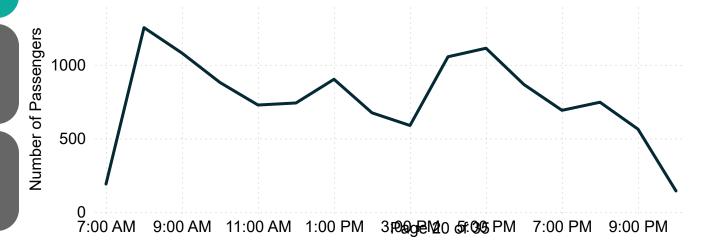
10.00

Average Time On-Board (min)

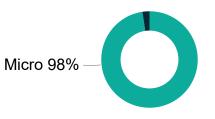
17.80

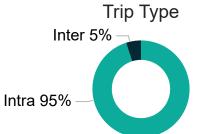




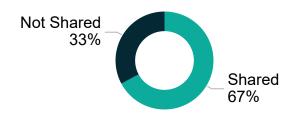








Trip Utilization



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	110	164	274
Арр	6100	5081	11181
Subscription		81	81
Total	6210	5326	11536

# NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Pelham

Number of Passengers

1,458

**Number of Trips** 

1,400

Number of Accessible Trips

214

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

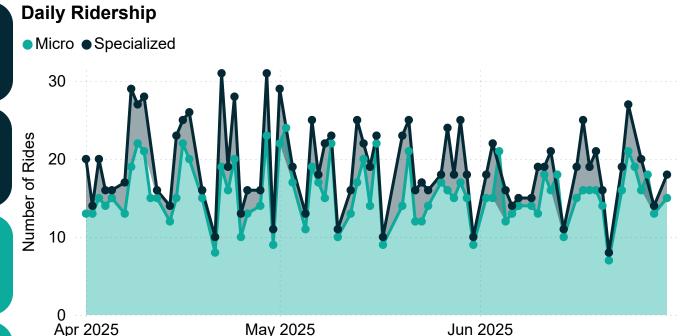
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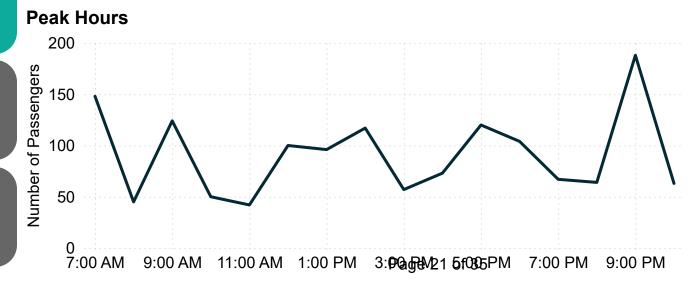
Average Direct Distance (km)

12.25

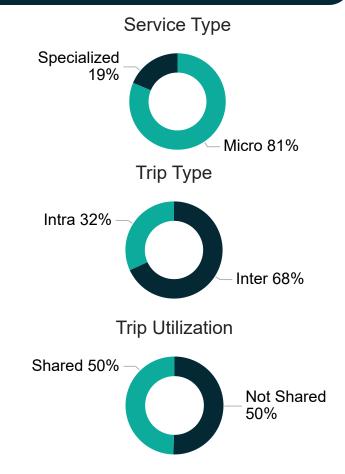
Average Time On-Board (min)

19.27





Ride Date



Booking Method ▼	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Subscription		126	126
Арр	480	579	1059
Agent	36	179	215
Total	516	884	1400

### NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Port Colborne

Number of Passengers

3,976

**Number of Trips** 

3,546

Number of Accessible Trips

190

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

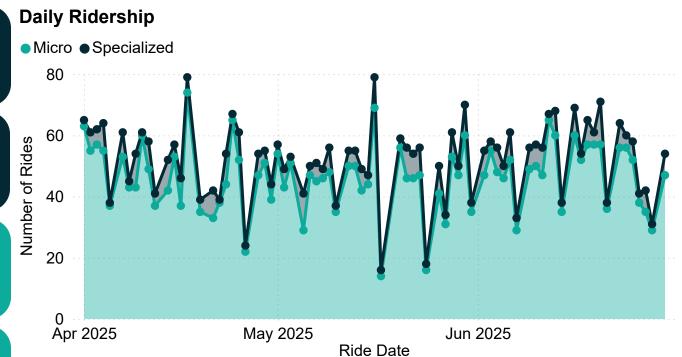
21

Average Direct Distance (km)

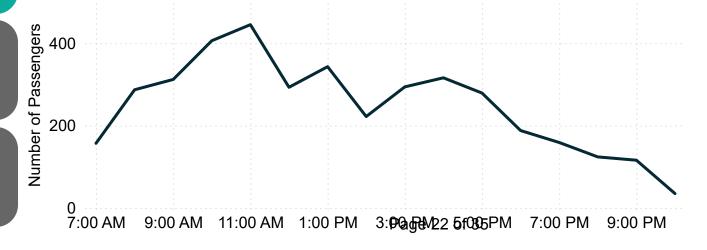
6.05

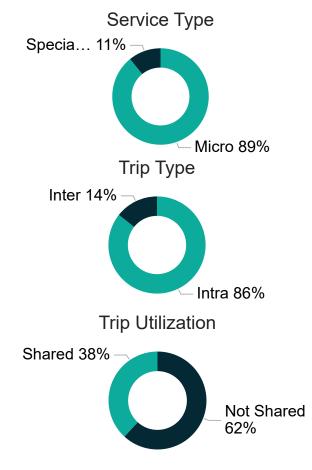
Average Time On-Board (min)

11.43









Booking Method ▲	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	193	317	510
Арр	1976	817	2793
Subscription		243	243
Total	2169	1377	3546

### NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - St. Catharines

Number of Passengers

4,250

**Number of Trips** 

3,947

Number of Accessible Trips

750

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

9

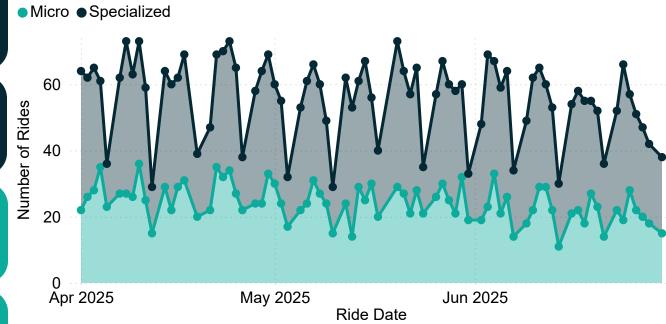
Average Direct Distance (km)

21.67

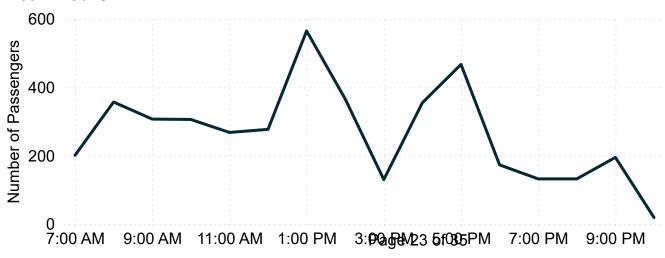
Average Time On-Board (min)

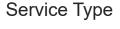
29.75









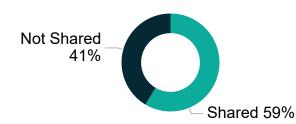




Trip Type



Trip Utilization



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	82	791	873
Арр	412	2205	2617
Subscription		457	457
Total	494	3453	3947

# NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Thorold

Number of Passengers

1,187

**Number of Trips** 

1,002

Number of Accessible Trips

432

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

(Blank)

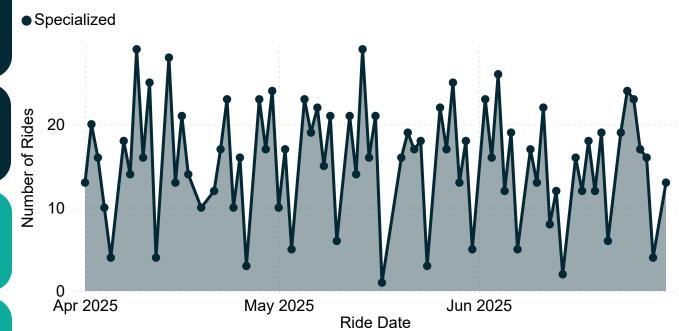
Average Direct Distance (km)

11.15

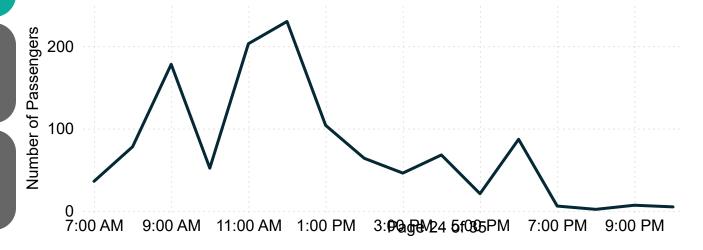
Average Time On-Board (min)

21.65

#### **Daily Ridership**



#### **Peak Hours**





Trip Type



**Trip Utilization** 



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	31	356	387
Арр	12	458	470
Subscription		145	145
Total	43	959	1002

# NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Wainfleet

Number of Passengers

213

**Number of Trips** 

203

Number of Accessible Trips

37

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

1

Average Direct Distance (km)

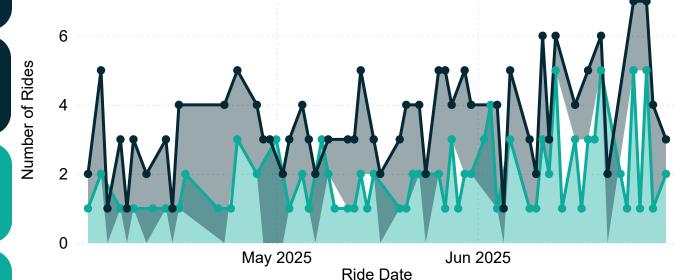
22.45

Average Time On-Board (min)

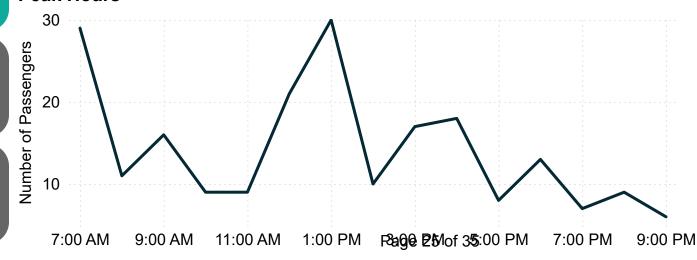
27.63

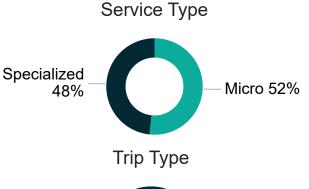
#### **Daily Ridership**



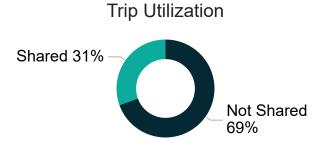


#### **Peak Hours**









Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	3	48	51
Арр	26	123	149
Subscription		3	3
Total	29	174	203

# NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - Welland

Number of Passengers

2,482

**Number of Trips** 

2,284

Number of Accessible Trips

690

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

4

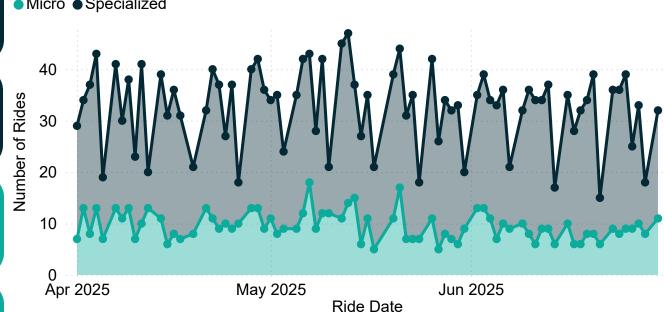
Average Direct Distance (km)

20.58

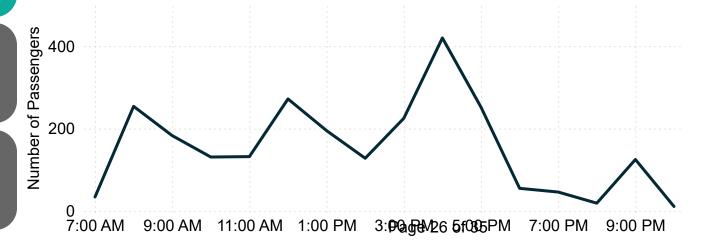
Average Time On-Board (min)

31.18







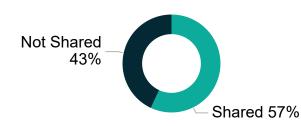




Trip Type



Trip Utilization



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	30	601	631
Арр	250	860	1110
Subscription		543	543
Total	280	2004	2284

# NT+ (Contract) Voyago 2025 (Q2) Service Metrics - West Lincoln

Number of Passengers

715

**Number of Trips** 

675

Number of Accessible Trips

8

Number of Micro Trips with an Accessibility Device

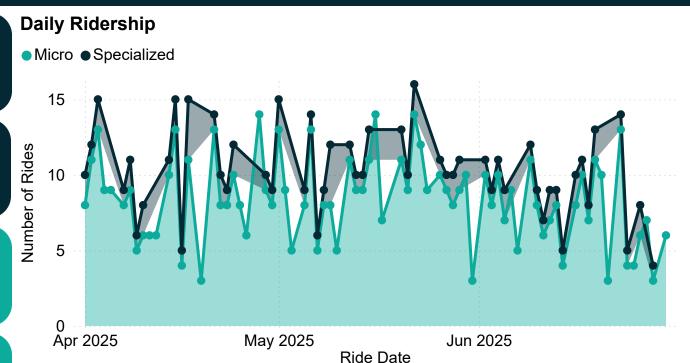
6

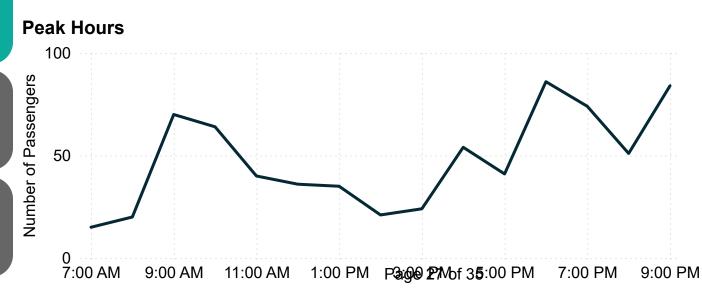
Average Direct Distance (km)

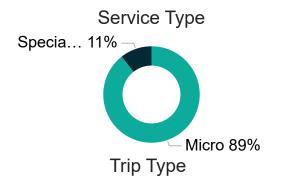
23.63

Average Time On-Board (min)

29.33









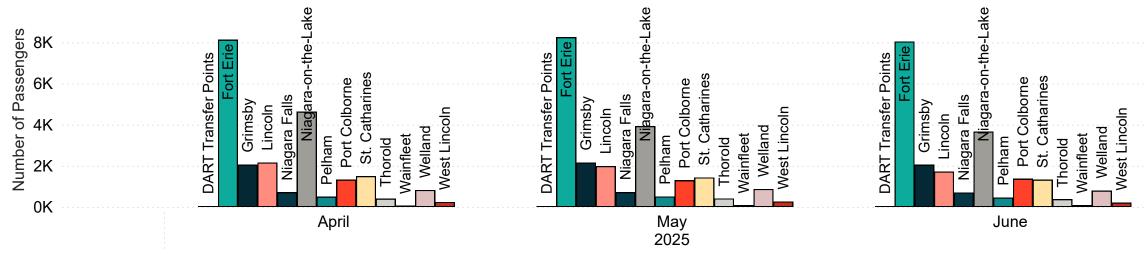
Trip Utilization



Booking Method	Day Of	Pre-Booked	Total
Agent	12	48	60
<b>Д</b> рр	159	456	615
Total	171	504	675

# Overall NT+ (Contract) Voyago Trip Origin Metrics - 2025 (Q2)





Origin Municipality	DART Transfer Points	Fort Erie	Grimsby	Lincoln	Niagara Falls	Niagara-on- the-Lake	Pelham	Port Colborne	St. Catharines	Thorold	Wainfleet	Welland	West Lincoln	Total
DART Transfer Points		7	1		8				10			10		36
Fort Erie	7	23624			219	4		108	135	30		279		24406
Grimsby			4082	1119	6	1	29	12	755	3	3	52	193	6255
Lincoln			1058	2770	17	13	71	9	1554	21	1	127	215	5856
Niagara Falls	9	181	6	19		236	21	11	803	202	12	622	3	2125
Niagara-on-the-Lake		5		16	393	11610	18		126	36	1	5	2	12212
Pelham		3	47	70	18	19	464	6	226	32	10	554	9	1458
Port Colborne		116	11		12		8	3405	17	6	60	335	6	3976
St. Catharines	8	116	726	1387	795	188	201	17		296	14	353	149	4250
Thorold		30	3	21	207	42	32	4	358	378	16	92	4	1187
Wainfleet			3	4	11		12	25	7	22		122	7	213
Welland	10	247	21	179	600	6	516	327	367	92	74		43	2482
West Lincoln			178	233	1	5	9	6	167	50	7	59		715
Total	34	24329	6136	5818	2287	12124	1381	3930	4525	1168	198	2610	631	65171

### Glossary

- Agent Booking Method Rides that are booked by phoning in and speaking with a customer service representative
- App Booking Method Rides that are booked by using the Niagara Transit Plus application on a mobile device
- Average Direct Distance The average distance in kilometres it would take to drive directly from origin to destination without any stops
- Average Time On-Board The average time a passenger is spending on-board the vehicle
- Day of Booking Type Rides that are booked on the same day of use
- Inter Trip Type Rides that travel from one municipality to another, crossing municipal boundaries
- Intra Trip Type Rides that say within the municipal boundary in which the trip originated
- Micro Daily Ridership Number of passengers taking micro transit trips per day
- Micro Service Type Number of trips that are using the micro transit service
- · Number of Accessible Number of trips that are are using either the micro or specialized transit service that are accessible, where the passenger is using a mobility device
- Number of Micro Trips with Accessible Device Number of trips using the micro transit service that are accessible, where the passenger is using a mobility device
- Number of Passengers Total number of passengers that have competed trips
- Number of Trips Total number of trips being completed
- Peak Hours Hours of the day that have the highest demand for ridership
- Pre-Book Booking Type Rides that are booked in advance of the requested trip day
- · Specialized Daily Ridership Number of passengers taking specialized transit trips per day
- Specialized Service Type Number of trips that are using the specialized transit service
- Subscription Booking Method Trips that are booked once and happen on a recurring schedule ie. trips to dialysis

September 3, 2025

To whom it may concern,

Please be advised that at the Regular Meeting of Council on August 19, 2025, the Town of Cobalt adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION No. 2025-124** 

MOVED BY: Councillor Anderson SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

**WHEREAS** the Ontario Government has enacted O. Reg. 343/22, establishing mandatory certification requirements for firefighters under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997;

**AND WHEREAS** Council for the Town of Cobalt acknowledges the importances of standardized firefighter training and safety;

**AND WHEREAS** these mandatory certification requirements pose significant challenges for small, rural and northern municipalities due to limited financial and training resources, geographical barriers and reliance on volunteer fire departments;

**AND WHEREAS** the implementation of these requirements without additional flexibility or support may negatively impact the Town's ability to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters and provide adequate fire protection to its residents;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council for the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt formally opposes the mandatory firefighter certification requirements as currently outlined in O. Reg. 343/22;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Solicitor General, Premier of Ontario, MPP John Vanthof, the Fire Marshal, AMO, FONOM and all Ontario Municipalities.

**CARRIED** 

Kind Regards,

Steven Dalley

Town Manager, Clerk/Treasurer

Tel: (705) 679-8877 Email: sdalley@cobalt.ca

cc: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, premier@ontario.ca

MPP, John Vanthof, <u>ivanthof-co@ndp.on.ca</u> Solicitor General, Michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org Ontario Fire Marshall, askofm@ontario.ca

AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca FONOM, fonom.info@gmail.com

Ontario Municipalities



August 29, 2025

MPP Will Bouma, MP Larry Brock, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and all Ontario municipalities

Sent via email: will.bouma@pc.ola.org

Dear MPP Will Bouma,

Please be advised that Brantford City Council at its meeting held August 26, 2025 adopted the following:

#### 12.3.1. Advocacy for Provincial Scrap Metal Legislation and Bail System Reform, 2025-421 - Councillor Hunt

WHEREAS a Town Hall meeting, hosted by Councillors of Ward 4 was held on Monday June 23, 2025, to discuss recommendations and actions taken to address ongoing concerns from local businesses regarding break-ins, theft and vandalism; and

WHEREAS Ward 4 businesses owners were invited to share their experiences and contribute to identifying actionable steps to theft concerns and help identify steps to foster a safer and more secure environment for businesses in Brantford; and

WHEREAS staff from the City of Brantford Bylaw & Security Department and representatives from Brantford Police Services provided presentations outlining current measures and actionable recommendations; and

WHEREAS business owners in attendance requested that a formal letter be drafted advocating for the transition of the municipal scrap metal bylaw into a provincial statute, to be addressed to MPP Will Bouma, Attorney General of

Ontario Doug Downey, MP Larry Brock and Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Sean Fraser; and

WHEREAS business owners further requested that the letter include a call to strengthen the bail system to better protect communities by ensuring repeat offenders are not prematurely released.

#### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

A. THAT City Council DIRECT Staff to prepare a formal advocacy letter to MPP Will Bouma, Attorney General of Ontario Doug Downey, MP Larry Brock and Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Sean Fraser, recommending the transition of the municipal scrap metal bylaw to a provincial statute. The letter to be completed by August 31, 2025, should also include:

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE City Hall, 58 Dalhousie, Brantford, ON N3T 2J2 P.O Box 818, Brantford, ON N3T 5R7
Phone: (519) 759-4150 Fax: (519) 759-7840 www.brantford.ca

- A request to strengthen the bail system to enhance community safety;
   and
- ii. Testimonials from local business owners detailing the financial and operational impacts of break-ins, theft and vandalism, including threats to personal safety, and the financial burden of increased insurance cost; and
- B. THAT a copy of this resolution BE FORWARDED to MPP Will Bouma, MP Larry Brock, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and all Ontario municipalities.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours truly,

Chris Gauthier City Clerk

cgauthier@brantford.ca

CC MP Larry Brock - <a href="mailto:larry.brock@parl.gc.ca">larry.brock@parl.gc.ca</a>

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) - <a href="mailto:amo@amo.on.ca">amo@amo.on.ca</a>, <a href="mailto:policy@amo.on.ca">policy@amo.on.ca</a>, <a href="mailto:policy@amo.on.ca">policy@amo.on.ca</a>, <a href="mailto:amo.on.ca">policy@amo.on.ca</a>, <a href="mailto:policy@amo.on.ca">policy@amo.on.ca</a>, <a href="mailto:amo.on.ca">policy@amo.on.ca</a>, <a href="ma

### Township of Southgate Administration Office

185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1 Dundalk, ON NOC 1B0



Phone: 519-923-2110
Toll Free: 1-888-560-6607
Fax: 519-923-9262
Web: www.southgate.ca

September 4, 2025

#### Re: Resolution of Support - City of St. Catharines - Elect Respect Pledge

Please be advised that at the September 3, 2025, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southqate, approved the following:

No. 2025-423

Moved By Deputy Mayor Dobreen
Seconded By Councillor John

**Be it resolved that** the correspondence from the City of St. Catharine's regarding the Elect Respect pledge be received and supported as outlined below:

**WHEREAS** democracy is healthy when everyone is able to participate fully and safely and contribute to the well-being of their community; and

WHEREAS we are witnessing the dissolution of democratic discourse and respectful debate across all levels of government and in neighbouring jurisdictions; and WHEREAS Ontario's municipally elected officials and municipal staff are dealing with increasingly hostile, unsafe work environments facing threats and harassment; and WHEREAS social media platforms have exacerbated disrespectful dialogue, negative commentary, and toxic engagement which disincentivizes individuals, especially women and candidates from diverse backgrounds from running for office; and WHEREAS better decisions are made when democracy is respectful and constructive and the voices of diverse genders, identities, ethnicities, races, sexual orientation, ages and abilities are heard and represented around municipal council tables; and WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Healthy Democracy Project has identified concerning trends with fewer people voting in local elections and running for municipal office; and

**WHEREAS** in 2024, female elected representatives from across Halton formed a group called H.E.R. (Halton Elected Representatives) which pledged to speak out against harassment and negativity in politics and called on elected officials to uphold the highest standards of conduct; and

**WHEREAS** H.E.R. Halton has launched a campaign called Elect Respect to promote the importance of healthy democracy and safe, inclusive, respectful work environments for all elected officials and municipal staff that encourages individuals to participate in the political process; and

**WHEREAS** on June 5, 2025, the Canadian Association of Feminist Parliamentarians launched a non-partisan "Parliamentary Civility Pledge" to encourage all parliamentarians to commit to end workplace harassment and increase civility on Parliament Hill, modelled after the pledge developed in Halton by representatives of H.E.R.;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Township of Southgate supports the Elect Respect pledge and commits to:

• Treat others with respect in all spaces—public, private, and online,

- Reject and call out harassment, abuse, and personal attacks,
- · Focus debate on ideas and policies, not personal attacks,
- Help build a supportive culture where people of all backgrounds feel safe to run for and hold office,
- Call on relevant authorities to ensure the protection of elected officials who face abuse or threats, and
- Model integrity and respect by holding one another to the highest standards of conduct; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Township of Southgate Council calls on elected officials, organizations and community members to support the Elect Respect campaign and sign the online pledge at www.electrespect.ca; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, MP Alex Ruff and MPP Paul Vickers, the Ontario Provincial Police, and all Ontario Municipalities.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Green, Clerk Township of Southgate

cc:

Association of Municipalities of Ontario Federation of Canadian Municipalities MP Alex Ruff MPP Paul Vickers Ontario Provincial Police All Municipalities in Ontario