

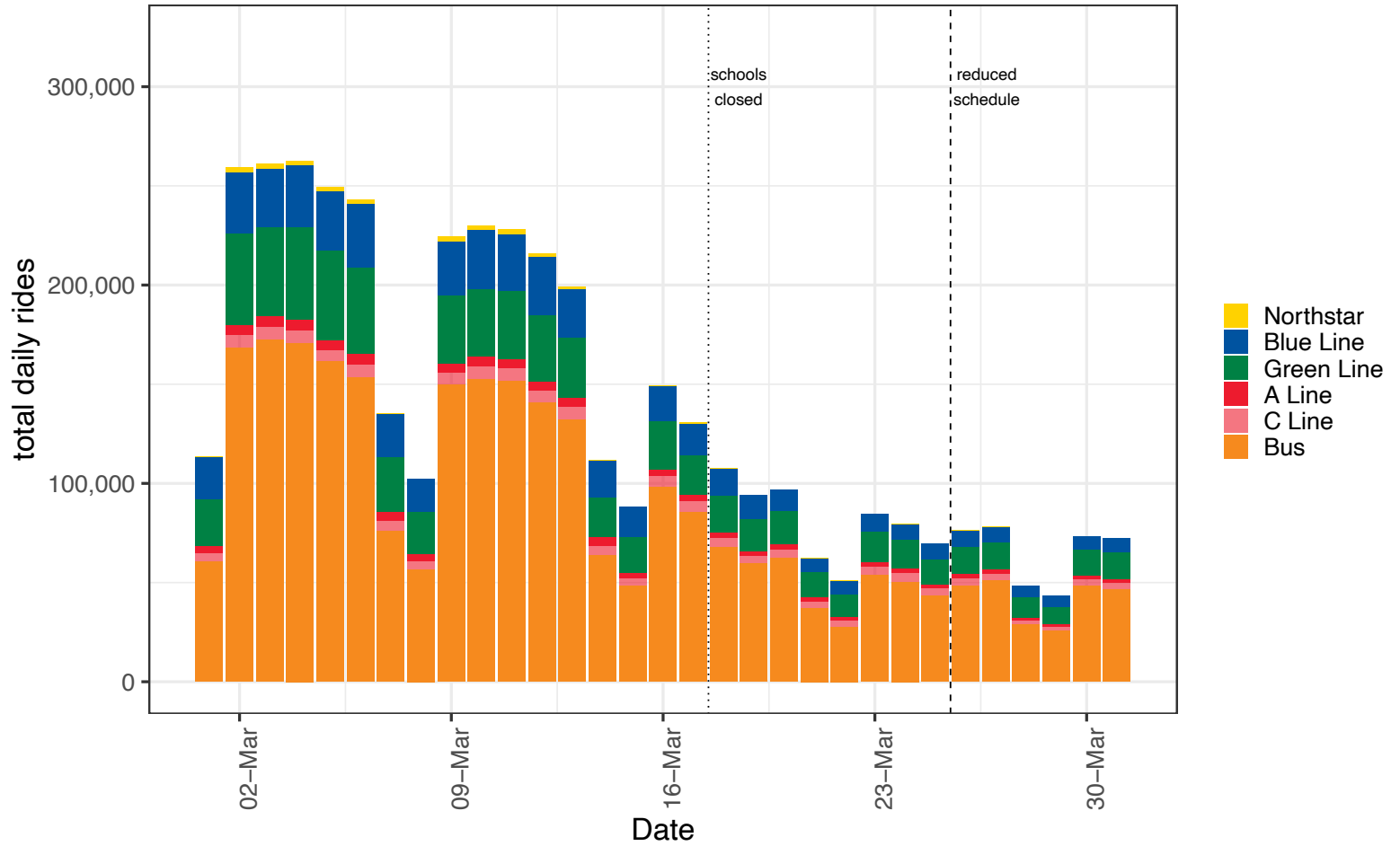
# Understanding the essential transit market: Transit service & ridership during COVID-19

Eric Lind

Strategic Initiatives

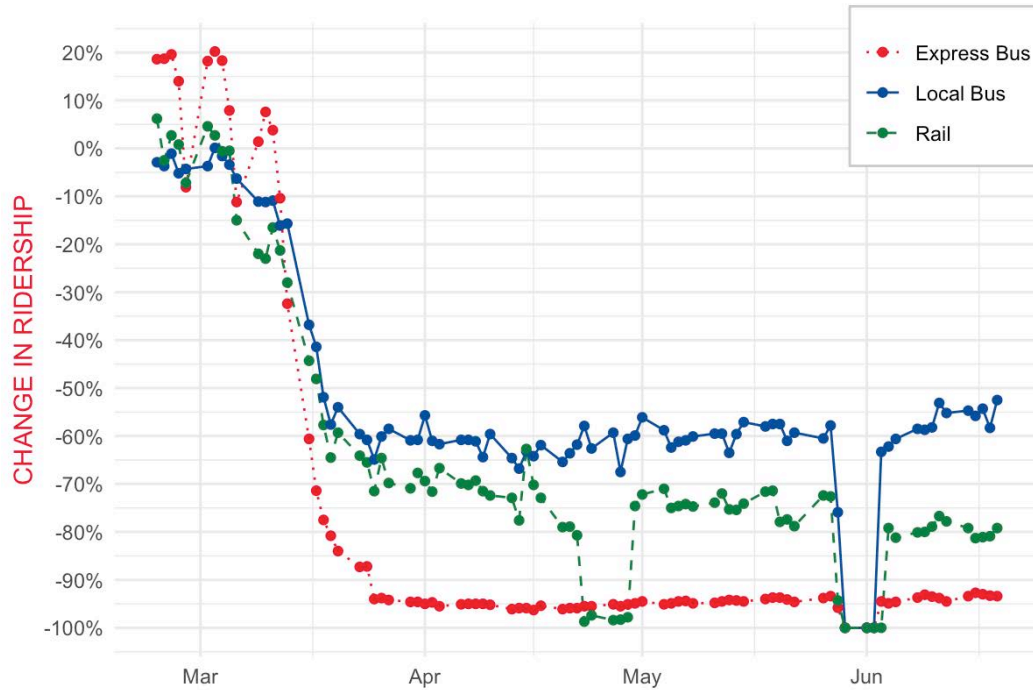
Metro Transit

[Eric.Lind@metrotransit.org](mailto:Eric.Lind@metrotransit.org)



## Percent Change in Weekday Ridership

(Compared to average weekday ridership 2/24–2/28)



\*Preliminary estimates, subject to change

# COVID-19 response at Metro Transit

- How can we maintain mobility for those who need it?
  - unpredictable travel demand
  - social distancing needs
  - operator workforce uncertainty
  
- What can we learn about our riders?
  - where are the essential trips?
  - who are our essential customers?

CORONAVIRUS

## Metro Transit strongly encourages bus passengers to wear masks

In addition, Metro Transit said only 10 passengers will be permitted on 40-foot buses, and 15 on 60-foot buses.

By Janet Moore Star Tribune | APRIL 16, 2020 — 6:38AM

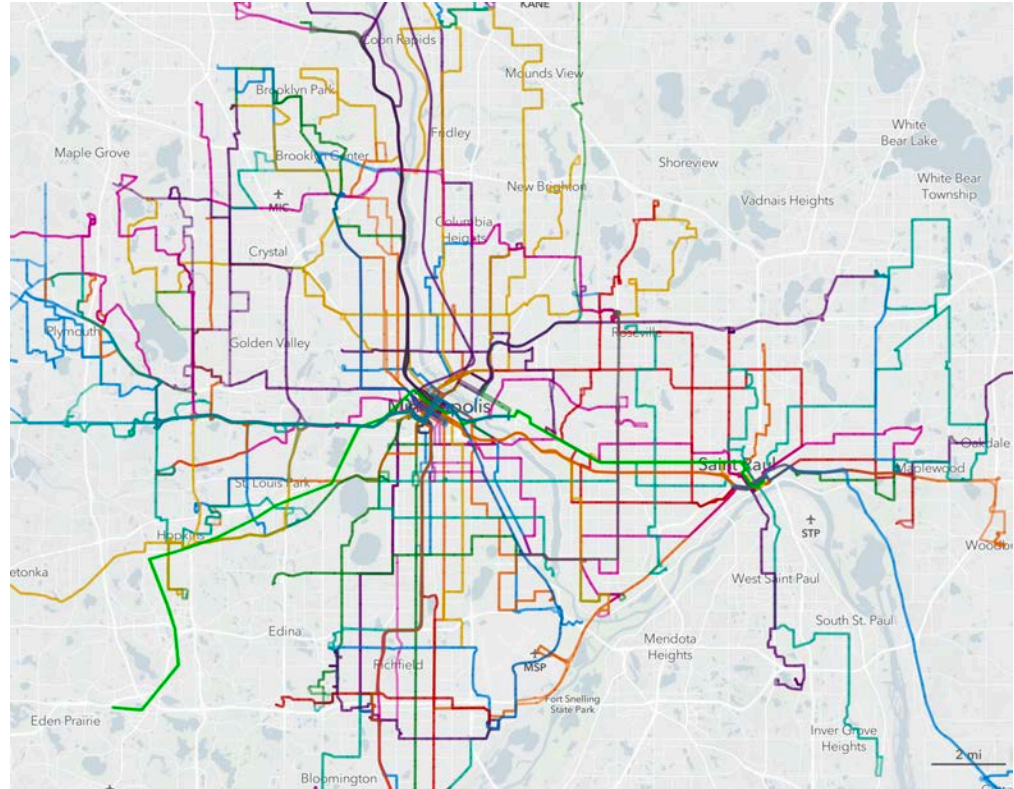


ANTHONY SOUFFLE - STAR TRIBUNE

A man wore a protective mask as he ran with bags of groceries to a bus on Nicollet Mall in Minneapolis.

# how can we maintain mobility?

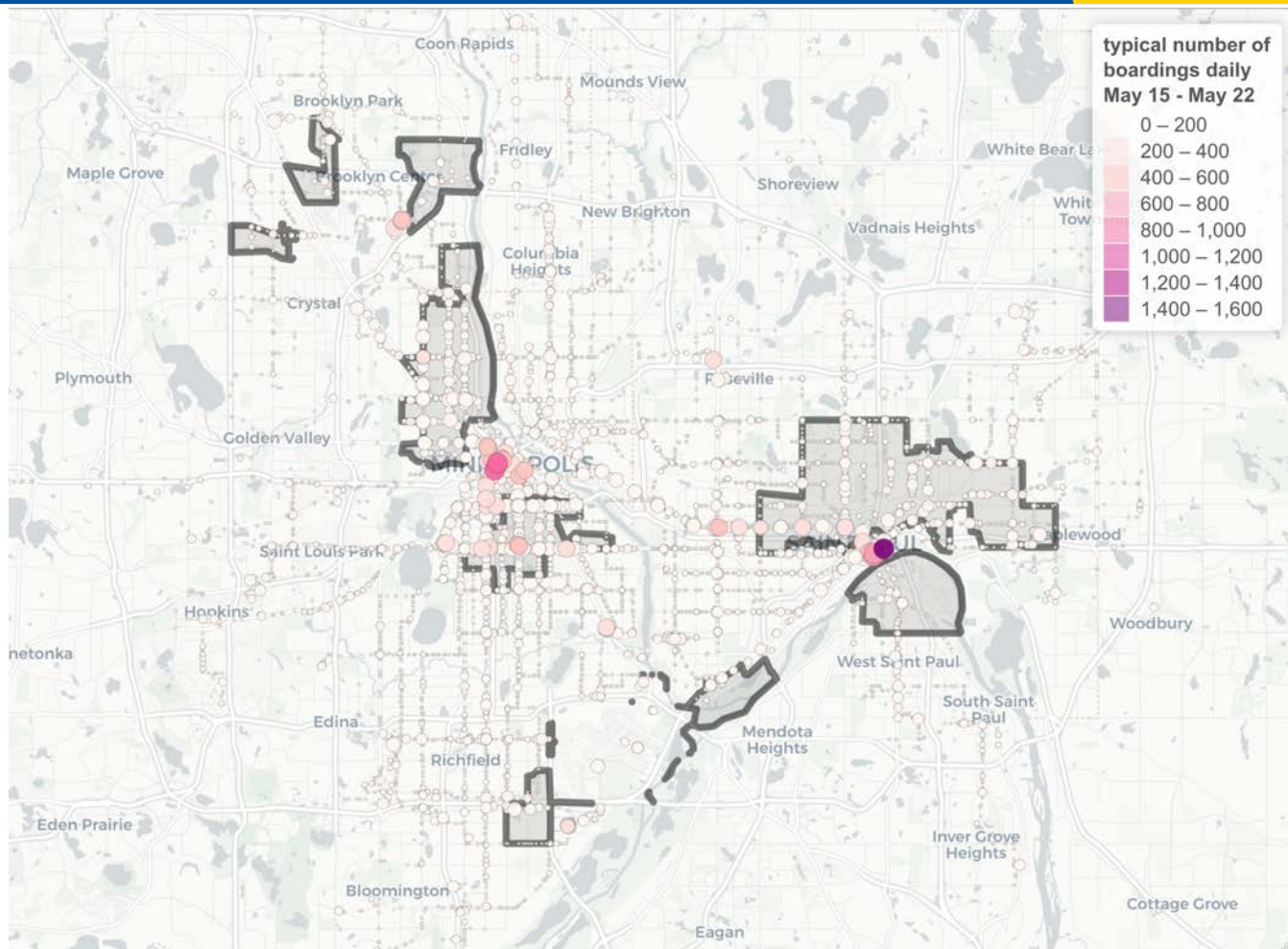
- reduced service
  - mimic holiday (e.g. Friday after Thanksgiving)
  - 60% of typical weekday bus trips
  - LRT span and frequency cut



# how can we maintain mobility?

- still serving **65,000 trips** daily

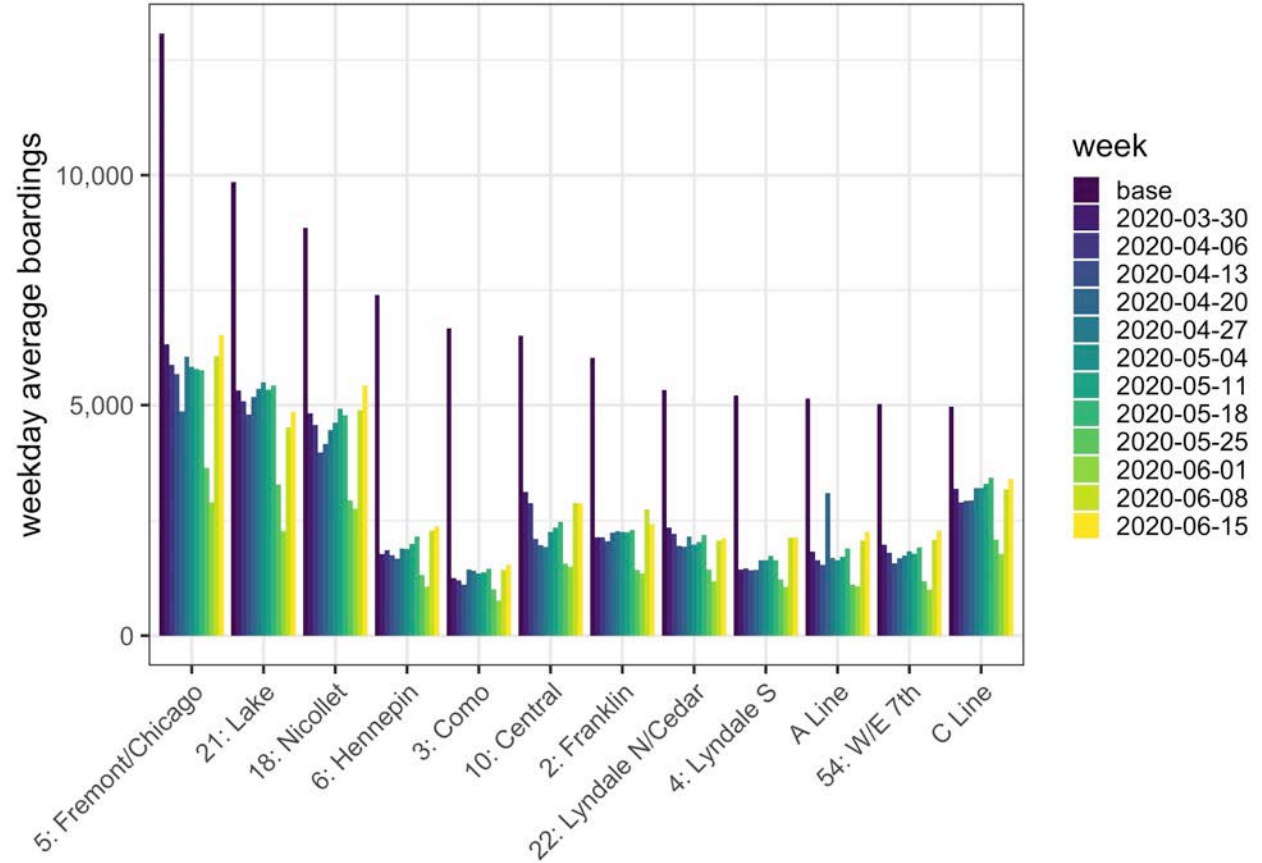
areas of concentrated poverty, >50% non-white





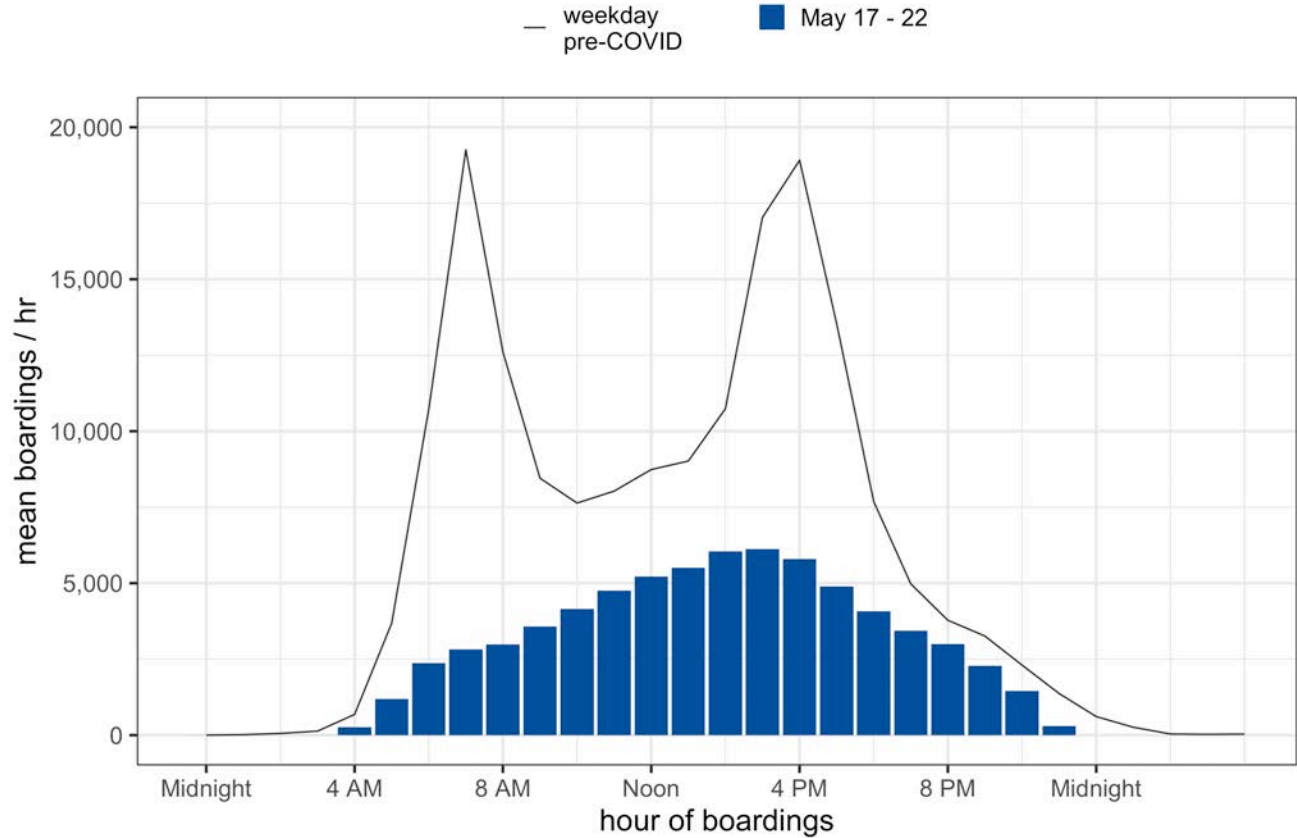
# top routes are still top

notable: differences  
among top routes in  
change from base



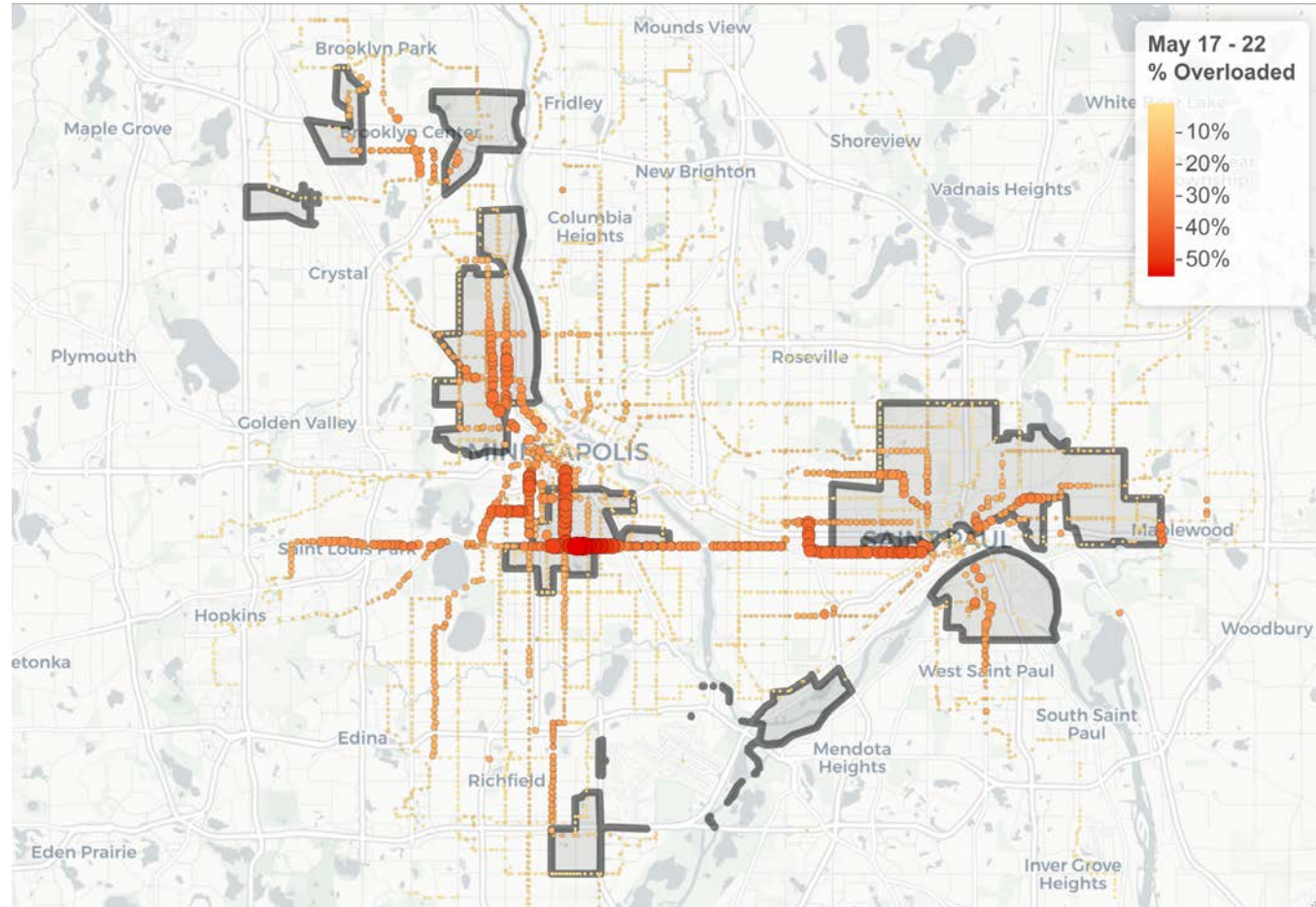
# demand: COVID condition boardings by time of day

*Current weekday ridership  
resembles pre-COVID Sunday  
ridership, every day*



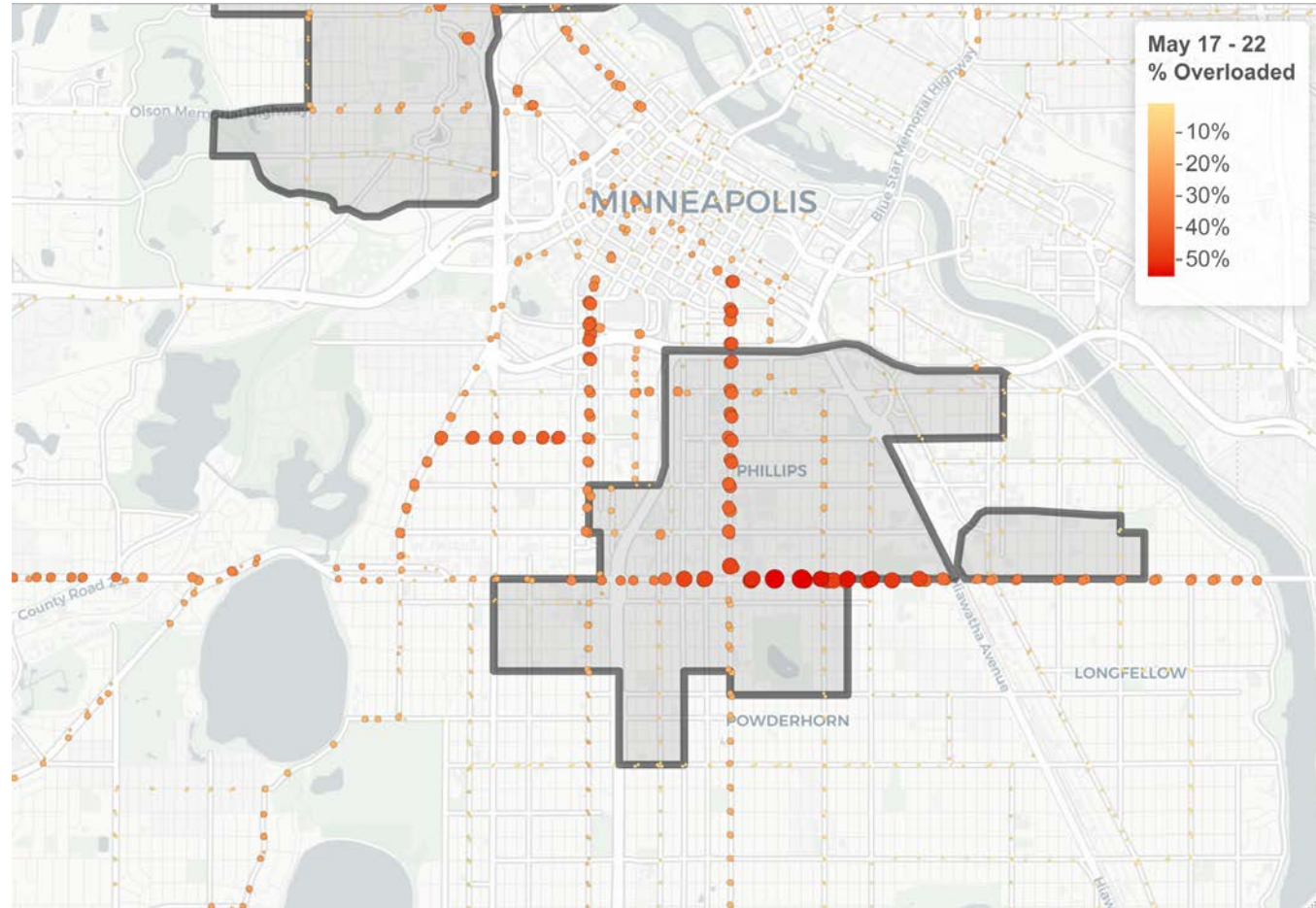


**capacity:**  
overloaded  
vehicles under  
COVID service



overloaded vehicles:  
40' bus: > 10 passengers  
60' artic: >15 passengers

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5

CHICAGO  
BUS STOP

JUSTICE NOW  
ARREST COPS!

DISPELL  
WHITE  
SUPREMACY

STOP KILLING  
BLACK PEOPLE



WE LOVE  
YOU  
I CAN  
BREATHE

WE  
LIFE  
MATTERS

I CAN'T  
BREATHE

JUSTICE

GEORGE  
FLOYD

MY COPS WANT ME DEAD  
MY SHOOTS WAS POUND  
NOW EVERY ONE KNOW  
STAND AND SPEAK FOR ME  
FEET SHALL TALK WHEN YOUR  
MOUTH IS SILENT THE LINE  
YOU CAN'T BE PROUD AND SAFE WHEN  
GEORGE FLOYD  
JUSTICE IS WHO HELD  
THE

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