

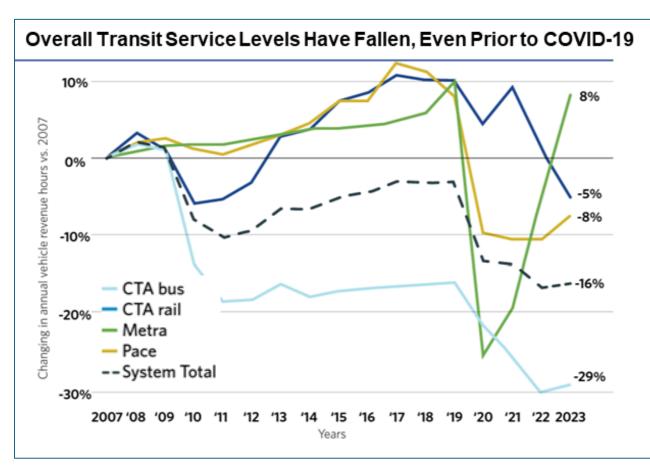
FIX IT! FUND IT!

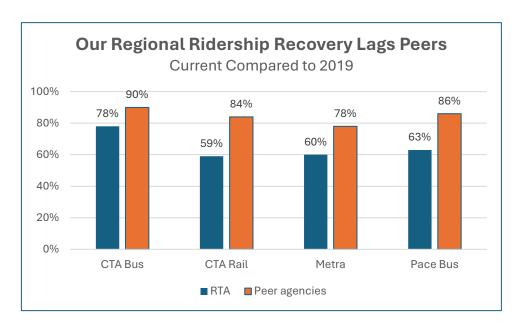
INVESTIN equitable transit for all!





1. Transit Service is Not Meeting Needs and is Falling Behind





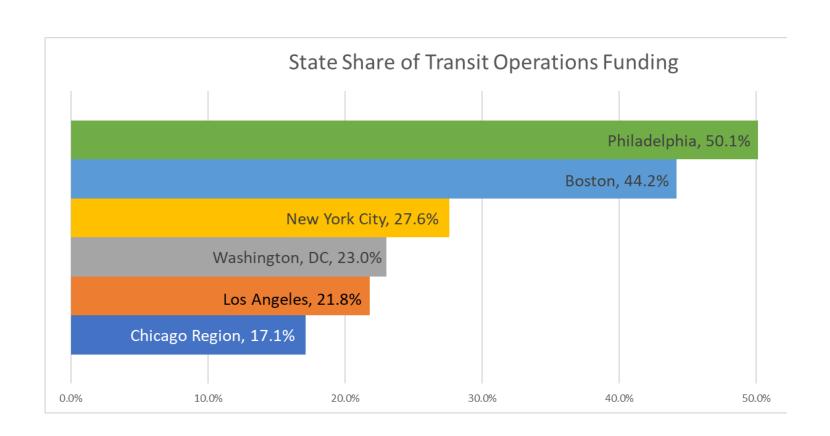
Source: RTA

Source: CMAP



2. Transit Has Been Underfunded for Decades

- The transit operations budget gap will be over \$700 million in 2026 and continues growing
- The federal government does not fund transit operations
- The state of Illinois is far behind peers in providing state funding for operations

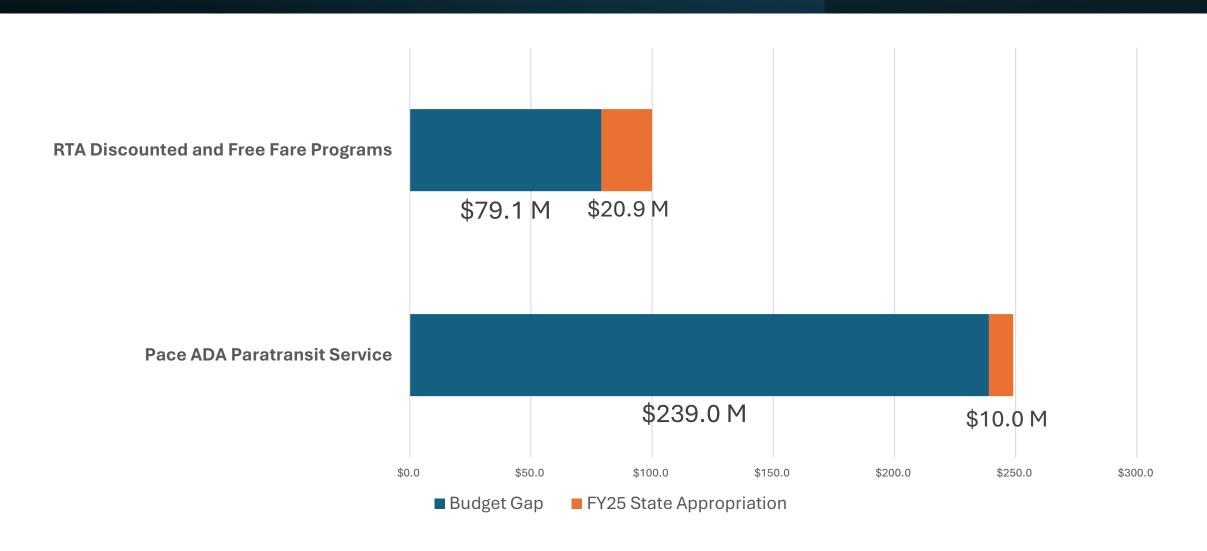


Note: Illinois funds about 65% of transit operations in systems outside NE IL



Drill Down: Dedicated Funding for Mandated Paratransit and Reduced Fare Programs is Necessary as Need Grows

Source: RTA



3. Structure / Governance of System is Not Responsive to Rider Needs

Transit governance system and funding formulas created >40 years ago – MANY things have changed since then.

Transit is run by independent agencies that **compete for riders and \$** with limited incentives to collaborate.

No other major metro region in the US has a similar institutional arrangement.

Four studies in last ten years called for **consolidation** and governance reform.

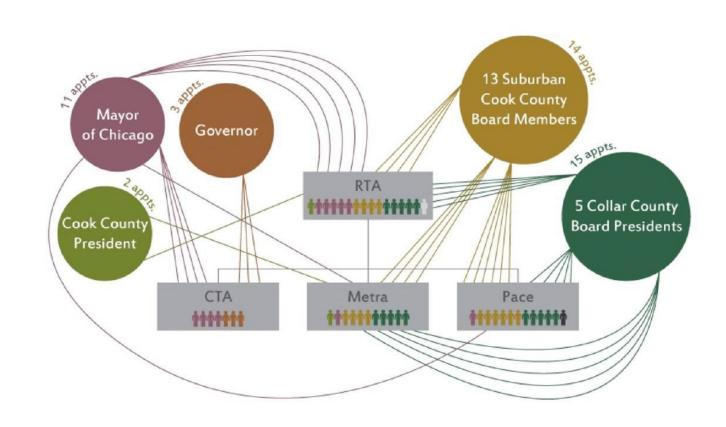
The funding formulas are complex, out of date (some rules have been unchanged for forty years), and rigid.

The supermajority
requirement for financial
plans and other key
measures results in relatively
small groups exercising veto
power over key decisions.



Drill Down: Governance Representation is Antiquated and Lacks True Regional Views

- Current system has 21 elected officials appointing 47 board members for 4 transit agencies creating an accountability challenge
- Leadership is overtly resisting reform despite obvious moment for change
- Chicago has one board appointee for PACE despite roughly 80% of paratransit happening in the city
- Chicago has one board appointee for Metra, despite about 1/3 of stations being in the city





Getting to the System We Want and Need: Invest an additional \$1.5B Annually and Reform System to Improve Transit Service

Exceptional Service

Fund the system and modernize governance to support expanded, fast, and frequent transit services that connect regional destinations.

Universally Accessible System

Implement changes to make the system fully ADA accessible and bolster paratransit and demand-response services.

Safe and Comfortable Rides

Upgrade stations, vehicles and signage. Fund customer service staffing and implement policies that make transit safe, secure and clean.

Integrated and Affordable Fares

One fare system across all transit providers; affordable fares and passes for low-income riders and youth.

Desirable
Destinations
Within Reach

Set policies to foster vibrant communities with amenities accessible via transit.

Stay Connected

To get relevant news and ways to take action related to walking, biking, and transit in the region: use the QR code to subscribe to updates from **Active Transportation Alliance**.

