At \$3.30/passenger mile, Portland Streetcar operating costs are much higher than those of most other transit.
Table data from 2016 National Transit Database, October 2017 (attached-passengers/mile in orange highlights)
At \$3.30/passenger mile, Portland Streetcar operating costs are far, far higher than the total costs of owning a car.
Table data from AAA, "Your driving costs, 2017"
Fleet-based on-demand autonomous vehicles should cost less to operate than similar personal cars.

| Transit OPERATIONS costs per passenger mile from NTD |  | Medium sedan TOTAL costs per mile |  | Columbia University Earth Institute, "Transforming Personal Mobility", January 2013: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Portland streetcar | \$3.30 | From AAA "Your driving costs" 2017: |  |  |  |
| WES | \$2.03 | car driven 10,000 miles per year | \$0.7163 |  |  |
| Aerial Tramway | \$1.90 | car driven 15,000 miles per year | \$0.5447 | TOTAL cost estimate per vehicle mile for | \$0.41 |
| Streetcar: national average | \$1.80 | car driven 20,000 miles per year | \$0.4712 | self-driving medium |  |
| Trimet Bus | \$0.91 |  |  | shared, on-demand |  |
| MAX | \$0.57 |  |  |  |  |

Streetcar's inability or unwillingness to get passengers to pay their fair share means that costs are passed on to TriMet users in the forms of higher fares and/or degraded service.
Streetcar charges $\$ 2.00$ for a full fare; TriMet $\$ 2.50$. Streetcar's $\$ 40$ monthly pass breaks even with cash fares after only 20 rides; TriMet's $\$ 100$ monthly pass needs 40 rides to break even. Streetcar's estimated $\$ 4.40$ per I.D. hoider buik annuai pass fee to qualifying institutions which sponsor streetcars is totaily off the charts and has no comparison to the small breaks TriMet is able to offer. TriMet's $\$ 7.5$ million annual subsidy to streetcar must be passed on to TriMet riders including Portland residents.

Management's inclusion of sponsorship revenue as part of farebox recovery on page 10 of the 2017 report is highly misleading and not in accordance with FTA standards.
Streetcar's farebox recovery is less than what the report states, and far below TriMet's roughly $30 \%$ rate.
We can expect streetcar ridership to plummet once shared autonomous vehicles (AVs) become available, especially among those who pay fares out of their own pocket.
Trips using shared AVs promise to be safer, far more convenient, almost always faster, and often cheaper than those by transit. Streetcar is especially vulnerable to AV competition because trips are so short and will face AV's lowest possible fares. Streetcar's downtown location should coincide with very high AV availability.

## Streetcar's funding is subject to severe erosion from AVs.

Paid parking is probably doomed. TriMet's own AV challenges would prevent it from supporting streetcar.
It's in the self-interest of AV fleet owners to foster carpooling, especially during high demand periods. It would minimize capital costs and maximize per trip revenue while lowering customers fares. Fleet owners' computers will already have trip information for every customer, making carpooling a natural fit.

If shared AVs get people to carpool, they could hold down traffic congestion indefinitely, eliminating the need to overbuild highways or require congestion pricing.
Electric propulsion would enable owners to configure shared AVs to carry more people than today's cars.
AVs are a lot closer than many people realize.


The little low-speed EZ 10 pictured is in use in projects around the world. While only 13 feet long, or about the same as a subcompact, its electric propulsion system enables the passenger compartment to extend the entire length of the
 vehicle, giving it a capacity for 12 passengers (six seated and six standing).

Google's Waymo division is now testing self-driving Chrysler Pacifica minivans in traffic on public streets in Arizona without human backup drivers.

General Motors plans the "mass testing" of autonomous vehicles without manual controls next year.

Ford promises to start mass producing AVs for fleet-use-only within four years.

The self-driving BRT pictured has completed its test-track phase and is slated to start operations within the next few months in Zhuzhou, China. It really is a bus with rubber tires, and follows those special double dashed lines on the pavement. This three-section model can hold up to 300 riders, and a five-section version can hold 500 , or more than a MAX train.


The 19th century and the era when unbridled growth of urban rail transit made sense are long gone. We need to accept that reality if we want sustainable transit contributing to society into the future.


|  | Operaling Expense per Vehicle Revenue Mile: Street Car Rail |
| :---: | :---: |
| ${ }^{580.00}$ |  |
| 330.00 |  |
| 82000 51000 | 32.00 |
|  |  |






[^0]data for a contract with another reporter
Wis agency has a purchased transportalich relationship in which they buy service from Tri-County Metropolitan Transportalion District of Oregion (VTOID: ©0008), and in which the data are captured in this report for mode SR/PT.


2016 National Transit Profile Summary - Full Reporters




[^0]:    Notes:
    -Demand Response - Texi (DT) and non-dedicaled flieels do nol report fleel age data.

