



WPI

Supporting Public Transportation in Los Angeles in Order to Reduce Traffic Congestion



Jacob Gassenheimer (CE), Theron Howe (CE), Ritesh Prasannakumar (CE), Danilo A. C. Da Silva (CS), Jeremy Trembley (RBE)

The Problem and the Causes

The Issue

- LA Traffic times are far and above the worst in the US
- Commuters often spend an extra 20-30 minutes stuck in traffic; about 4 days total in a year

The Causes

- High investments in roads and more public transportation without improving it
- Ineffective and old public transportation system rarely updated since 1990's.

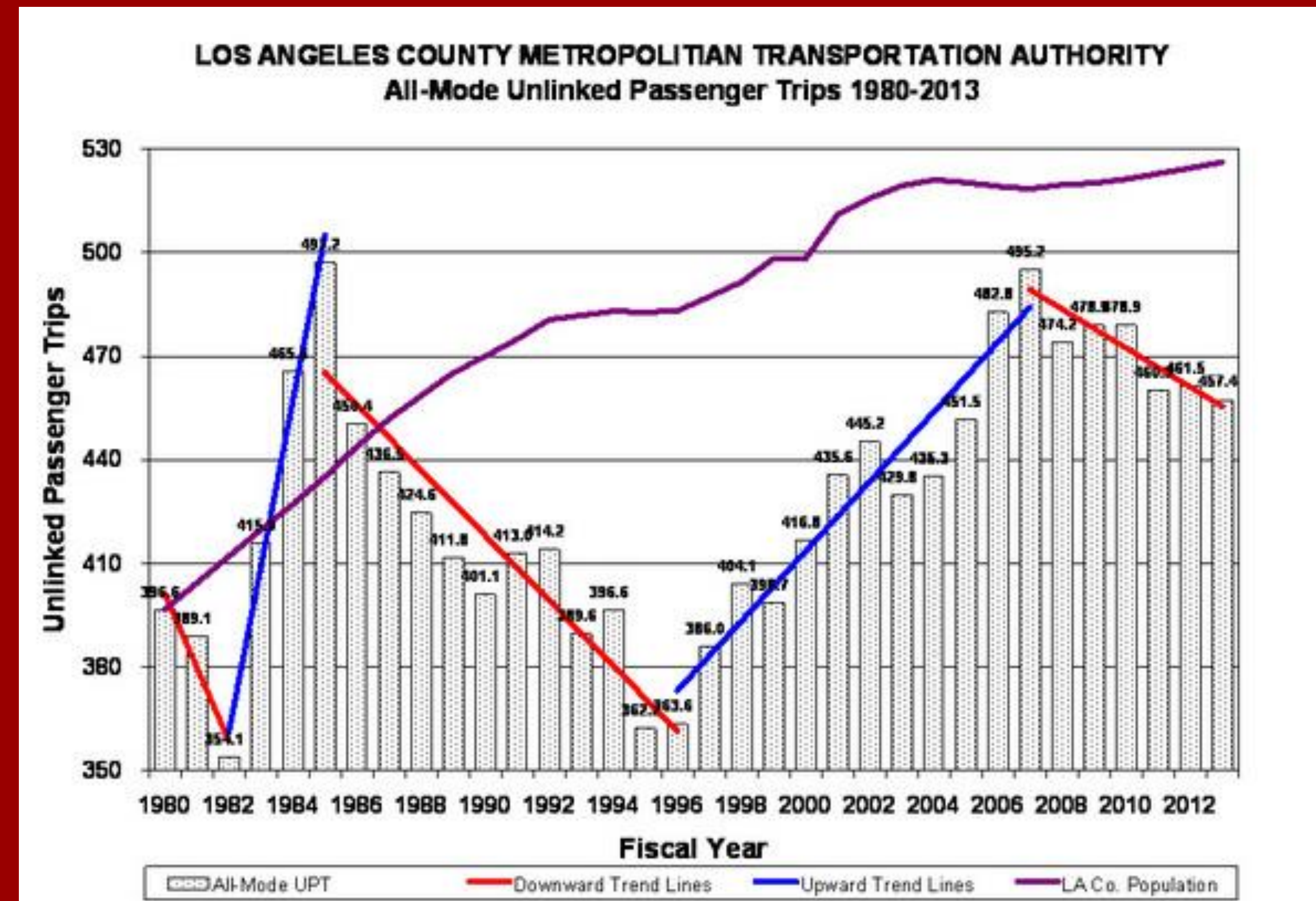
The Solution

- Semi-privatization of some LA public transportation to allow companies to invest in it
- Implementation of more bus lanes and improved quality and access of information



Government Role

- Maintain affordability
- Maintain a competitive environment
- Regulate to keep a standard
- Manage lines companies don't run
- Introduce bus lanes



Private Sector Role

- Manage lines
- Maintain lines
- Run lines
- Invest in owned lines to improve efficiency
- Maintain affordable standards

Proposal

Work with local government to implement proposal including bus lanes and working with private companies

Local Support

Implement bus only lanes on major streets in Los Angeles and acquire local support for semi-privatization

Semi-Privatization

Let corporations take over managing some public transportation systems and allow them to develop different line efficiency

References

<https://chicago.cbslocal.com/2013/02/20/new-loop-rapid-transit-bus-lanes-unveiled/>, <https://www.screenly.io/use-cases/bus-stop-digital-signage/>, <https://www.kcet.org/history-society/just-transportation-is-los-angeles-making-progress-on-transit-for-all>, Sorensen, P., Wachs, M., Min, E. Y., Kohner, A., & Ecola, L. (2008). *Moving Los Angeles: Short-term policy options for improving transportation*. Rand Corporation.