

RapidTO: Eglinton East Bus Lane

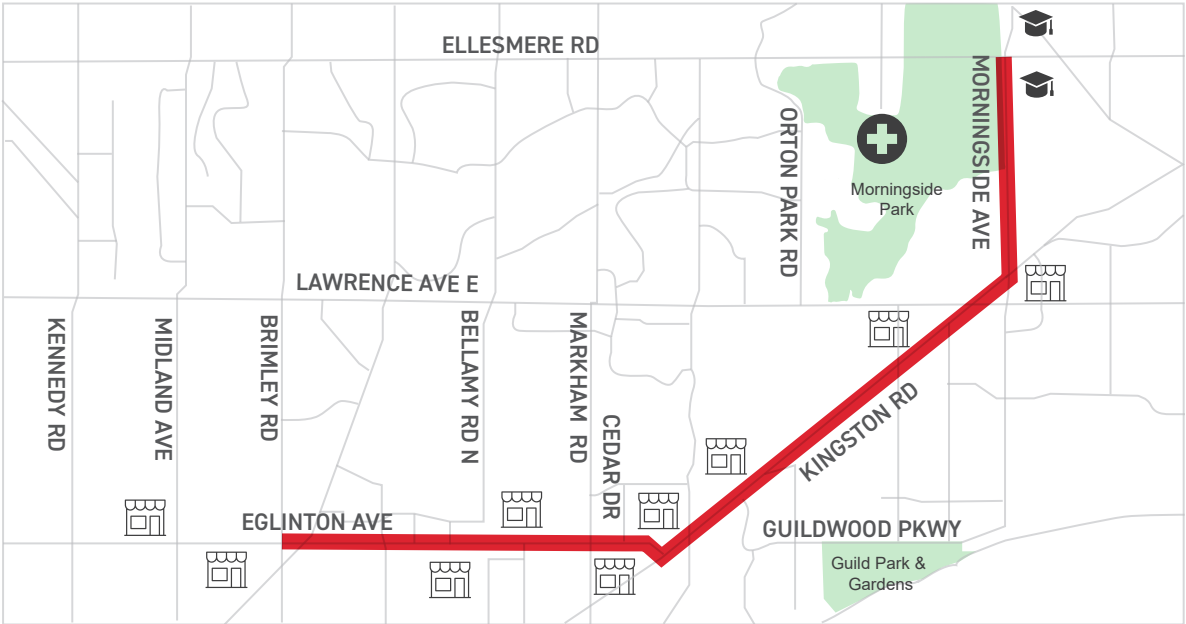
January 2022 to March 2023

Release Date: January 2024



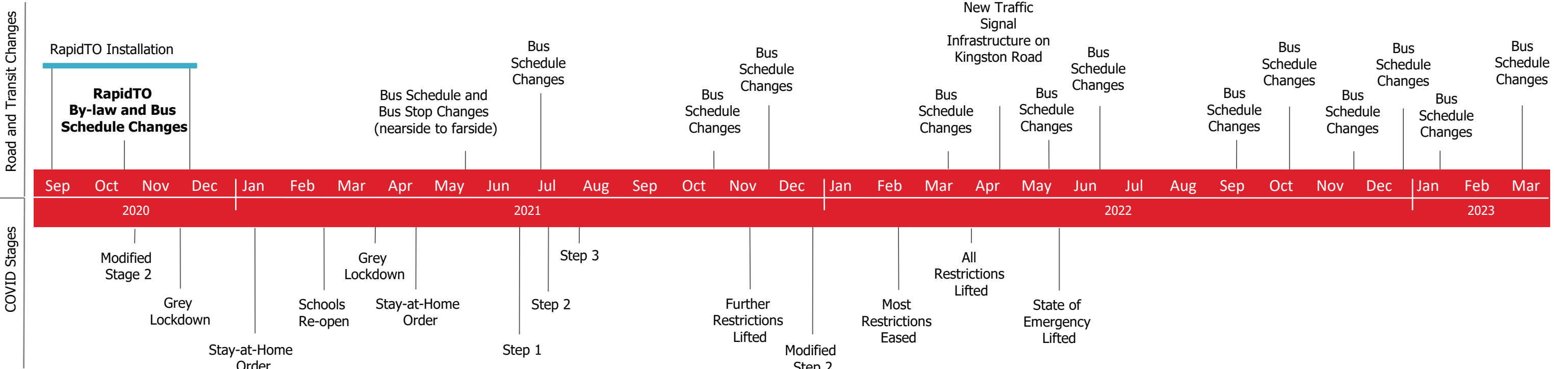
The RapidTO bus priority program, a partnership between the City of Toronto and the TTC, advances the City's Surface Transit Network Plan and the TTC's 5-Year Service Plan & 10-Year Outlook. It aims to move people more efficiently on transit by improving reliability, speed and capacity on some of the busiest surface transit routes in the city. More reliable bus routes with faster service improves access to employment, healthcare and community services, and contributes to transit equity.

The Eglinton East bus lane, which spans 8.5 km and includes parts of Eglinton Avenue East, Kingston Road and Morningside Avenue, is the first RapidTO bus priority project in operation. It is also among the TTC's most heavily used transit routes, serving several Neighbourhood Improvement Areas and playing a significant role in moving people around the city even during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Eglinton East RapidTO Bus Lane

Eglinton East RapidTO - Project Timeline



Eglinton East by the Numbers



IMPROVED TRANSIT TRAVEL TIMES



2 minutes

A.M. COMMUTE

Transit travel times have decreased by as much as 2 minutes compared to the week prior to the RapidTO launch; when compared to the October 2019 baseline, they decreased by as much as 5 minutes.



3 minutes

P.M. COMMUTE

Transit travel times have decreased by as much as 3 minutes compared to the week prior to the RapidTO launch and to the October 2019 baseline.



CONTINUING TO MONITOR CAR TRAVEL TIME INCREASES



30 seconds

A.M. COMMUTE

Average car travel times have increased by less than 1 minute along the entire corridor since the implementation of the RapidTO Program.

The highest increase (**less than 3 minutes**) was seen in January 2022 in the southbound direction of the Morningside Avenue segment, compared to the Fall 2019 baseline.



1 minute

P.M. COMMUTE

Average car travel times have increased by as much as 1 minute along the entire corridor since the implementation of the RapidTO Program.

The highest increase (**less than 3.5 minutes**) was seen in February 2022 in the northbound direction of the Morningside Avenue segment, compared to the Fall 2019 baseline.

The increase in average car travel times is consistent with the increase in travel times post-pandemic city-wide.

IMPROVED TRANSIT RELIABILITY



6%

Reliability across all four routes has improved by an average of 6% in January 2022 – March 2023 compared to the October 2019 baseline, with the 116 Morningside improving by 15%.

In the previous dashboards, reliability on all routes had improved by an average of 8% in October 2020 – December 2021 compared to the October 2019 baseline.

INCREASED TRANSIT RIDERSHIP



The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted ridership (boardings), changing as restrictions evolve. Since summer 2021 RapidTO boardings have recovered on average 4% higher than the system-wide bus network.

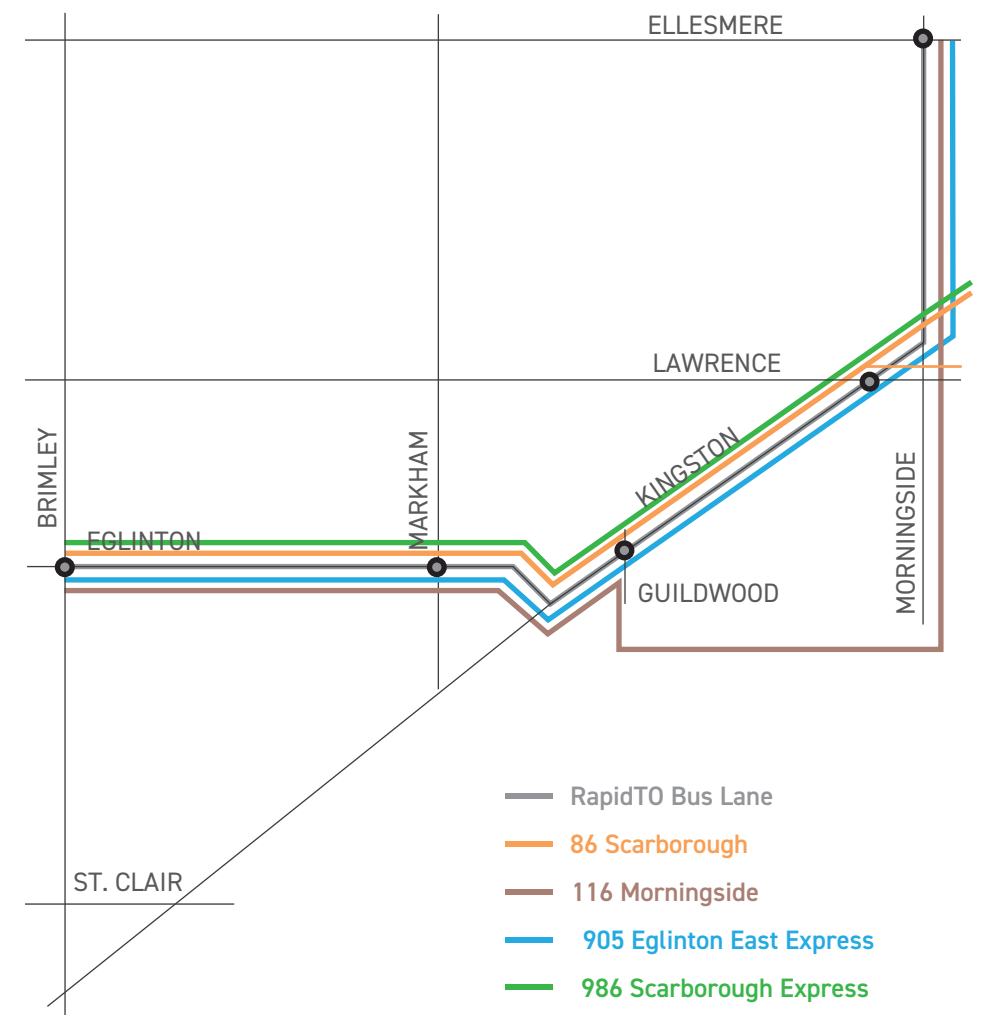


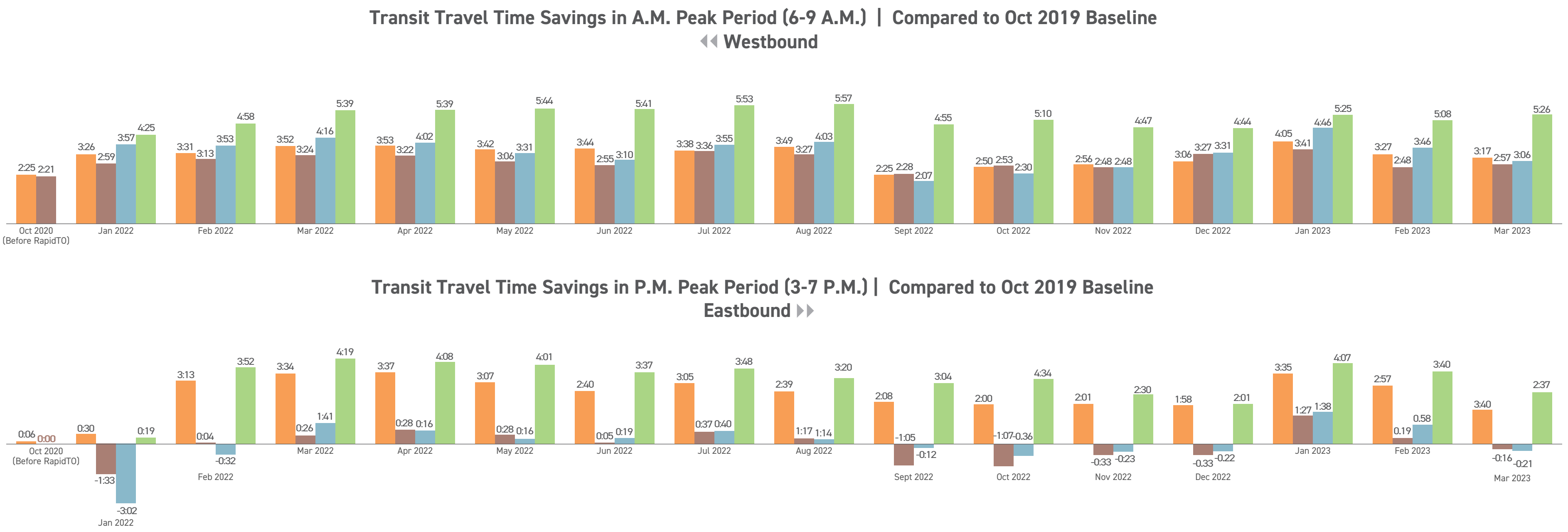
There has been a steady increase in auto volumes in the last two years, signifying a close to return to pre-pandemic volume levels.

CAR VOLUMES BACK TO NORMAL LEVELS

ROAD NETWORK

There is no indication of traffic infiltration at Lawrence Avenue East, St. Clair Avenue East and Brimley Road. Volumes along these roadways have increase at a lower rate than the RapidTO roadway volumes.



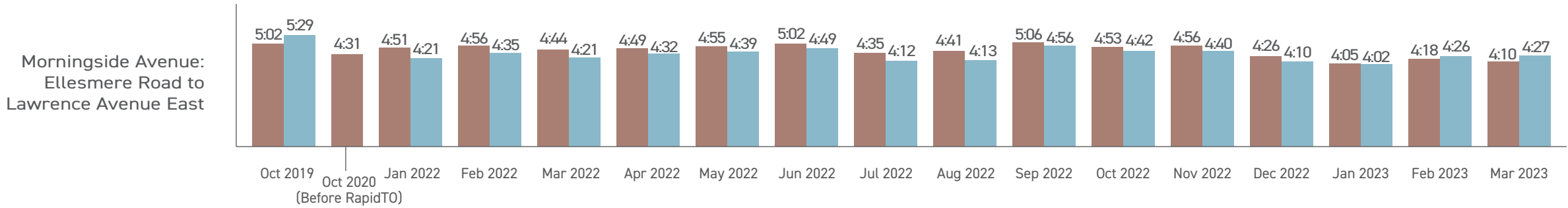
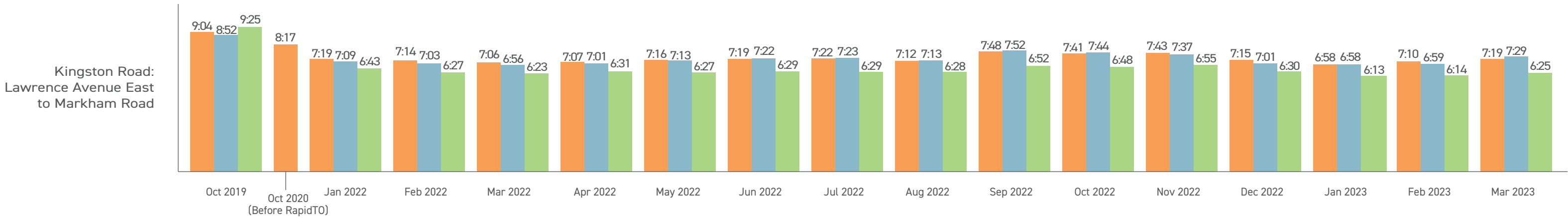
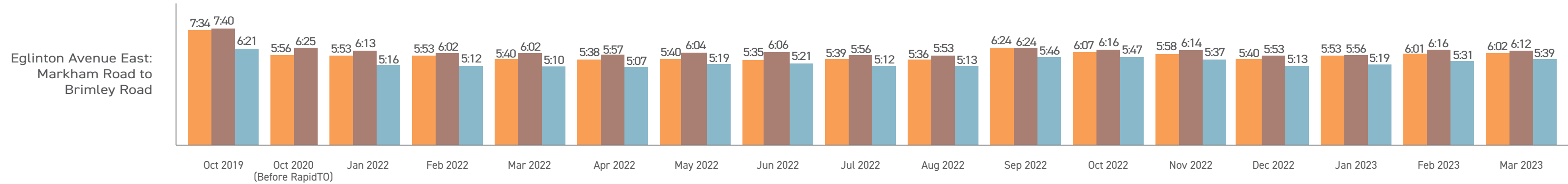


Transit Travel Times Savings:

- To read this graph, the October 2019 baseline travel time is the x-axis. Travel time savings from just COVID-19 can be seen in the first column, and travel time savings from RapidTO and COVID-19 are shown in the remaining columns. Travel time impacts of COVID-19 changed as restrictions evolve.
- In the A.M. Peak, average travel time savings (January 2022 – March 2023) were about 3 minutes and 10 seconds to 5 minutes and 20 seconds compared to the October 2019 baseline, and about 1 minutes and 25 seconds compared to just prior to installation (some travel time savings due to COVID-19).
- In the P.M. Peak, average travel time savings (October 2021 – December 2021) were about 0 minutes to 3 minutes 15 seconds compared to both the October 2019 baseline and just prior to installation (no travel time savings due to COVID-19).
- The average reduction in travel time was calculated for each RapidTO route across RapidTO segments, excluding Eglinton Avenue East between Kennedy Road and Brimley Road (with the exception of the 986).
- Express services were suspended from April 2020 to October 2020.
- Travel time data was obtained from VISION, TTC's bus GPS tracking system.

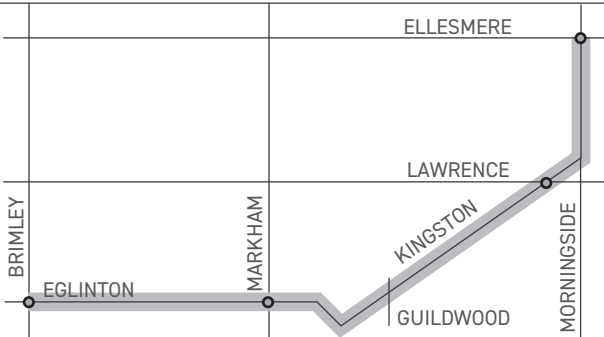
Transit Travel Times (Westbound)

Weekday | A.M. Peak Period (6-9 A.M.) ◀◀ Westbound



Transit Travel Times:

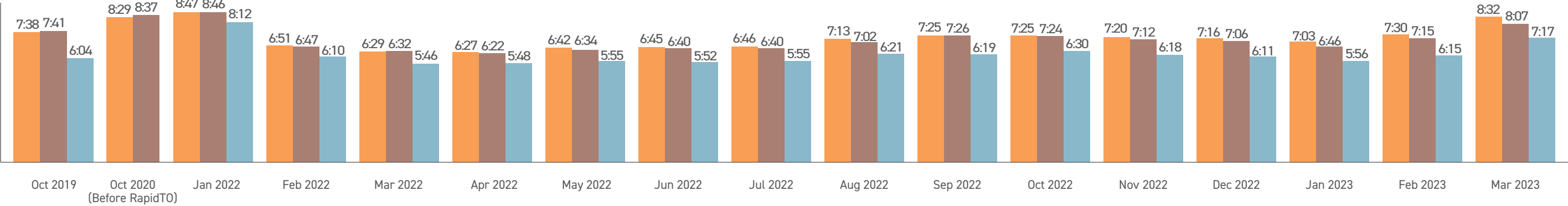
- The average reduction in travel time was calculated for each RapidTO route across RapidTO segments.
- The segment of Eglinton Avenue East between Brimley Road and Markham Road had four stops removed for the 86 and 116 in both directions, and no stops were removed for the 905 and 986 in both directions. The segment of Eglinton Avenue East and Kingston Road between Markham Road and Lawrence Avenue East had four stops for the 86 removed in both directions, one added for the 905 in both directions, and two removed for the 986 in both directions. The segment of Morningside Avenue between Lawrence Avenue East and Ellesmere Road had one stop for the 116 removed in both directions, and one stop for the 905 added in both directions.
- Red paint was installed on Morningside Avenue between September 2 - October 9, prior to the RapidTO launch, which may have contributed to travel time savings seen in October 2020 (Before RapidTO).
- Travel time data was obtained from VISION, our bus GPS tracking system.



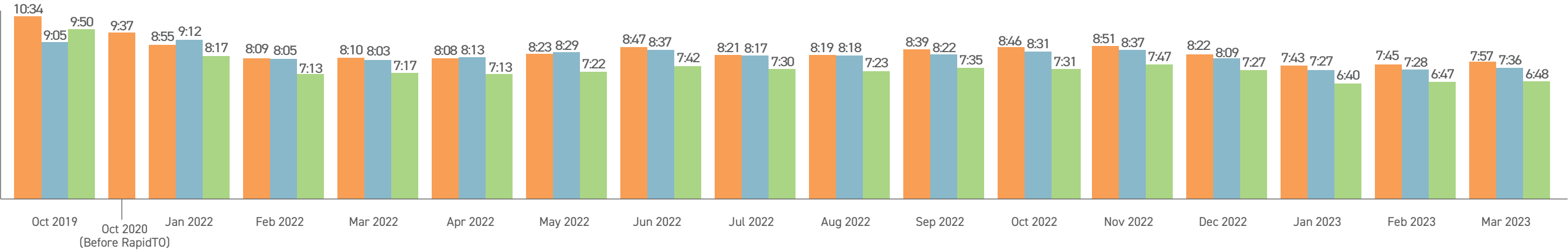
Transit Travel Times (Eastbound)

Weekday | P.M. Peak Period (3-7 P.M.) Eastbound ▶▶

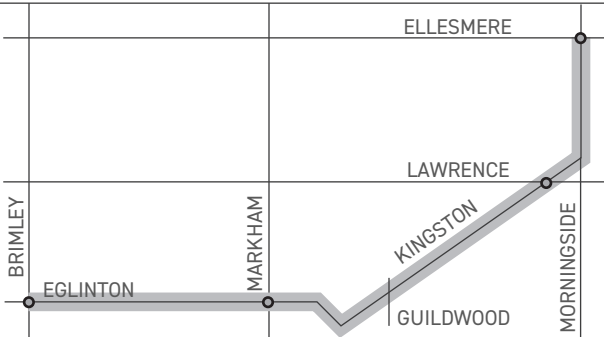
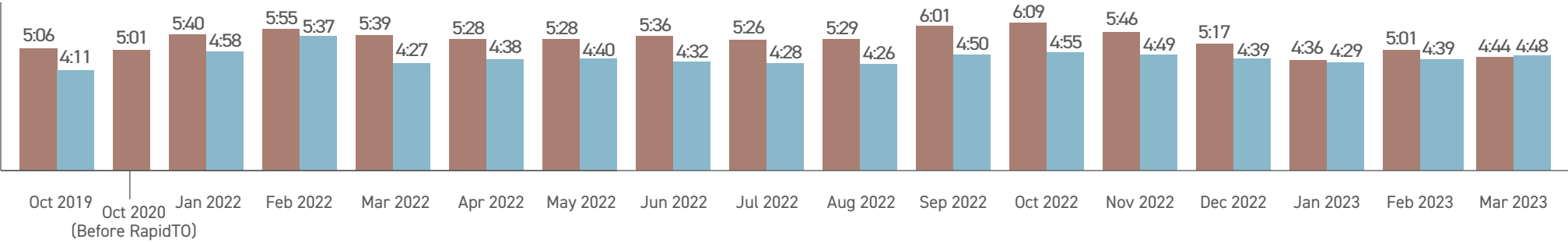
Eglinton Avenue East:
Brimley Road to
Markham Road

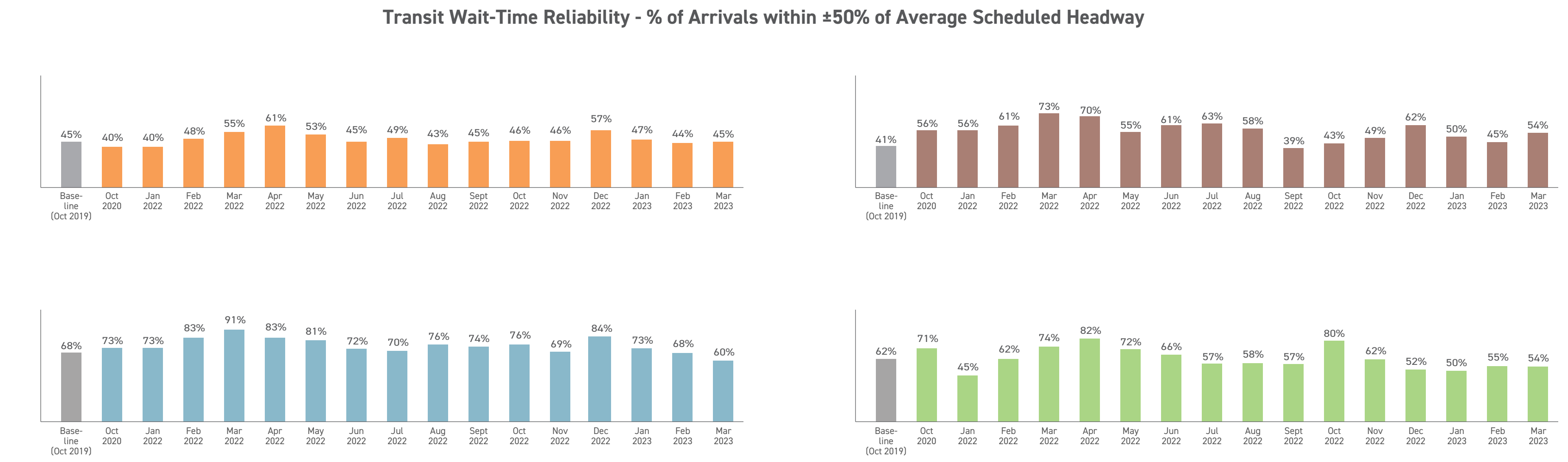


Kingston Road:
Markham Road to
Lawrence Avenue East



Morningside Avenue:
Lawrence Avenue East
to Ellesmere Road

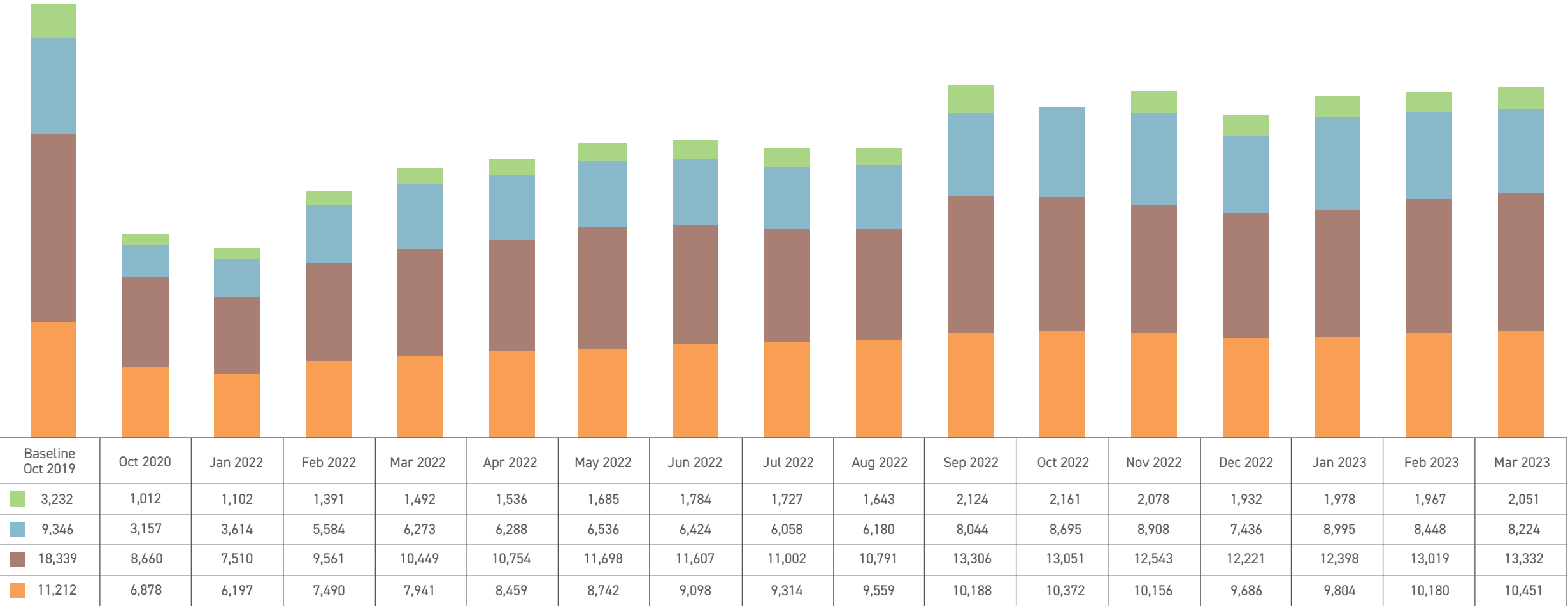




Transit Wait-Time Reliability:

- The values shown represent the percentage of trips that arrived within ±50% of the average scheduled headway, as defined in TTC's Service Standards. For example, if a route is scheduled to operate every 8 minutes, a bus between every 4 and 12 minutes would be considered to meet the standard. A higher value indicates more predictable wait times and fewer gaps in service.
- Scheduled headway is the scheduled time interval between buses.
- The graphs above were measured during the busiest hour and direction of the P.M. peak period (5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.), at Eglinton Avenue East and Markham Road in the Eastbound direction.
- Staff availability continued to be an issue in 2022 and 2023.

All Day RapidTO Bus Lane Boardings by Route



Transit Ridership:

- The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted ridership, changing as restrictions evolve.
- RapidTO boardings are following a similar trend as system-wide bus boardings (see page 8). Since summer 2021 RapidTO boardings have recovered somewhat faster than the system-wide bus network.

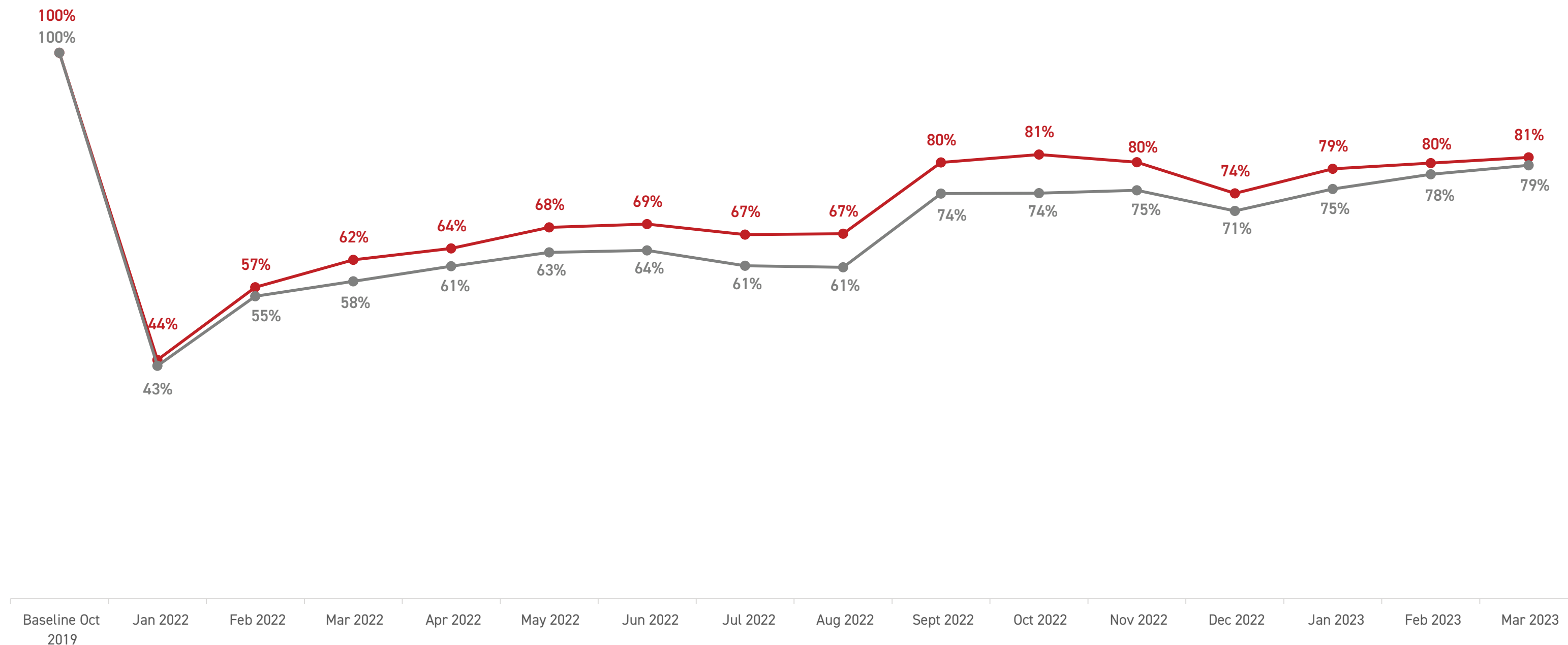
Methodology:

- Average weekday customers who travelled on RapidTO segments of the 86, 116, 905, and 986 routes, including Eglinton Avenue East between Kennedy Road and Brimley Road.
- This excludes those who travelled only within segments that did not have any transit priority (e.g. a few stops along Guildwood Parkway on the 116 Morningside).
- All boardings are obtained from APC (Automated Passenger Counter) data.
- The TTC suspended express bus routes at the start of the pandemic.

Transit Ridership

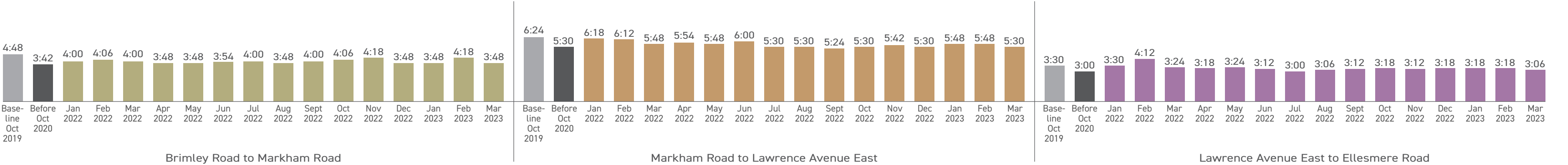
RapidTO boardings are following a similar trend as system-wide bus boardings and have recovered faster than the system-wide bus network.

Percentage of Baseline (October 2019)
All Day RapidTO (86/116/905/986) and System-wide Bus Boardings



RapidTO Roadway: Weekday | A.M. Peak Period (6-9 A.M.)

Eastbound



6:24

Base-line Oct 2019

5:30

Before Oct 2020

6:18

Jan 2022

6:12

Feb 2022

5:48

Mar 2022

5:54

Apr 2022

5:48

May 2022

6:00

Jun 2022

5:30

Jul 2022

5:30

Aug 2022

5:24

Sept 2022

5:30

Oct 2022

5:42

Nov 2022

5:30

Dec 2022

5:48

Jan 2023

5:48

Feb 2023

5:30

Mar 2023

Markham Road to Lawrence Avenue East

3:30

Base-line Oct 2019

3:00

Before Oct 2020

3:30

Jan 2022

4:12

Feb 2022

3:24

Mar 2022

3:18

Apr 2022

3:24

May 2022

3:12

Jun 2022

3:00

Jul 2022

3:06

Aug 2022

3:12

Sept 2022

3:18

Oct 2022

3:12

Nov 2022

3:18

Dec 2022

3:18

Jan 2023

3:18

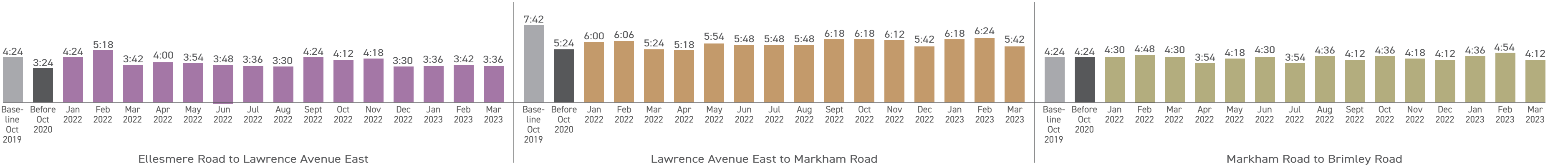
Feb 2023

3:06

Mar 2023

Lawrence Avenue East to Ellesmere Road

Westbound



7:42

Base-line Oct 2019

5:24

Before Oct 2020

6:00

Jan 2022

6:06

Feb 2022

5:24

Mar 2022

5:18

Apr 2022

5:54

May 2022

5:48

Jun 2022

5:48

Jul 2022

5:48

Aug 2022

6:18

Sept 2022

6:18

Oct 2022

6:12

Nov 2022

5:42

Dec 2022

6:18

Jan 2023

6:24

Feb 2023

5:42

Mar 2023

Lawrence Avenue East to Markham Road

4:24

Base-line Oct 2019

4:24

Before Oct 2020

4:30

Jan 2022

4:48

Feb 2022

4:30

Mar 2022

3:54

Apr 2022

4:18

May 2022

4:30

Jun 2022

3:54

Jul 2022

4:36

Aug 2022

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Sept 2022

4:36

Oct 2022

4:18

Nov 2022

4:12

Dec 2022

4:36

Jan 2023

4:54

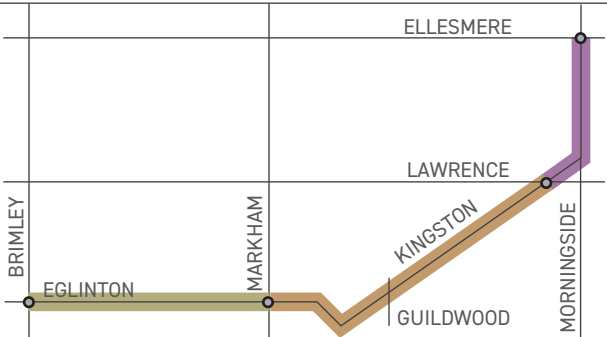
Feb 2023

4:12

Mar 2023

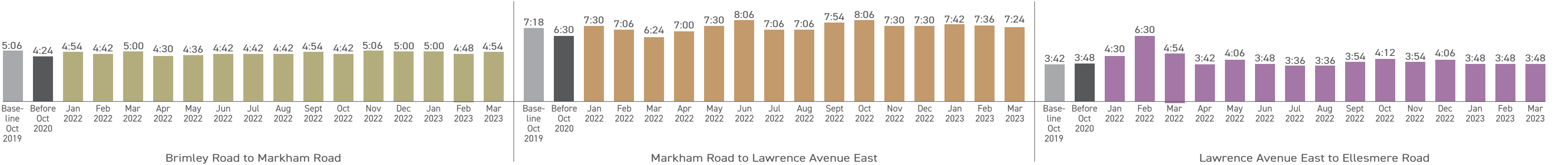
Markham Road to Brimley Road

- Average Car Travel Times:**
- In 2022 traffic conditions started to get back to pre-COVID-19 levels.
 - Car travel times are determined using aggregated speed data from a third-party GPS probe data provider.
 - In 2022 and early 2023 average travel times are at times higher than the Fall 2019 baseline, mostly in the westbound direction in the section between Markham Road and Brimley Road.
 - In 2022 and early 2023, travel times have increased where the Kingston Road and Morningside Avenue segments of the RapidTO roadway have seen increases of up to 2:45 minutes compared to the Fall 2019 baseline.
 - In 2022 and early 2023, average travel times have increase by up to 53 seconds in the section between Markham Road and Orton Park Road for both A.M. and P.M. peak periods.

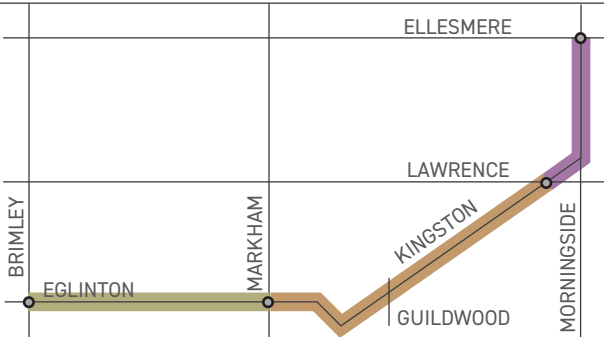
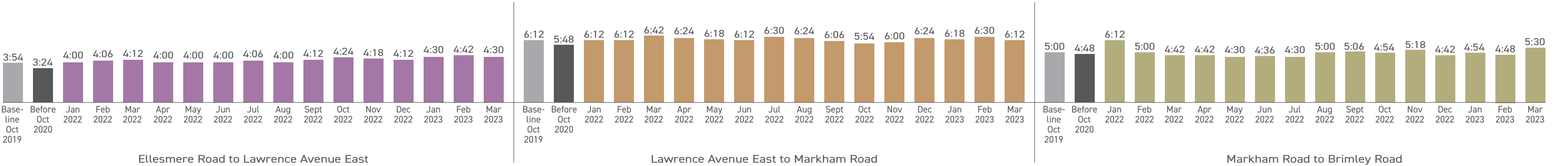


RapidTO Roadway: Weekday | P.M. Peak Period (3-7 P.M.)

Eastbound >>



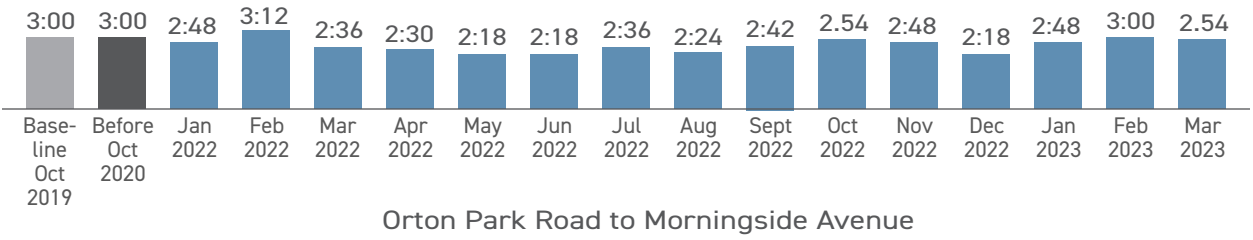
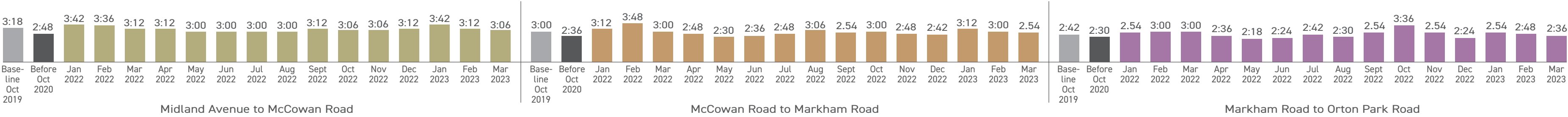
<< Westbound



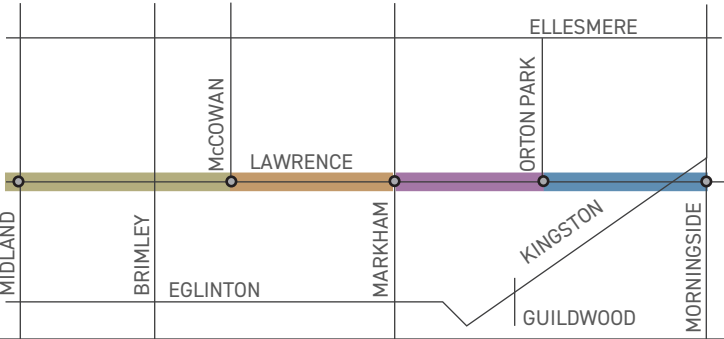
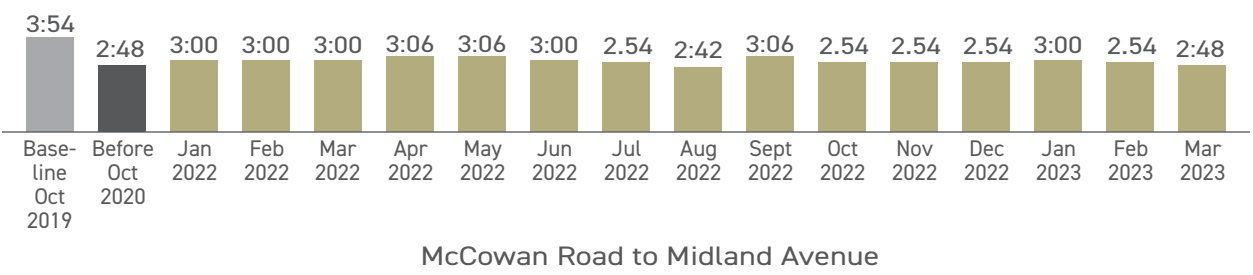
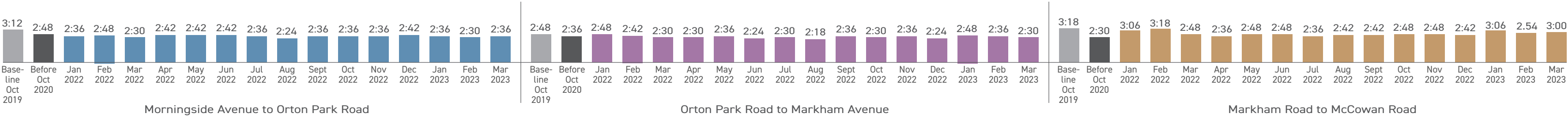
Average Car Travel Times (in Minutes)

Lawrence Avenue East: Weekday | A.M. Peak Period (6-9 A.M.)

Eastbound ➡➡



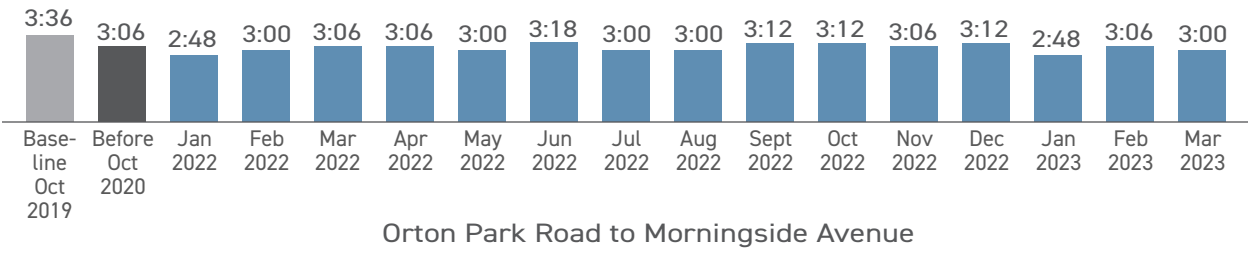
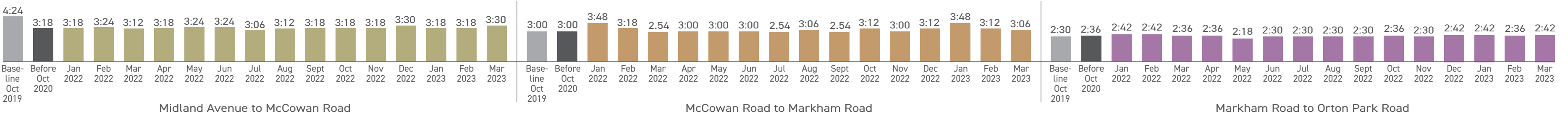
Westbound <<



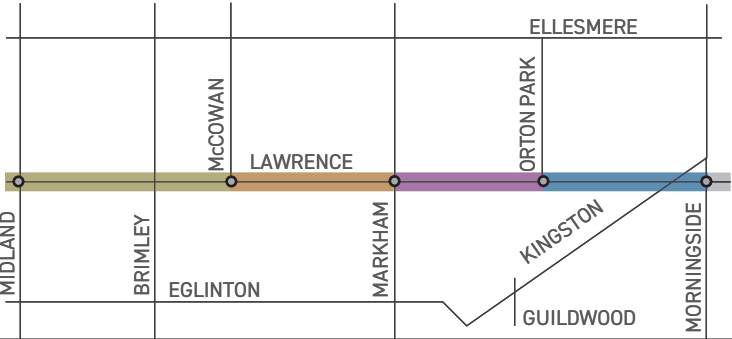
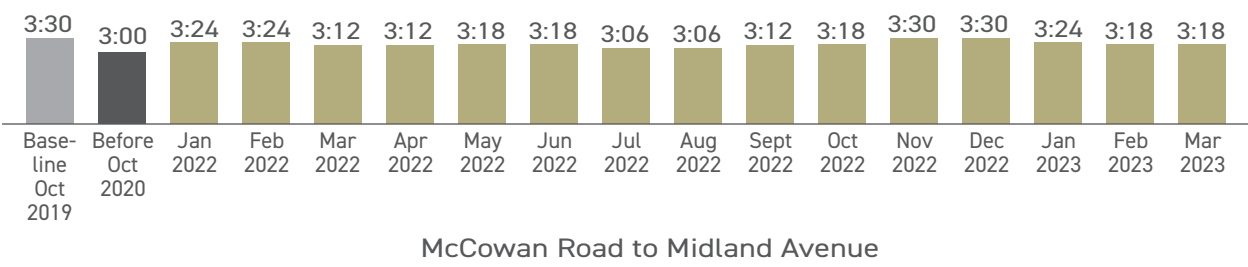
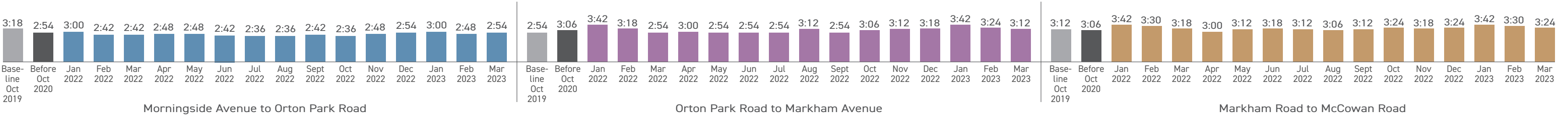
Average Car Travel Times (in Minutes)

Lawrence Avenue East: Weekday | P.M. Peak Period (3-7 P.M.)

Eastbound ➡➡

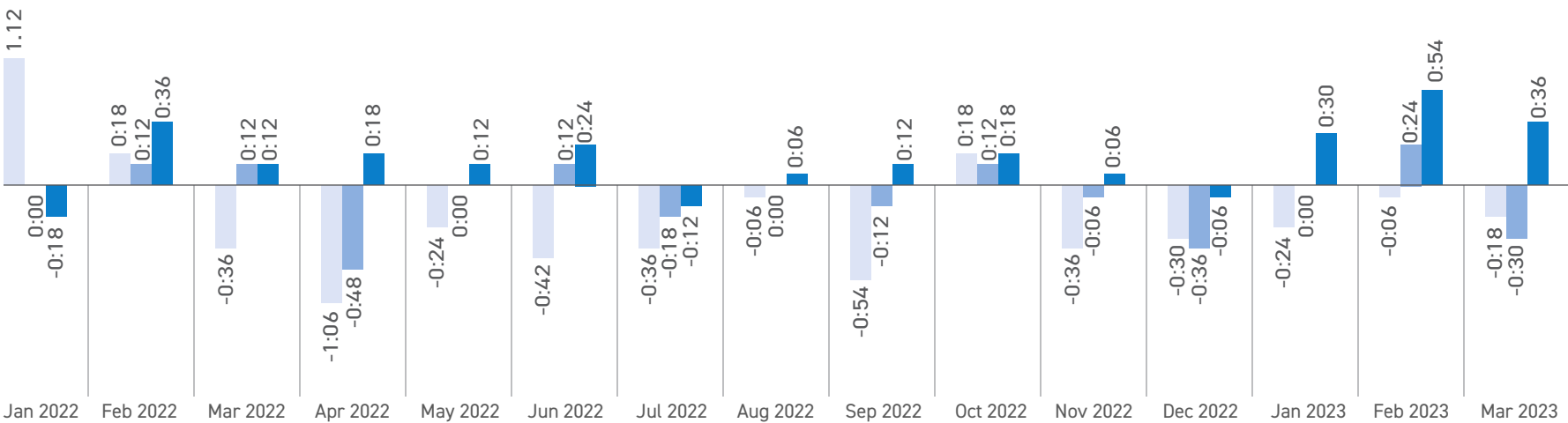


Westbound <<

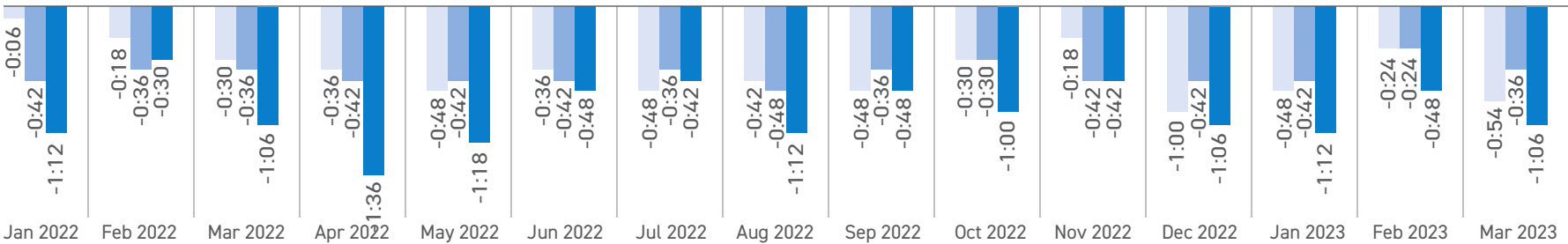


Change in Peak Car Travel Times from Fall 2019 (in Minutes)

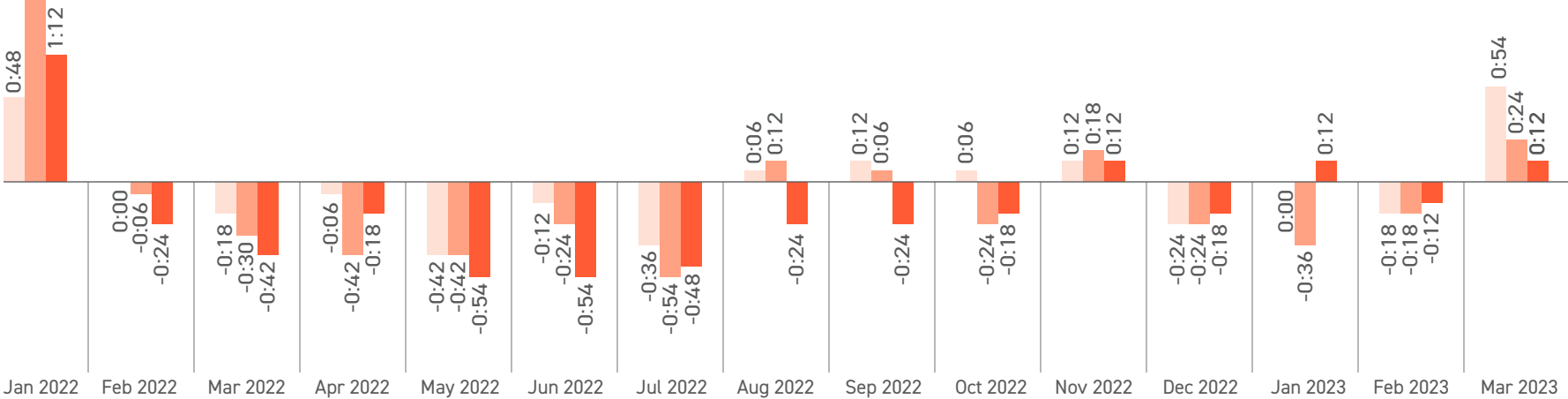
Westbound Eglinton Avenue: Markham Road to Brimley Road (A.M. Peak)



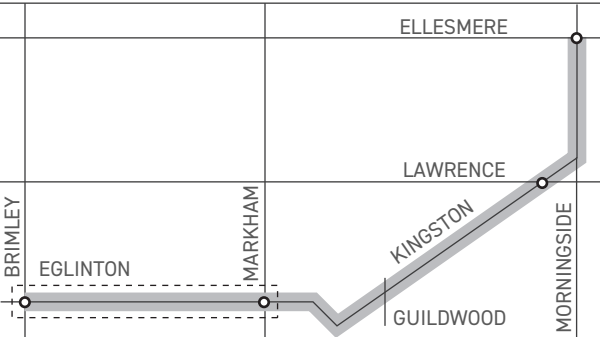
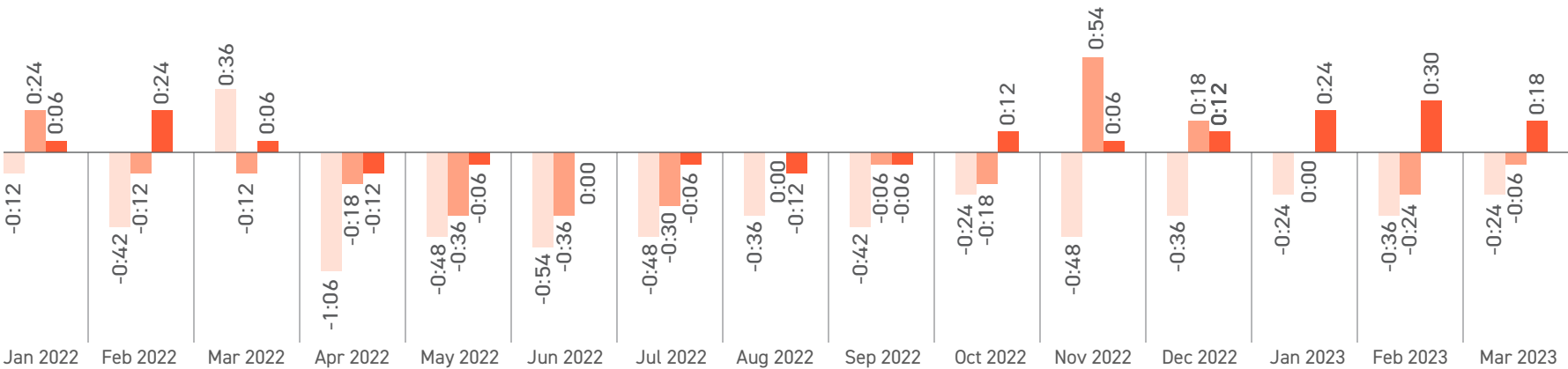
Eastbound Eglinton Avenue: Brimley Road to Markham Road (A.M. Peak)



Westbound Eglinton Avenue: Markham Road to Brimley Road (P.M. Peak)

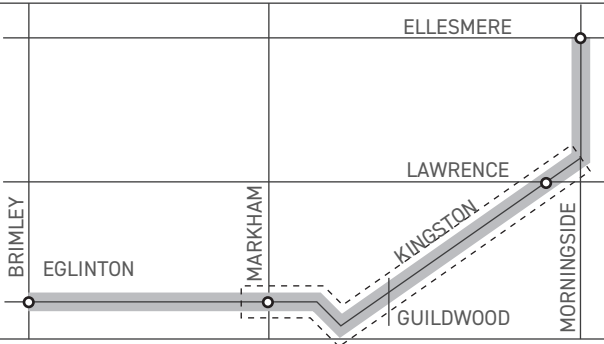
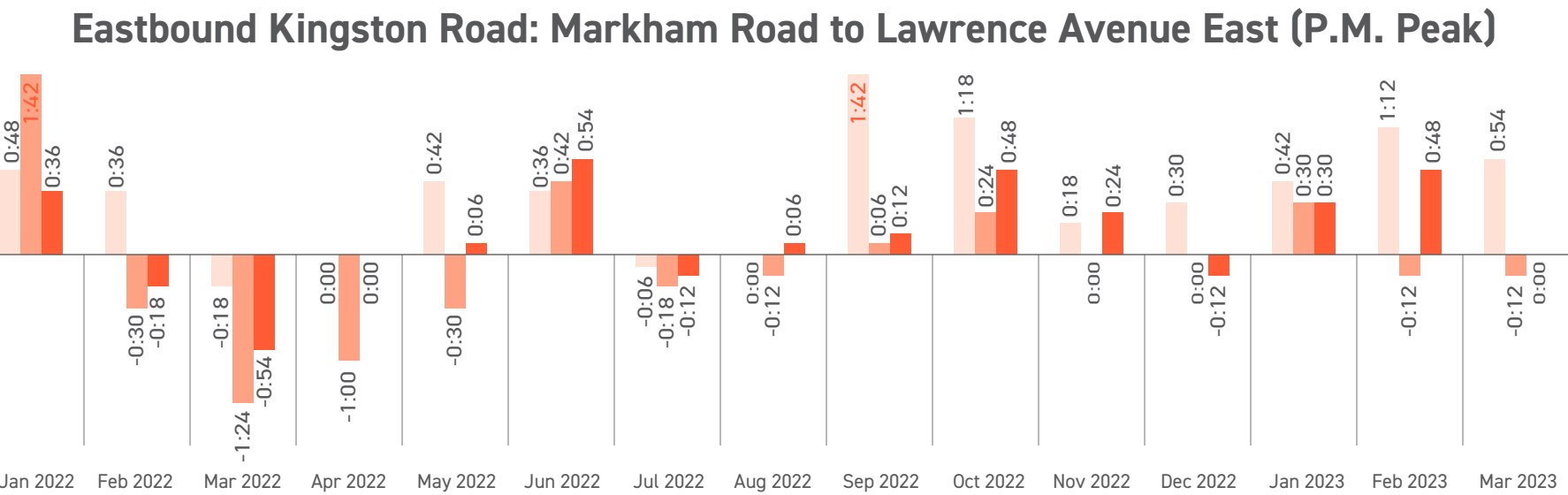
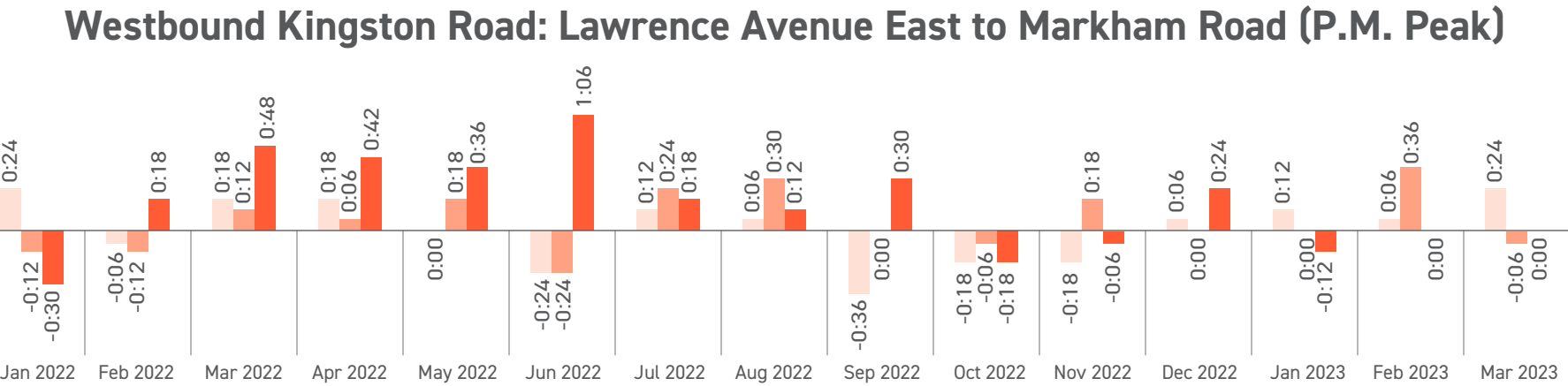
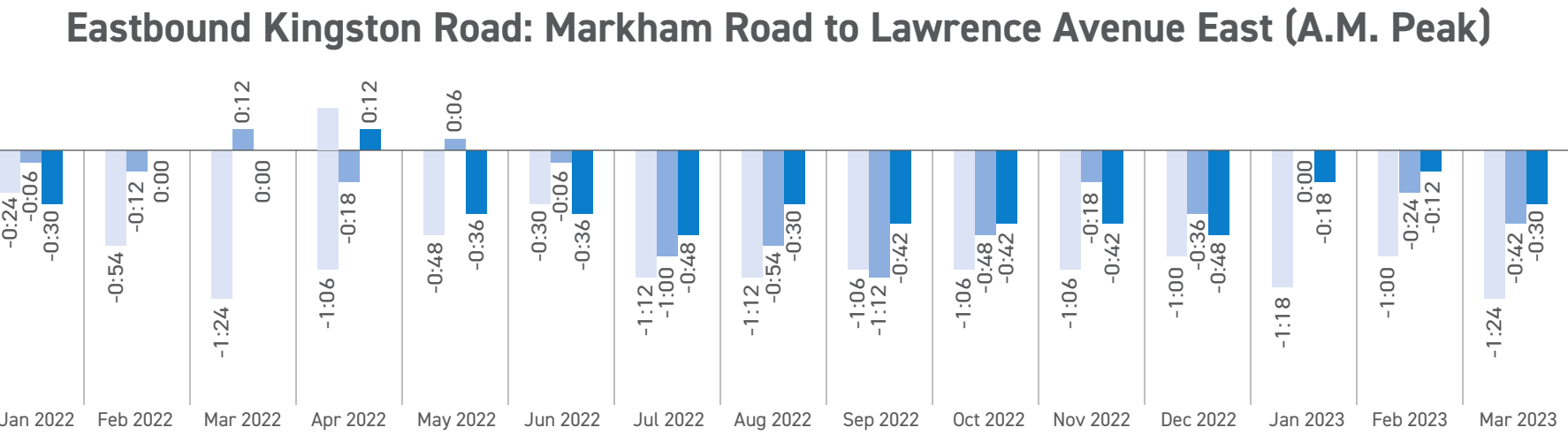
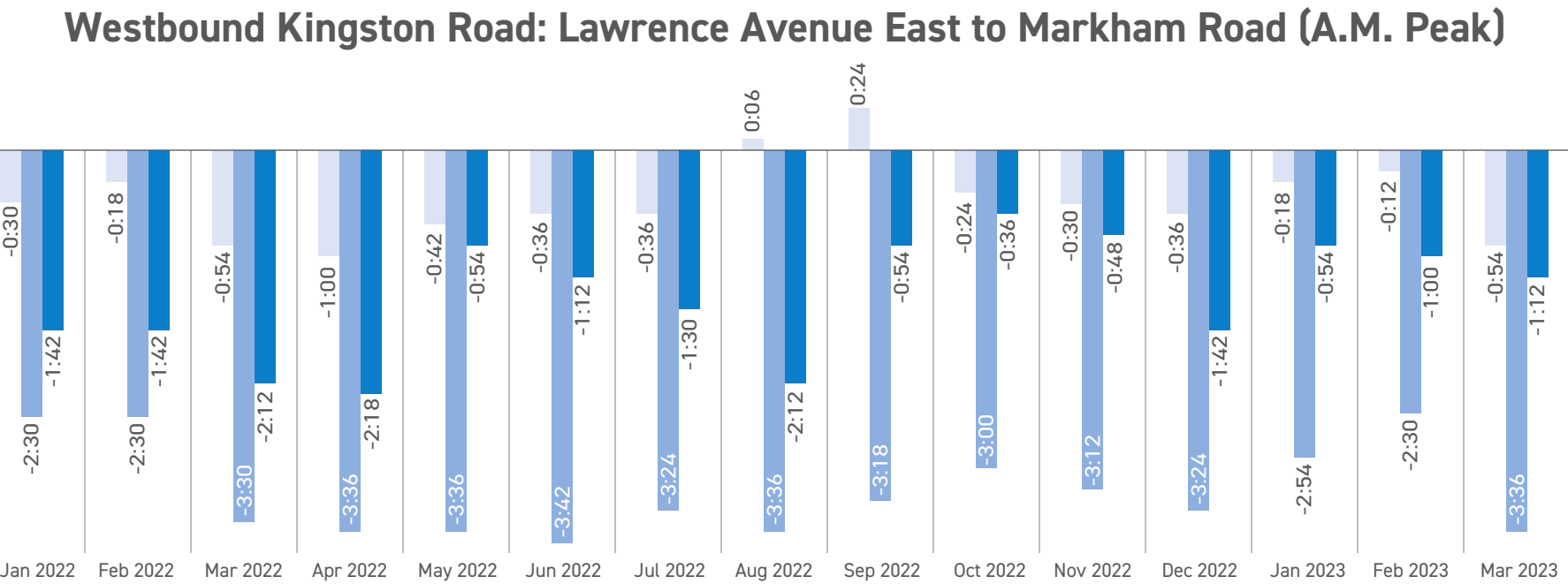


Eastbound Eglinton Avenue: Brimley Road to Markham Road (P.M. Peak)



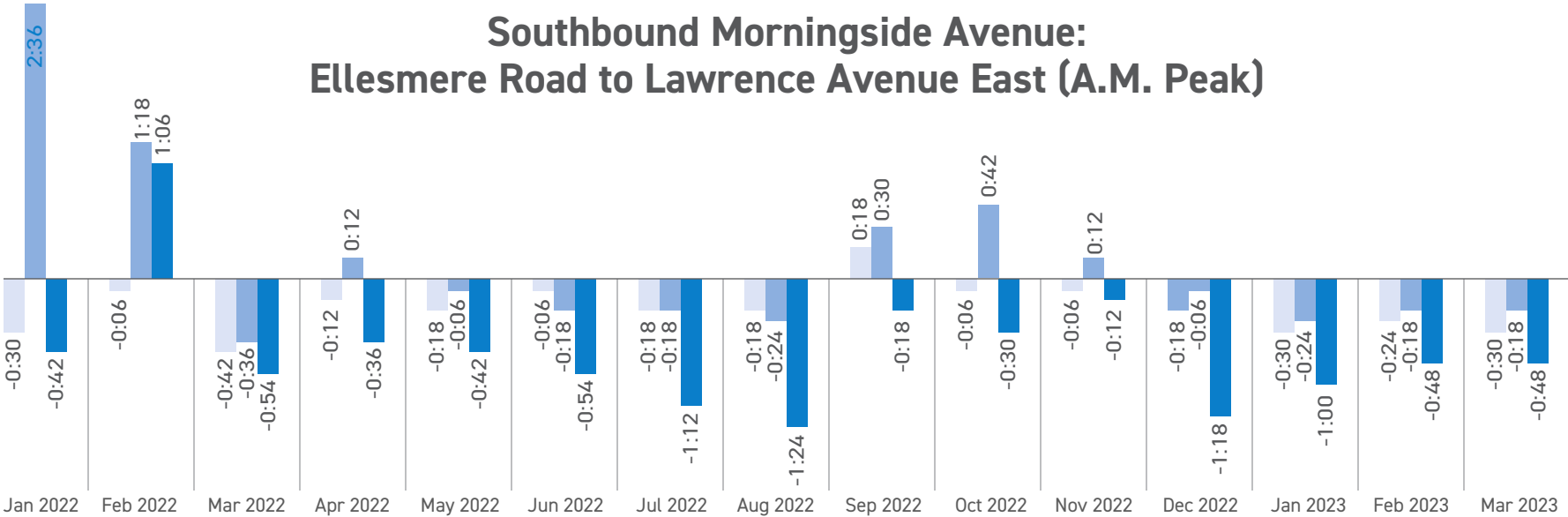
Change in Peak Car Travel Times from Fall 2019 (in Minutes)

RapidTO

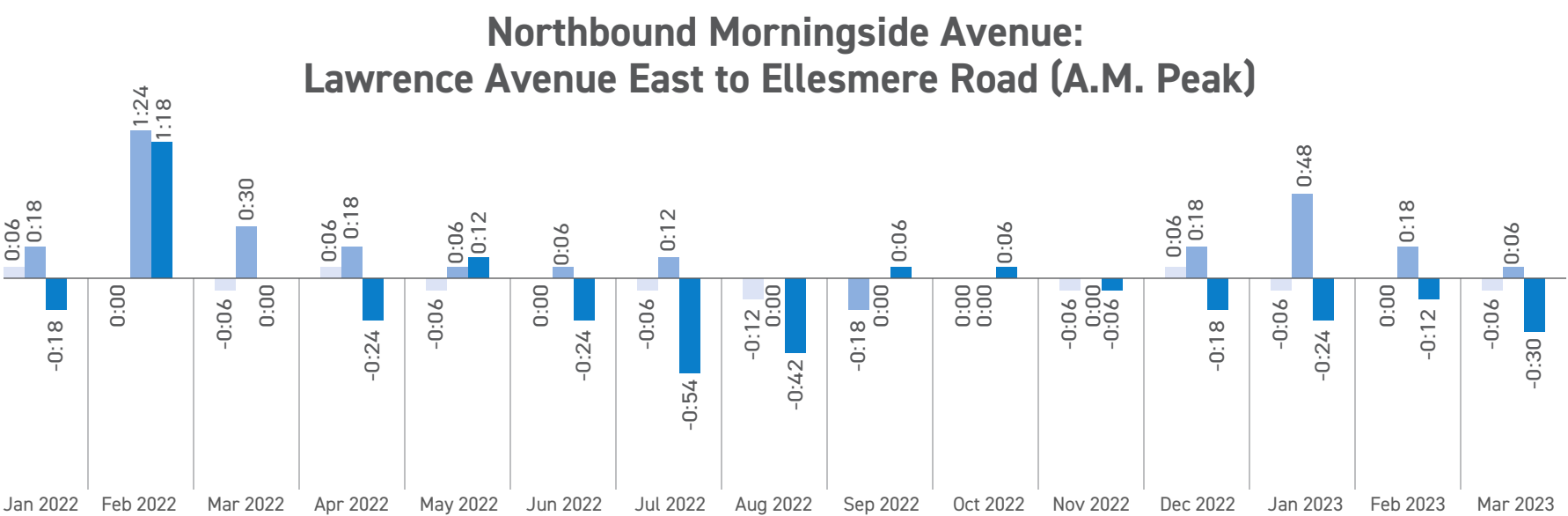


Change in Peak Car Travel Times from Fall 2019 (in Minutes)

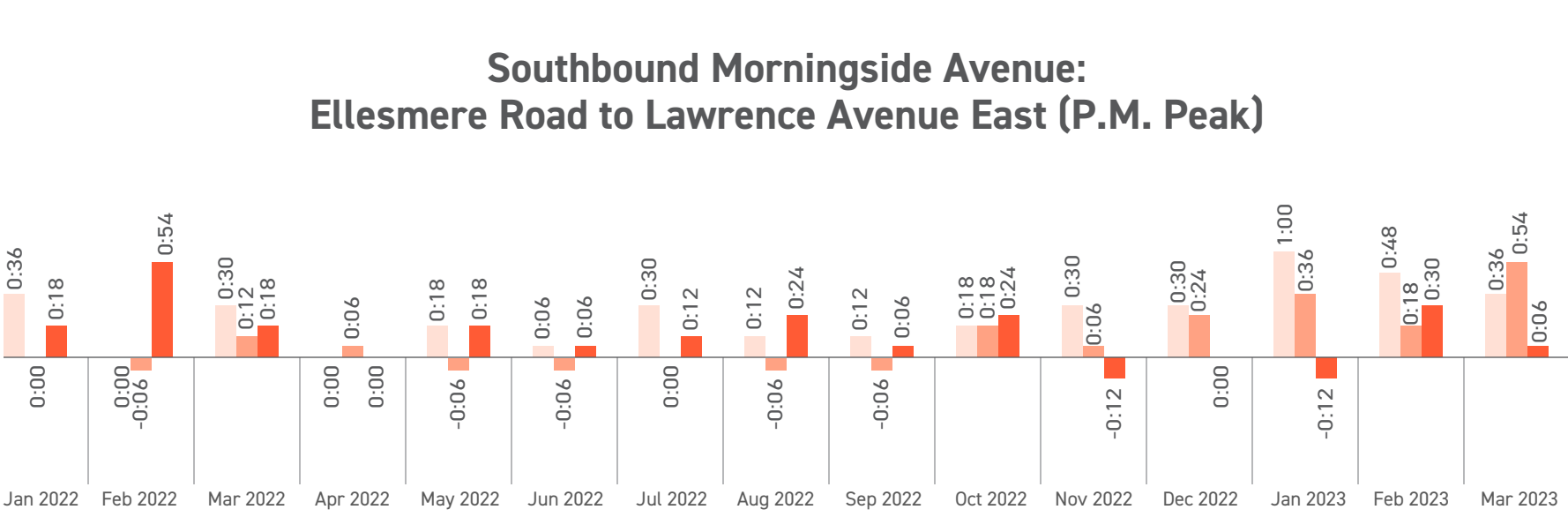
Southbound Morningside Avenue:
Ellesmere Road to Lawrence Avenue East (A.M. Peak)



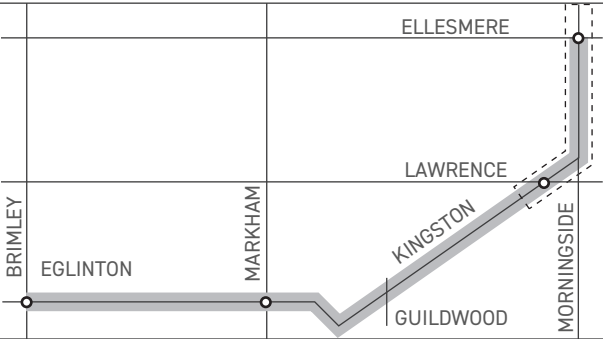
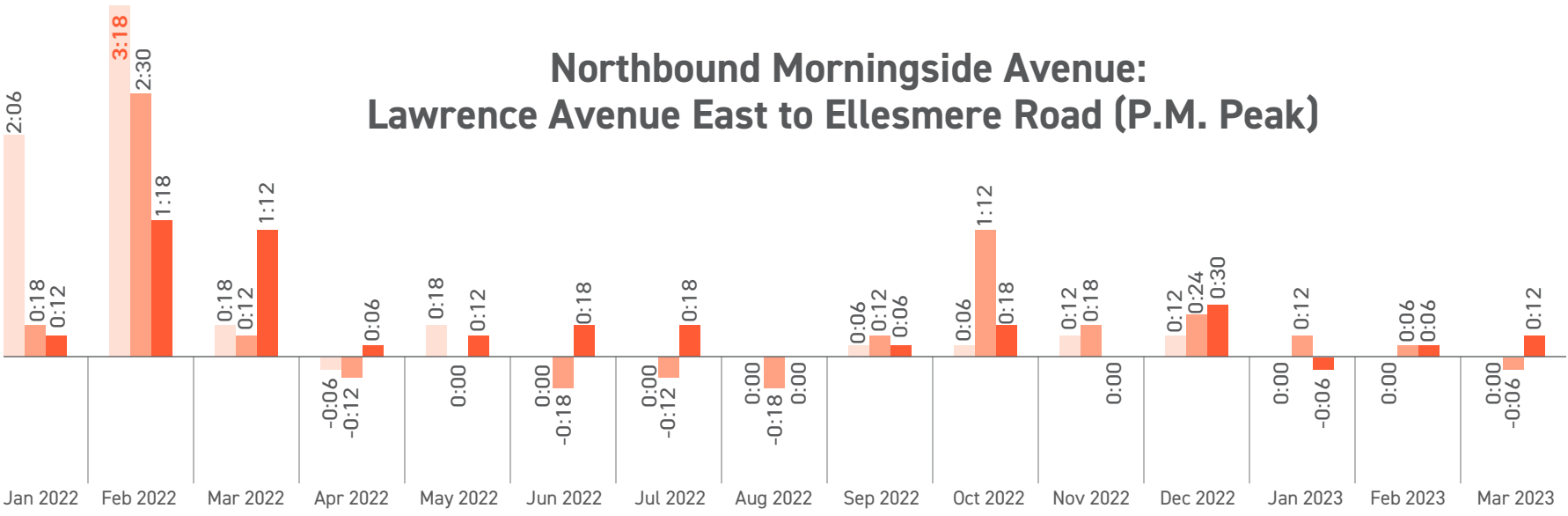
Northbound Morningside Avenue:
Lawrence Avenue East to Ellesmere Road (A.M. Peak)



Southbound Morningside Avenue:
Ellesmere Road to Lawrence Avenue East (P.M. Peak)

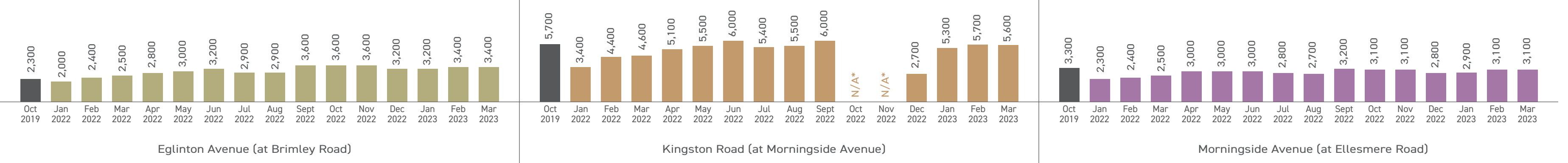


Northbound Morningside Avenue:
Lawrence Avenue East to Ellesmere Road (P.M. Peak)

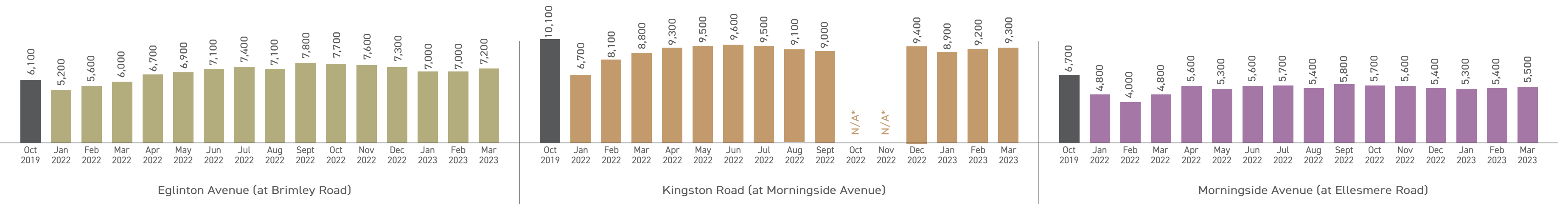


Average Two-Way Car Volumes

RapidTO Roadway
Weekday | A.M. Peak Period (6-9 A.M.)

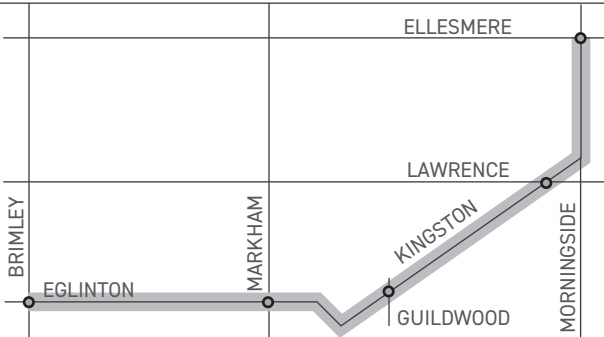


Weekday | P.M. Peak Period (3-7 P.M.)



Average Two-Way Car Volumes:

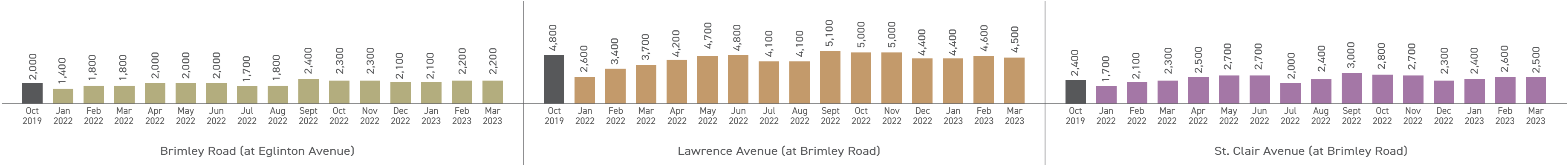
- In 2022 volumes continued to increase with the highest increase being 57% compared to the before period. This increase was seen in the Eglinton Avenue East and Brimley Road area in the A.M. peak period.
- There is no indication of traffic infiltration at Lawrence Avenue East, St. Clair Avenue East and Brimley Road. Volumes along these roadways have increase at a lower rate than the RapidTO roadway volumes.
- Not all permanent counting stations were installed prior to the full implementation of the RapidTO bus lanes. As a result, the Before periods vary by intersection and may be influenced by installation activities that took place prior to October 11, 2020.



N/A* A technical issue with the count station at Kingston Road and Morningside Avenue has resulted in missing data for October and November 2022.

Average Two-Way Car Volumes

Alternate Roadway
Weekday | A.M. Peak Period (6-9 A.M.)



Weekday | P.M. Peak Period (3-7 P.M.)

