

9 Town Transit

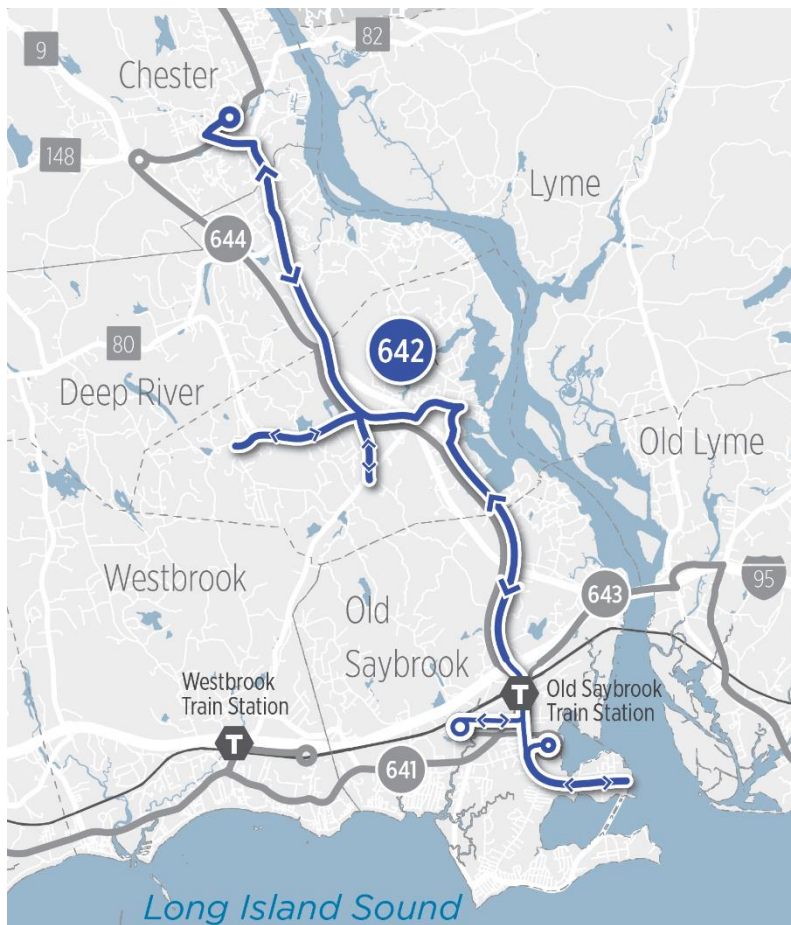
Route 642

Chester to Old Saybrook via Route 154

Route Overview

Route 642 (formerly known as Route 2 Riverside) operates primarily along Route 154, connecting Old Saybrook, Essex, Deep River, and Chester. The route serves Saybrook Point, the Old Saybrook Train Station, Essex Center, Deep River Center, and Chester Center. Route 642 primarily travels along Main Street in Old Saybrook, Rt 154/Middlesex Turnpike, Main Street in Essex, and Main Street in Chester.

Figure 1: Route 642 Map



Route 642 operates on weekdays and Saturdays. Service operates from 6:25 AM until 7:35 PM with trips operating every two hours. On Saturdays, service runs every two hours between 8:35 AM and 3:32 PM.

Table 1: Schedule Statistics

Service Day	Span of Service	Frequency (Minutes)	Daily Trips (Northbound/Southbound)
Monday – Friday	6:25 AM to 7:35 PM	120	7 / 8
Saturday	9:30 AM to 3:32 PM	120	4 / 4

9 Town Transit, June 2019 Schedule

Connections to Other Services

Route 642's southern terminus is at Saybrook Point. All trips serve Old Saybrook Train Station where riders can connect to other 9 Town Transit routes (except for Route 645), as well as CTtransit Route 921 (Hartford Express). Route 642 riders can also connect to Route 644 at Chester Center (see Table 2).

Table 2: Service Connections

Location	Connect To
Old Saybrook Train Station	9 Town Transit Routes: 641, 643, 644 ShoreLine East Amtrak CTtransit Route 921 (Express)
Chester Center	9 Town Transit Route 644

Ridership by Stop

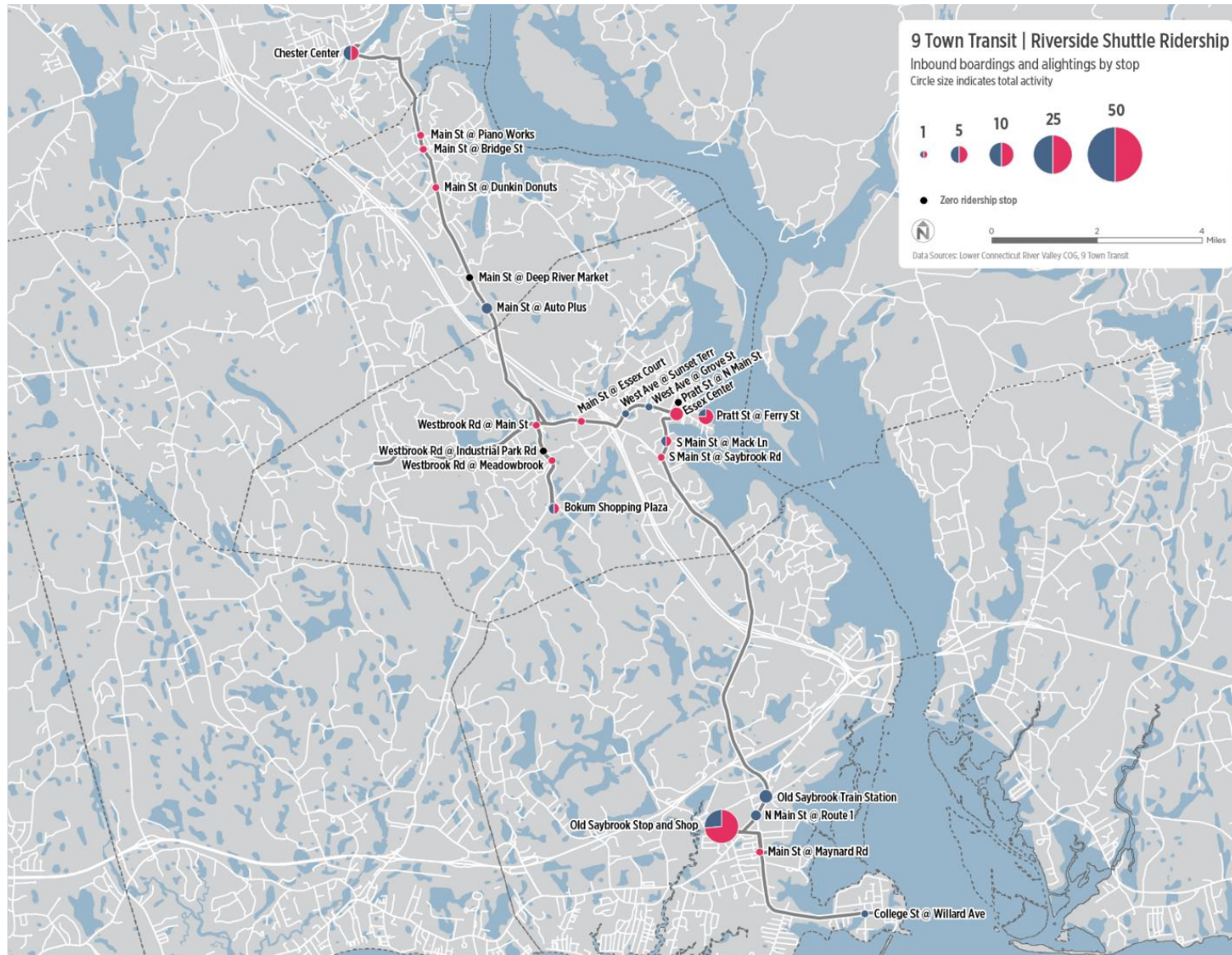
Route 642's highest ridership stop is at Old Saybrook Stop & Shop, with 14 daily boardings and 5 daily alightings. The next highest ridership stop is Main Street at Middlesex Turnpike, with 7 daily boardings. All other stops have one or zero daily riders.

Ridership by Trip

On weekdays, Route 642 ridership is low on all trips, which all serve fewer than 10 passengers and most serve fewer than 5 passengers. Ridership on northbound trips is highest on the 2:30 p.m. trip with 7 customers. All other northbound trips typically serve 2 or fewer passengers. The 7:10 a.m. northbound trip serves no customers. Southbound trips typically serve 1 to 4 passengers, with the highest ridership trip at 11:30 a.m. with 4 passengers. The 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. southbound trips serve no passengers. For both northbound and southbound trips, some trips have a maximum load equal to the number of passengers served, indicating little turnover along the route.

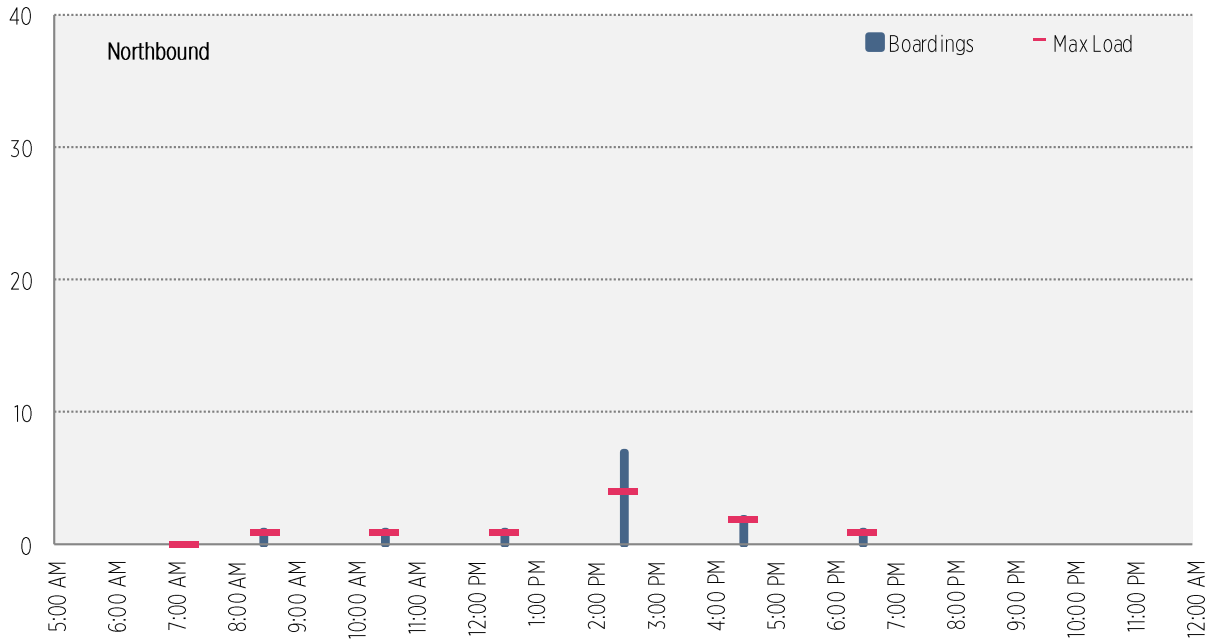
On Saturdays, there are fewer than 10 boardings on all trips. Route 642 ridership is highest on the 10:35 a.m. southbound trip with 8 passengers. The 1:30 p.m. trip is the highest ridership northbound trip with 6 boardings. The other two northbound trips serve 1 or no passengers. Most trips have a maximum load equal to or close to the total number of boardings. However, for trips which serve very few passengers this is not unexpected.

Figure 2: Ridership by Stop



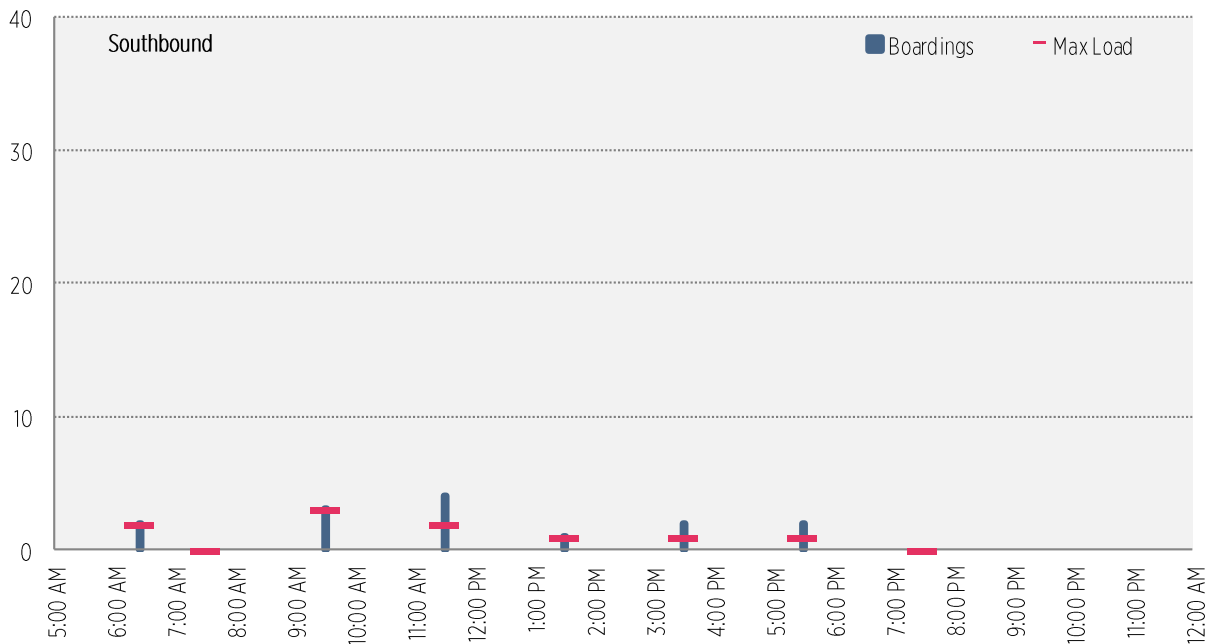
Source: 9 Town Transit, 2017 Route 642 Ridership Data

Figure 3: Weekday Ridership by Trip – Northbound



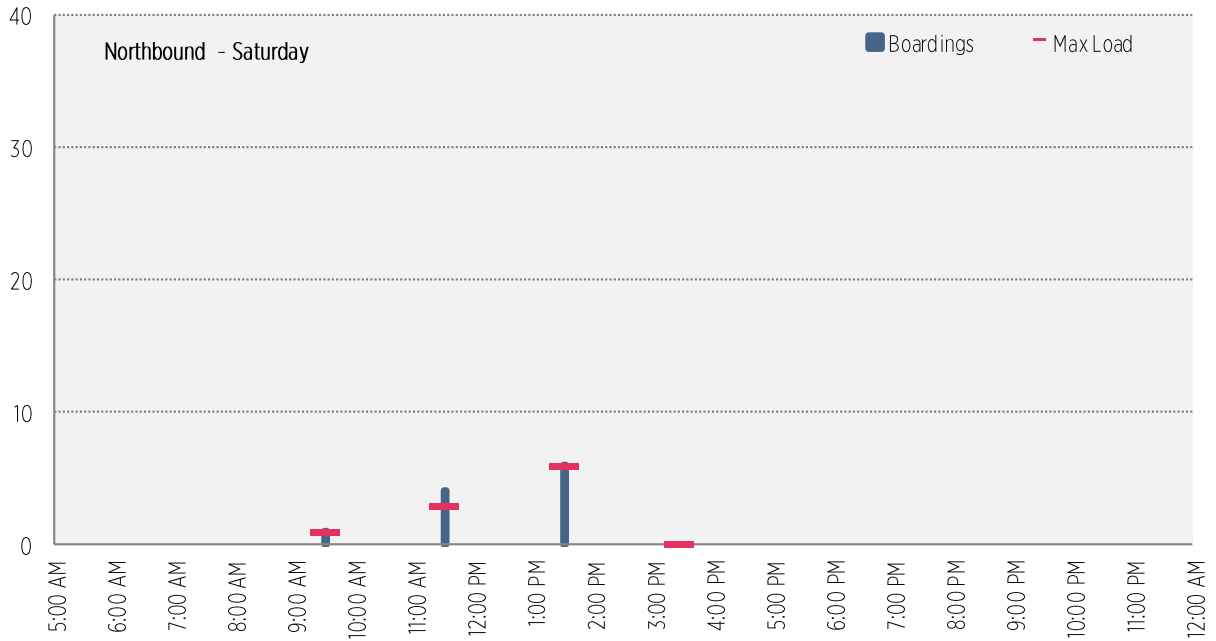
Source: 9 Town Transit, June 2019 Route 64 trips

Figure 4: Weekday Ridership by Trip - Southbound



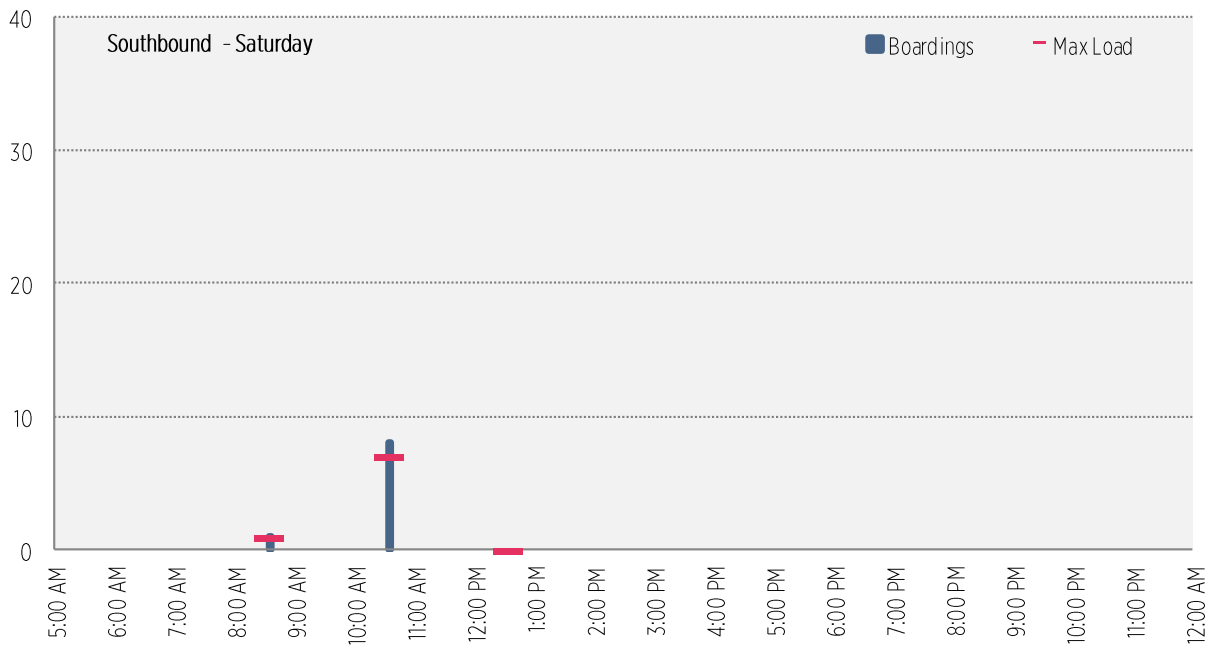
Source: 9 Town Transit, June 2019 Route 642 trips

Figure 5: Saturday Ridership by Trip - Northbound



Source: 9 Town Transit, June 2019 Route 642 trips

Figure 6: Saturday Ridership by Trip - Southbound



Source: 9 Town Transit, June 2019 Route 642 trips

Service Performance

On weekdays, Route 642 carries an average of 27 passengers per day, or 2.1 passengers per revenue hour (see Table 3). On Saturdays, Route 542 carries an average of 18 daily passengers, or 2.6 passengers per revenue hour. In terms of productivity, Route 642 performs below the 9 Town Transit averages for riders per revenue hour and riders per trip on all days.

Table 3: Productivity Statistics

	Average Weekday Ridership	Riders per Revenue Hour	Riders per Trip
Route 642	27	2.1	1.8
9 Town Transit Average	58	3.0	3.2

	Average Saturday Ridership	Riders per Revenue Hour	Riders per Trip
Route 642	18	2.6	2.3
9 Town Transit Average	49	3.5	3.9

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Service Improvement Opportunities

Opportunities to strengthen Route 642 are listed below and are included for discussion purposes only. Some suggestions may be contradictory, as there is usually more than one approach to improving a route. No specific changes are recommended at this time.

- Discontinue Ivoryton branch.** The Ivoryton branch of Route 642 has no recorded ridership. Although it is listed as a request-only stop, making a deviation to serve it adds over three miles to a trip, taking riders out of their way and increasing travel time. The Ivoryton area would still be served by Dial-a-Ride service, while discontinuing this section of Route 642's alignment would make trips more predictable and efficient.