

Supplemental Information

Analysis 1: Outputs for ChatGPT-3.5, newly created account:

1. Infrastructure and Design Concerns:

Critiques about the design and functionality of the BRT system, including concerns about accidents, discomfort for users, and the preference for alternative transit options like a tram or metro.
2. Environmental Impact and Sustainability:

Discussion about the environmental impact, including concerns about the use of fossil fuels, heavy metals in batteries, and the preference for electric or environmentally friendly transit options.
3. Operational Issues and Inefficiencies:

Comments on the operational aspects of the BRT system, such as long construction times, over-budget issues, perceived lack of profitability, and disappointment about the actual travel time not improving as promised.
4. Comparisons with Other Transit Systems:

Comparisons with public transportation systems in other cities, both positive and negative, highlighting experiences in places like Mexico and expressing a desire for Montreal to have more effective transit infrastructure similar to European standards.
5. Policy and Political Criticisms:

Criticisms directed towards political leaders and decision-makers, expressing dissatisfaction with their ambition, priorities, and decisions regarding the BRT project. Some comments suggest that the focus should have been on other transit projects, like a metro extension or light rail.

Analysis 2: Outputs for ChatGPT-3.5, account repeatedly exposed to transport-related queries:

1. Critique of Project Execution:
 - Criticisms of wasteful expenditure and perceived inefficiency.
 - Frustration with the extended construction duration and budget overruns.
 - Concerns about the project's overall effectiveness and impact on travel.
2. Transit Alternatives and Preferences:
 - Advocacy for metro or light rail alternatives over the BRT system.
 - Favorable opinions towards trams due to perceived advantages.
 - Desire for more BRT or similar systems on major Montreal streets.
3. Design and Safety Concerns:
 - Critique of BRT system design leading to potential accidents and inconvenience.
 - Safety concerns related to pedestrian crossings for accessing the BRT.
 - Environmental criticisms regarding fossil fuel-powered buses and lithium batteries.

4. Expansion and Future Transit Vision:
 - Calls for extending the BRT system, especially northward to Laval.
 - Prioritization of the metro system and advocacy for larger extensions or new light rail lines.
5. Varied Public Experiences and Perceptions:
 - Positive perceptions considering the BRT a necessary and cost-effective project.
 - Negative experiences, including construction disruptions and disappointment in outcomes.
 - Mixed opinions on the effectiveness and impact of the implemented BRT system.

Analysis 3: Outputs for ChatGPT-4, account repeatedly exposed to transport-related queries:

1. Operational Concerns and Service Improvements

- Limited service hours, particularly outside rush hour.
- Infrequent headways, leading to less convenient service.
- Safety issues due to the design requiring street crossings.
- Suggestions for two-way services and increased frequency.

2. Comparisons with Alternative Transit Options

- Preference for metro, light rail, or tramway over BRT.
- Acknowledgment of BRT as an improvement over no rapid transit.
- Potential for the BRT to serve as a foundation for future upgrades.

3. Environmental Impact and Sustainability

- Criticism of fossil fuel reliance and environmental footprint.
- Missed opportunities for electrification and more sustainable options.
- Positive view of BRT for reducing car lanes and promoting public transit.

4. Financial and Strategic Planning

- Concerns over budget overruns and perceived wasteful spending.
- Discussion on the cost-effectiveness of the BRT versus other transit solutions.
- Recognition of public transit as a crucial urban development investment.

5. Project Execution and Community Impact

- Frustration with the lengthy construction period and associated disruptions.
- Criticism of project management and execution.
- Acknowledgment of potential long-term benefits for community connectivity and urban densification.

Analysis 4: Outputs for Google Gemini

1. Effectiveness:

- Many respondents doubt the effectiveness of the BRT, questioning its impact on travel time and its ability to reduce traffic congestion. Some even consider it a waste of time and money.
- Others believe it's a necessary project and a step in the right direction, although they point out limitations and areas for improvement.

2. Alternatives:

- A recurring theme is the preference for a tramway or metro line instead of the BRT. Respondents believe these options would be faster, more efficient, and more environmentally friendly.
- Some suggest improvements to the BRT system, such as using electric buses or extending its reach to better serve certain areas.

3. Implementation:

- Many criticize the lengthy construction time and disruptions caused by the project.
- Some respondents point out issues with the design, like the lack of proper infrastructure for pedestrians and the potential for accidents.

4. Impact:

- Some residents are concerned about the negative impact on their neighborhoods, such as noise, dust, and traffic disruptions.
- Others worry about the environmental impact of the BRT, particularly if it uses fossil fuel-powered buses.

5. Future of Public Transit:

- The BRT is seen by some as an experiment for future public transit development, with the potential to be replicated in other areas if successful.
- However, many respondents emphasize the need to prioritize more comprehensive and efficient public transportation solutions, such as expanding the metro network.