

# Predictive fleet management: Gulf Coast Transit's playbook for keeping riders moving



## BY THE NUMBERS

**100%** Mechanic adoption achieved within 30 days

**15%** More vehicles available for service

**2.0+** Hours of admin saved daily

**20%** More inspections completed

### Launch Date

July 2025

### Location

Texas City, Texas

### Fleet Size

100+ vehicles

### Service Type

Paratransit

Microtransit

Fixed-route

EAM

## A new standard for transit asset management

Gulf Coast Transit District (GCTD), **serving 550,000 residents** across 2,200 square miles with **100+ vehicles and 450+ non-vehicle assets**, chose Spare EAM to **modernize its maintenance operations**. Within the first months, GCTD achieved 100% mechanic adoption, **reduced administrative burden by 80%**, and **increased vehicle availability by 15%**.

“What we really like about Spare's EAM product is that it's one software. Everything's combined so we're no longer spending time going through multiple systems. It's right at the tip of their fingers and it has made our jobs ten times easier.”

— Lacey Hernandez, Deputy Executive Director, GCTD

## Enforcing compliance through intelligent design

GCTD made **safety compliance non-negotiable from day one**. Spare EAM integrated directly with vehicle systems, preventing drivers from starting a bus until required pre- and post-trip inspections were completed in the app. Each inspection followed a **standardized digital checklist**, capturing specific defect details with photos and timestamps.

The automated enforcement **delivered immediate impact**. **Safety compliance reached 100%** from launch, with all required inspections completed. When the Federal Transit Administration conducts audits, GCTD can generate comprehensive compliance reports in minutes rather than spending days manually compiling data from multiple sources.

## Immediate impact



**Mechanic adoption:** 100% in 30 days — real-time defect logging and instant access to histories.

**Inspection performance:** +20% inspections — digital checklists ensured consistency.

**Admin efficiency:** 80% time saved — reports generated instantly.

**Fleet availability:** +15% vehicles in service — faster triage and turnaround.

**Safety compliance:** 100% from day one — automated inspections and reports.

“Our mission is to serve our community with dependable transit. We saw an opportunity to transform how we manage our fleet - replacing manual processes and scattered information with an integrated proactive approach. This is more than just new software - it's a leap forward for how we serve our riders.”

— Ted Ross, Executive Director, GCTD



## GCTD EAM: a launch backed by purpose-built technology



GCTD needed a comprehensive platform that could unify all maintenance functions, provide real-time asset visibility, and support the agency's rapid growth trajectory. Spare EAM offered the first AI-native asset management system designed specifically for public transit.

- **Integrated deployment** across 100+ vehicle fleet with 450+ non-vehicle assets with comprehensive training
- **Mobile-first interface** built for mechanics working in garages and in the field, ensuring immediate adoption
- **Direct integration** with GCTD's existing Spare operations platform for Ride The Wave microtransit service, creating unified fleet health visibility
- **Two-week activation timeline** from launch to mechanics logging defects in real time and accessing complete vehicle histories
- **Standardized digital workflows** replaced patchwork of disconnected systems (inspections in one platform, fueling in another, parts in Excel, work orders on paper)
- **AI-powered predictive analytics** to identify vehicles at risk of failure before problems escalate

## Momentum for the future: what it means for riders and staff in Texas



For riders

**Dependable service, every day:** 15% more vehicles available means fewer missed trips. Dialysis patients reach life-sustaining treatments on time, students get to school consistently, and seniors can count on rides to medical appointments.

**100% safety compliance:** every vehicle completes required inspections before entering service — no exceptions, no shortcuts.

**Fewer breakdowns, less disruption:** proactive maintenance prevents failures before they happen, keeping riders moving without unexpected service interruptions.



For maintenance staff

**Focus on repairs, not paperwork:** 2+ hours of admin time saved daily means mechanics spend time fixing vehicles, not compiling reports.

**Complete vehicle intelligence:** access full maintenance histories instantly from anywhere in the garage, enabling faster diagnosis and smarter repairs.

**Catch problems early:** small issues are identified before they escalate into costly road failures or emergency shutdowns.

“Before EAM, when we had a defect on a vehicle, that vehicle would get shut down for the day. With EAM, our mechanics know about it immediately. I could pull up Spare right now and see exactly what's going on with one of my vehicles.”



For the agency and industry

**Scalable growth model:** GCTD proved that rapidly growing agencies can modernize maintenance operations without disruption, building infrastructure that scales with demand.

**Strategic asset management:** unprecedented cost visibility enables long-term fleet planning, extending asset lifecycles through predictive intelligence rather than reactive repairs.

— Sean Jackson, Lead Mechanic, GCTD