

WeDriveU

Scaling Electric Commuter Shuttles with WeDriveU

Customer Overview

WeDriveU is a national shuttle and transit operator with a fleet of ~3,500 vehicles serving both public agencies and large private employers. As part of a global family of transportation brands, it is one of the top 5 transportation contractors in the U.S., with ~4,000 employees, more than 40 U.S. locations, and millions of passengers served annually. Their core business is designing and operating commuter and last mile shuttle programs for major corporate campuses across the U.S.


Cambercharging.com

Business Challenge

As a premier provider of fleet and transit shuttle services, WeDriveU is always looking for opportunities to improve their services while maintaining high service reliability. When one key fortune 500 client with corporate targets around carbon reduction and net zero commitments asked them how to help use transportation systems to reduce carbon emissions, WeDriveU sprung into action to help.

However, the move to electric buses came with several hurdles:

High upfront costs

Electric vehicles and charging infrastructure together are materially more expensive than diesel, often approaching multi million dollar investments.

Infrastructure complexity

Large scale, heavy duty DC charging can be challenging to deploy. It requires coordination across utilities, local municipalities, site owners, and operators, with typical timelines of 18–24 months for substantial charging projects.

Uncertain operating economics

While theory suggests lower fuel and maintenance costs for EVs, WeDriveU recognized that real world economics are variable: time of use energy rates, uncertain long term maintenance costs, specialized technician requirements, and OEM parts pricing all affect total cost of ownership.

Site and grid constraints

Power capacity, local regulations, and physical site constraints can limit the scale and flexibility of an electrification program, particularly when customers want room to grow over time.

WeDriveU needed a partner that could deliver a robust, scalable charging solution for a heavy duty bus fleet at their San Jose area facility without introducing operational headaches for on the ground teams while also helping validate EV economics over time.

Solution

WeDriveU awarded a turnkey charging infrastructure project to Camber Charging to deliver the charging and charge management solution for this new electric commuter shuttle fleet in the San Jose area.

Camber provided a DC fast charging system consisting of a 1,440 kW charger feeding 16 dispensers. This supports a fleet of 15 electric motor coaches serving approximately 13 routes, as well as multiple smaller electric vehicles operating in and around the San Jose facility.

The project was delivered as a turnkey charging solution, including:

- Site design and heavy duty DC charger deployment
- Dispensers positioned and cabled for large motor coaches and smaller EVs
- Hardware and software integration into WeDriveU's operations

As part of the original engagement, the project team helped WeDriveU secure grant funding to offset the incremental cost of electrification. The team remained engaged to ensure WeDriveU could successfully close out grant awards, which was critical to making the economics work.

The Camber Core software system was also included allowing WeDriveU to maintain a reliable state of charge across a mixed, multi customer fleet at the San Jose yard, automatically scheduling charging for different duty cycles so buses are ready for early morning pull outs and late evening returns without disrupting existing workflows.



"It's been a very successful project for us. We've been able to run electric buses and avoid that much more diesel and carbon emissions. And we've had a great partner, Camber, that could execute and make it happen."

Kyle Carson

Senior Director Vehicle Sourcing & Procurement



Results

While WeDriveU is still building a full, long term cost model for EV operations, several outcomes are clear from the San Jose deployment:

Reliable electric operations at scale

The electric shuttle fleet in San Jose has been operating successfully for several years, supporting 13+ routes and additional services for other clients out of the same yard.

Improved driver and rider experience

Drivers actively seek assignments on EV routes because they view them as innovative, sustainability focused programs rather than the traditional diesel transit coaches. Likewise, riders are now known to “wait for the EV” if they know an electric bus is following a conventional vehicle. This preference is largely driven by improved ride quality (quieter/smooth ride), environmental preferences and an enhanced commuter experience that aligns with their client’s premium employer brand.

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Once the installation was complete and we started using the dispensers in San Jose, we were actually surprised by how straightforward and reliable they are... it’s just like a gas pump.”

Abdulahman Abdulrahman
Fleet Operations Manager

Tangible progress toward carbon and fuel reduction goals

WeDriveU’s team regularly calculates CO₂ offsets for shuttle programs and has extended this analysis to their client’s EV fleet. While there are modeling assumptions, the directionality is clear: replacing diesel with electric shuttles materially reduces transportation related emissions.

Catalyst for broader electrification

The San Jose project serves as a key learning environment for WeDriveU’s broader EV strategy. To date, it has demonstrated:

- Heavy duty EV shuttle programs are operationally feasible at scale, even with multiple fleets and mixed vehicle types sharing the same infrastructure.
- Customers with strong sustainability mandates are willing to invest in higher cost EV programs when paired with long term contracts, grants, and clear reporting on carbon and fuel savings.
- Infrastructure and utility constraints, charger supply chain timelines, and vehicle platform maturity often become the primary gating factors—more so than daily charge operations or driver acceptance.

WeDriveU now operates roughly 150 EVs across its fleet and continues to look for opportunities to expand electrification where customer demand and economics align.

Looking Ahead

WeDriveU is actively evaluating its go forward needs for charge management at the San Jose site and beyond. As customers issue new RFPs with electrification targets and longer contract terms, WeDriveU expects more opportunities to replicate and scale programs, often pairing heavy duty EVs with advanced charge management platforms like Camber’s.