



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#13-1225

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: September 17, 2013

TITLE: Community Bus Service Route Change Public Hearing and Fourth
Amendment to the City-County Community Bus Service Interlocal
Agreement – Financial Assistance Only (ILA)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission hold a public hearing to consider an expansion of the “Downtown Link” community bus route and addition of the “Beach Link” community bus route both operated by the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association (TMA); and approve the Fourth Amendment to the ILA with Broward County for Community Bus Service.

Background

Public Hearing:

The City entered into an interlocal agreement with Broward County on September 15, 2009 for Community Bus Service Financial Assistance Only for provision of public transportation services within the City (herein “ILA”). Pursuant to Section 2.1.3 of the ILA and 49 USC 5307(d)(i)*, the City must hold a public hearing prior to any change in service affecting 25% or more route miles and prior to establishing a new transit route. Staff proposes an expansion of the “Downtown Link” and the addition of the “Beach Link” route to this ILA.

“Downtown Link” Route Expansion:

The Sun Trolley’s “Downtown Link” route currently circulates with a single vehicle on a 2.7-mile route between NE 3rd Street and SE 6th Street (**Exhibit 1**). The expansion of the route will extend the service north to NE 6th Street near the Flagler Heights/Progresso Village area and south to SE 17th Street at the Broward Health Medical Center (**Exhibit 2**).

Due to the additional 2.1 miles (4.8 total miles) along the route, an additional vehicle will be required to maintain the current 15-minute headways. The days of service (Monday thru Friday) will remain the same although there may be adjustments with starting time to serve the hospital staff commuting from the City Parking Garage to Broward Health Medical Center. Expanded service is anticipated to begin October 1, 2013 and there will be no fares charged on the route at this time.

The expansion of the route will increase the operational cost to the TMA from \$123,805 to approximately \$346,114. The increased cost is expected to be covered by Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) grant funds. In the event that JARC and/or FDOT funding does not occur, the route will not be expanded.

“Beach Link” Route Addition and Vehicle Leasing:

The City entered into an Interlocal Agreement with the County for the County’s Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant includes the provision of eight (8) wheelchair accessible trolley vehicles and funding for the “Beach Link” community bus route. That agreement terminates on September 30, 2013. Staff proposes adding the “Beach Link” route and the provision providing for the leasing eight (8) trolleys to the City for fiscal year 2013-14. The cost of the lease shall be ten dollars (\$10) per vehicle, per year. A listing of vehicles (with respective ownership) is provided in **Exhibit 3**.

Other Amendments to the City-County ILA:

In addition to route changes and leasing of vehicles, the ILA also provides for:

- (a) An amendment to Section 2.1.2 regarding fare restrictions from this and all future City-County ILA’s as the City has been determined to be a direct recipient of FTA funds.
- (b) Updated route names in the ILA to the current marketing names.

Please note that changes to the ILA shall be effective upon the written consent of the respective Contract Administrators and are subject to final approval by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners.

Resource Impact

There is \$80 fiscal impact for the leasing of the vehicles. The grant agreement and funding information will be a separate Commission item at the appropriate time.

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 – Existing Downtown Link Map
- Exhibit 2 – Downtown Link Expansion Map
- Exhibit 3 – TMA Vehicle Inventory
- Exhibit 4 – City-BCT Community Bus ILA Extension Letter
- Exhibit 5 – BCT Letter on Additional Funding
- Exhibit 6 - Fourth Amendment to Community Bus ILA

*49 USC 5307(d)(i) is now cited as 49 USC 5307(b)(4)

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