



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

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: October 23, 2018

TITLE: Public Hearing Approving Modifications to the Northwest Community Link
and Neighborhood Link Routes

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission approve route modifications operated by the Sun Trolley to the Northwest Community Link transit route and the Neighborhood Link transit route.

Background

The Northwest Community Link is among the most successful Sun Trolley routes. In Fiscal Year 2017, the Northwest Community Link had the second highest overall ridership among the community bus routes.

The Northwest Community Link and Neighborhood Link were identified as having potential for improvement upon the already successful service in the 2017 Transit Master Plan. City staff and the Transportation Management Authority (TMA) engaged in outreach between September 2017 and April 2018 to collect community feedback on desired changes and modifications. Over 700 contacts were made with neighbors, in person and through an online survey, including reaching out to each neighborhood association within the service area of the route to receive comments on possible improvements and to review the proposed route. There were also four general charrettes held for the same purpose. Additionally, demographics, existing ridership trends, and overlaps with Broward County Transit bus routes were considered when developing the recommendations.

The routes have been developed using the input received, as well as input from the TMA, to balance the current budget shortfall with the needs of the community. The proposed routes will maintain service within these areas while allowing for expansion if additional funding is secured in the future.

Exhibits 1 and 2 illustrate the proposed route maps and timetables for the new service, which will be effective on or after December 3, 2018.

As this change in the route affects 25% or more of the route, the City must hold a public hearing pursuant to Title 49 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) 5307(c)(1)(I) and our Interlocal Agreement with Broward County.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action because it is not changing the number of overall service hours, but instead reallocating them within the new route with more efficient service. Partial funding for this service is provided by a new Transit Corridor Grant from the Florida Department of Transportation. Additional funding is received from the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency for services within that redevelopment area.

Strategic Connection

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Infrastructure Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 1: Be a pedestrian friendly, multi-modal city.
- Objective 1: Improve transportation options and reduce congestion by working with agency partners.
- Initiative 6: Partner with agencies and businesses to increase commuter car-pooling and to incentivize and encourage mass transit use.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Connected*.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Proposed Route Maps

Exhibit 2 – Proposed Timetables

Exhibit 3 – Existing Maps & Timetables

Exhibit 4 – City-County Interlocal Agreement

Exhibit 5 - First Amendment to City-County Interlocal Agreement

Exhibit 6 - Second Amendment to City-County Interlocal Agreement

Exhibit 7 –Third Amendment to City-County Interlocal Agreement-Partially Executed

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