

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE City Commission Agenda Memo REGULAR MEETING

TO:	Honorable Mayor & Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission
FROM:	Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager
DATE:	May 18, 2021
TITLE:	Resolution of Support for Proposal of New Community Shuttle Routes and Other Service Changes - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt a resolution supporting the proposal for new Community Shuttle routes and other service changes.

Background

On April 8, 2021, Broward County Transit (BCT) formally invited the City of Fort Lauderdale to apply for the Community Shuttle Program (CSP) funding for fiscal year 2022 (October 2021 – September 2022). As a response the CSP program offering, City staff drafted a proposal that includes the following requests:

- Galt Mile Link Route (Reinstatement): This service was suspended on December 1, 2018 due to lack in ridership.
- Airport Link Route (Reinstatement): This service was suspended on December 2, 2018 due to lack in funding.
- Midtown Link Route (New Route): The new route will add service to the following neighborhoods: Beverly Heights, Victoria Park, and Lake Ridge. The Midtown Link will connect neighborhoods that are currently underserved by public transit system to hotspots in both the southern and northern parts of the City. These neighborhoods encompass a mixture of housing units, from single-family dwelling to high-density rental units and elderly communities.
- Sunrise North Link Route (New Route): The new route will add service to connect Northwest and Northeast Fort Lauderdale through a loop that starts and culminates at the Galleria Mall. Proposed service will bridge the gap in connecting residential areas in the northwestern side of the City to employment hubs in the northeast part of the City, particularly to retail, commercial, and office hubs along Federal Highway.

- Midtown Hopper Route (New Route): The new route will add service to connect Las Olas Riverwalk and NE 13th Street through Flagler Village. The proposed weekend route will connect key downtown destinations and is expected to reduce urban core vehicular trips.
- Beach Link Route (Operational Changes): A request was made to expand the current operational hours from 10:30am through 5:00pm to 9:30am through 6:30pm daily.
- Las Olas Link Route (Operational Changes): A request was made to expand the current operational hours from 10:30am through 5:00pm to 9:30am through 6:30pm on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
- Downtown Link Route (Operational Changes): A request to expand the current operational hours from 9:00am through 5:00pm to 7:30am through 6:00pm on weekdays.
- Neighborhood Link Route (Operational Changes): A request to increase the number of shuttles serving the route to reduce headways and crowding on buses.

The described proposed new and improved routes will serve as a first-last mile option to feed into BCT routes and other intra-city (i.e., Tri-Rail, Brightline) and inter-city public transportation services. The proposal is a preliminary route planning for funding application purposes and is subject to change. If approved, staff will conduct public outreach to finalize the routes and service hours.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action. The Community Shuttle is funded 100% through the Broward County Penny for Transportation (Surtax) funding.

Strategic Connections

This item is a 2021 Top Commission Priority, advancing the Transportation and Traffic initiative.

This item supports the Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024 Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- Goal 2: Build a multi-modal and pedestrian friendly community.
- Objective: Improve transportation options and reduce congestion by working with partners

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

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Galt Link Route Exhibit 2 – Airport Link Route Exhibit 3 – Midtown Link Route Exhibit 4 – Sunrise North Link Route Exhibit 5 – Midtown Hopper Route Exhibit 6 – Proposed service changes to existing routes Exhibit 7 – Resolution

Prepared by: Lisa Marie Glover, Transportation Manager, Transportation and Mobility

Department Director: Ben Rogers, Director, Transportation and Mobility