



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#14-0108

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

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

DATE: February 4, 2014

TITLE: Public Hearing – Introduction of New Uptown Fort Lauderdale
Community Bus Route

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission approve a motion to establish the new Uptown Link community bus route.

Background

In an effort to better serve the Uptown Fort Lauderdale community, the City is introducing newly developed mid-day bus service circulating from the Cypress Creek Tri-Rail train station in response to requests from the businesses in the area. The goal of the new Uptown Link community bus route is to create a link for commuters, students, employees, and visitors in the Uptown area to the Cypress Creek Tri-Rail station and surrounding restaurants, shops, educational campuses, the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, and other destinations throughout the entire business day. This route was developed with input from South Florida Commuter Services, the Uptown Fort Lauderdale group, and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA).

The Uptown Link will operate on weekdays and will fill the community bus service gap between the existing morning and afternoon shuttle service provided by Tri-Rail. Two buses will operate on the route with approximate 15-16 minute headways as illustrated on the route map (Exhibit 1). It is intended to promote the use of public transit, reduce congestion, and encourage business development in the area. The proposed route was presented to the Fort Lauderdale Uptown group, comprised of representatives of dozens of establishments along this corridor and input was received. Staff is negotiating with SFRTA to operate the route and approval of that agreement will be presented to the Commission at a later date.

The demonstration period for this pilot project is not-to-exceed three years commencing on March 1, 2014 and ending no later than February 28, 2017. It is funded for the first year by a Transit Corridor grant from the Florida Department of Transportation and may be funded for two more years if ridership goals are met.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact to the City with this action. Funds were appropriated for this request via CAM #13-1372 Consolidated Budget Amendment at the November 5, 2013 meeting.

Strategic Connection

1. 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.

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

Related CAM:
#14-0109

Attachment:
Exhibit 1 - Uptown Link Maps

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