



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#17-1295

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

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

DATE: November 21, 2017

TITLE: Public Hearing – Suspension of the Downtown Fort Lauderdale
Transportation Management Association Sun Trolley Galt Link Route

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission suspend trolley service operated by the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association (TMA) Community Bus Service for the Galt Link Route (Exhibit 1) for an 18 month period.

Background

Pursuant to Section 2.6 of the City-County Interlocal Agreement (ILA) and Title 49 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) 5307(c)(1)(I), the City must hold a public hearing prior to any change in service affecting 25% or more of route miles. The proposal will suspend service on the Galt Link for 18 months beginning on December 1, 2017 to analyze potential route modifications.

Over the past year, the TMA's Galt Link Community Bus route has had very low ridership due to construction on State Road A1A, fleet reliability, and vehicle recognition. The City and TMA made several efforts to address this issue by leasing reliable vehicles for the route, wrapping those vehicles in Sun Trolley branding, conducting outreach to the community, and holding special ridership events; however, the ridership continues to be extremely low at 4.3 PPH for the month of August 2017. The Executive Director of the TMA attended the Galt Mile Community Association Presidents' Council on October 9, 2017, where the suspension of service was shared. The Association understood the needs and was in support, in order to provide time to evaluate the correct solution for community bus in the Galt.

During the 18 month suspension period, City staff will work with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), TMA, Broward County Transit, and our neighbors to study converting to an on-demand system, adjusting the route to reach key destinations and increase efficiency, and make adjustments to the schedule to better meet passenger needs. Technical assistance is being provided by FDOT to complete an on-demand study, as well as a system-wide efficiency study that will include the Galt Link.

Additional outreach will be conducted with our neighbors to receive input on the future of the Galt Link. Recommendations will be presented to the City Commission for approval at a later date.

Resource Impact

The City currently funds \$108,173.94 toward the operation of the Galt Link annually through City Gas Tax and City Parking Funds. This funding will continue to be provided to the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association (TMA) toward the operation of the City's Sun Trolley Community Bus Service to fill current funding gaps.

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 1: Strategically route and expand the Sun Trolley as an overall complement to upcoming major transportation projects.

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

Attachments

Exhibit 1 - TMA Galt Link Route Map & Timetable

Exhibit 2 – Public Hearing Ad for Galt Link Route Change

Prepared by: Karen Warfel, Transportation and Mobility

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