



OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Rafael G. Casals, ICMA-CM, CFM

Town Manager

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Council

From: Rafael G. Casals, ICMA-CM, CFM, Town Manager

Date: December 7, 2022

Re: Public Hearing - Approve Changes to the Existing Municipal Circulator Bus Service to Provide a 30-Minute Headway

REQUEST

APPROVE CHANGES TO THE EXISTING MUNICIPAL CIRCULATOR BUS SERVICE TO PROVIDE A 30-MINUTE HEADWAY MONDAY TO SATURDAY ON EXISTING ROUTE 200, WHICH SERVICES THE RESIDENTS OF CUTLER BAY, TO BE IMPLEMENTED ON OR ABOUT MARCH 20, 2023.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

On November 17, 2021, the Town of Cutler Bay (the “Town”) Council accepted and approved a \$195,000.00 Public Transportation Grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (“FDOT”) to support the Cutler Bay Transit Expansion Project (the “Project”) via Resolution No. 21-84. The Project aimed to reduce the wait time for transit riders by placing a second local circulator bus into service.

The Cutler Bay Local, which began service on September 5, 2012, is the Town’s municipal circulator route. The route was made possible by the People’s Transportation Plan and is operated by Miami-Dade Transit (MDT). Major destinations served by the Cutler Bay Local are Town Hall, South Dade Government Center, Southland Mall, South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, Social Security Office, South Dade Shopping Center, Encompass Health, Old Cutler Towne Center and the US 1 business corridor.

The Town increased the number of daily trips and expanded service from three days to five days a week on September 30, 2013. Service was increased to six days a week with the introduction of Saturday service on November 23, 2014. On June 20, 2016, the route alignment was extended to Walmart and the South Dade Transitway serving the SW 112 Avenue Station. During November 2018, Sunday service was started due to a partnership between the Town and Miami-Dade County (the “County”). On November 25, 2019 the route was extended with a new bus stop added in the Southland Mall (*Attachment “A”*).

The Cutler Bay Local is designed to provide an easy way to get around Town and to connect with other Metrobus routes in the area. Cutler Bay residents can connect to the South Miami-Dade Transitway with Metrobus service north to Metrorail and south to Florida City.





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During the negotiation process for establishing a long-term Interlocal Agreement with the County (via Resolution No. 22-56), Town staff made a collaborative effort to include a “Public Coordination and Program Oversight” enhancement to the current services provided. This enhancement excerpt reads as follows:

- Public Coordination and Program Oversight
 - Section 3.16 – The County and Town Representatives shall present proposed modifications to the alignment, schedule, and fare of the Local Route transit service at any forums requested by the Town. In addition, the County representative shall provide information on the overall performance and quality of service of the Local Route transit service including ridership data and trends for quarterly reporting to the Citizen’s Independent Transportation Trust (CITT), number of vehicle breakdowns and substitutions, vehicle maintenance records, logged complaints and complaint resolutions, and any other data reasonably requested by the Town. MDT will include this information in annual reports. Public information meetings and workshops will be conducted by both County and Town Representatives on an as-needed basis.

In an effort to be compliant with the FDOT Service Development Grant Program, the Town is required to advertise and conduct a Public Hearing, as shown on the advertisement and proof of publication attached hereto and incorporated herein as Attachments “B” and “C,” respectively.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to provide interested parties the opportunity for comments regarding the Town’s proposal to improve the Municipal Circulator Bus Service from a 60-minute to a 30-minute headway, Monday to Saturday. Funding for the proposed second Municipal Circulator Bus Service is being provided through a Florida Department of Transportation Grant and the Town’s People’s Transportation Plan Municipal Allocation.

