

DRAFT

#150239D

Memo



To: Nicolle Shalley, City Attorney
From: Russ Blackburn, City Manager
Date: Tuesday, August 18, 2015
Subject: Route 37 Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) between Regional Transit System (RTS) and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

The City of Gainesville Regional Transit System (RTS) has requested a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the operation of Route 37 bus service. These FY 2015-2016 Service Development Funds will provide a total of \$284,986, funded on a 50/50 matching basis between the FDOT and RTS.

Route 37 provides service between Butler Plaza and the University of Florida via SW 35th Place and SW 37th Boulevard – two of RTS's most heavily utilized transit corridors. This route achieves multiple objectives:

- Provides a direct connection, which is currently lacking, between the student housing complexes on SW 35th Place and Butler Plaza (Gainesville's largest retail area).
- Resolves the continuous problem of full buses in these corridors resulting in students either being late to class and/or work and in turn seeking other transportation alternatives.
- Addresses the demographic shift in the area's student housing population, which is seeing a large number of foreign students locating in this part of the City, most of whom do not have a personal vehicle and rely on transit for all travel.

The ridership estimate for this route is 1,107 weekday passenger trips in fall and spring and 554 weekday passenger trips in summer. In fall and spring this route operates during weekdays at 30 minute headways from approximately 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. In summer this route operates during weekdays at 60 minute headways from approximately 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.

A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into a JPA and receive these funds will go before the City Commission on September 17, 2015.

FDOT District legal staff stated that they no longer wish to exempt the indemnification clause from the agreement and have asked that the City consider approving the agreement as written.

Based on this information, I would like to exercise the waiver for the City's indemnification policy.

cc: David Schwartz, Assistant City Attorney
Steve Varvel, Risk Management Director
Carlos Holt, City Auditor
Jesus Gomez, Transit Director
Teresa Scott, Public Works Director
Paul Folkers, Assistant City Manager

DRAFT

Memo



To: Nicolle Shalley, City Attorney
From: Russ Blackburn, City Manager
Date: Tuesday, August 18, 2015
Subject: Route 40 Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) between Regional Transit System (RTS) and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

The City of Gainesville Regional Transit System (RTS) has requested a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the operation of Route 40 bus service. These FY 2015-2016 Service Development Funds will provide a total of \$213,000, funded on a 50/50 matching basis between the FDOT and RTS.

Route 40 provides service from the University of Florida to the Magnolia Park commercial area and the Hunter's Crossing neighborhood activity center. The route 40 provides the only service in the latter area which has been experiencing strong growth with RTS receiving regular requests to serve this area.

The demographics of both areas also create the potential to capture choice riders who would normally use a personal vehicle to travel to and from campus. The ridership estimate is 736 daily passenger trips. This route would operate weekdays only from approximately 6:30 am to 6:30 pm at 30 minute headways during peak hours and 60 minute headways off peak. This route would not operate in the summer.

A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into a JPA and receive these funds will go before the City Commission on September 17, 2015.

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Based on this information, I would like to exercise the waiver for the City's indemnification policy.

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From: Russ Blackburn, City Manager
Date: Tuesday, August 18, 2015
Subject: Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) between Regional Transit System (RTS) and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

The City of Gainesville Regional Transit System (RTS) has requested a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for Bus Stop Amenities. These FY 2015-2016 Service Development Funds will provide a total of \$300,000, funded on a 50/50 matching basis between the FDOT and RTS.

These funds can be used to design, construct, and install pedestrian amenities to improve existing bus stop accessibility on transit corridors. Amenities include Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant ramps, landing pads, shelter foundations, waiting pads, shelters, benches, trashcans, kiosks, and bike racks.

This project will encourage the use of public transportation by removing accessibility barriers, reducing the number of bus stops with unimproved surfaces, and making travel by transit more convenient and comfortable. Based on recent costs, it is estimated that these funds can provide approximately 12 12' shelters with benches and 8 landing pad improvements.

A Resolution requesting authorization to enter into a JPA and receive these funds will go before the City Commission on September 17, 2015.

FDOT District legal staff stated that they no longer wish to exempt the indemnification clause from the agreement and have asked that the City consider approving the agreement as written.

Based on this information, I would like to exercise the waiver for the City's indemnification policy.

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