



Legislation Text

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Continuation of Employee Bus Pass Program for Downtown City, County, and UF Employees (B)

This item involves a request for the City Commission to authorize the City Manager to execute Interlocal Agreements with the University of Florida (UF) and Alachua County for a continuation of the Employee Bus Pass Program.

The Employee Bus Pass Program was created to alleviate traffic and parking problems, particularly at the University of Florida and Downtown. The program has been in effect since January 24, 2000, with University of Florida employees being the first to begin riding. Downtown City employees began riding on April 3, 2000, and Alachua County employees on July 24, 2000. Approximately 590,873 UF employees have ridden, and the combined total for City/County employee ridership was over 83,726 through November 30, 2005.

Use of public transportation continues to increase by City, County, and University of Florida employees. This program is available to 900 City (including 420 GRU employees), 1,000 County, and 13,000 UF employees. Employee ridership for the City and County averaged over 1,600 passengers monthly during 2005. UF employee ridership averaged over 9,200 passengers monthly during 2005.

At the current rate of \$4.50 per rider, funding in the total amount of \$67,050 will be necessary for the continuation of this program with the following contributions by each participating agency: University of Florida will provide \$58,500; the City will provide \$4,050, of which Gainesville Regional Utilities will fund \$1,890; and the County will provide \$4,500.

The City Commission: 1) approve the annual contract for continuation of the Employee Bus Pass Program for Downtown City Employees through January 2007; and 2) authorize the City Manager to execute Interlocal Agreements with University of Florida and Alachua County for a continuation of the Employee Bus Pass Program.

Alternative Recommendation A: The City Commission can deny continuation of the annual contract, and Regional Transit System will lose the \$67,050 generated by the Employee Bus Pass Program for Downtown City, County, and UF Employees.