



Legislation Text

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Implementation of Employee Bus Pass Program for Shands Teaching Hospital and Clinics, Inc. (B)

This item involves a request for the City Commission to authorize the City Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement with Shands Teaching Hospital (Shands) and Clinics, Inc., to implement an annual 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. North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System employees began riding May 1, 2005. Approximately 590,873 UF employees have ridden, and the combined total for City/County employee ridership was over 83,726 through November 30, 2005. North Florida/South Georgia employees have contributed to the ridership figure of 83,726 since May 1, 2005.

Shands recently contacted City of Gainesville's Regional Transit System (RTS) to discuss options to implement an employee bus pass program for their 7,949 employees. Shands desires to reduce employee parking demands to provide their employees with prepaid, unlimited access to the public transit system as a means of commuting to work.

RTS is proposing to implement an employee bus pass program similar to the program for the University of Florida, City, County, and North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System employees.

At the current rate of \$4.50 per rider, Shands shall pay the City of Gainesville \$35,770.50 for prepaid, unlimited transit access for 7,949 employees for the term of one (1) year from February 1, 2006 through January 31, 2007. Unlimited transit access does not include special service routes such as Gator Aider.

The City Commission: 1) approve the annual contract for implementation of the Employee Bus Pass Program for Shands Teaching Hospital and Clinics, Inc., employees through January 2007; and 2) authorize the City Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement with Shands Teaching Hospital and Clinics, Inc., implementing the Employee Bus Pass Program.

Alternative Recommendation A: The City Commission deny the implementation of the annual contract and RTS will lose the \$35,770.50 generated by the Employee Bus Pass Program for Shands Teaching Hospital and Clinics, Inc., employees.