Agenda Item #: 4C-1

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	August 14, 2018	[]	Consent Ordinance		Regular Public Hearing
Department:	Palm Tran				•

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to Adopt: a Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) of Palm Beach County, Florida, approving the Title VI Service and Fare equity analyses required by the Federal Transit Administration showing that the major service changes to the Palm Tran Network have no disparate impact to either minority or low-income populations and approving the recommended major service changes proposed by the Route Performance Maximization initiative with an effective date of September 30, 2018.

Summary: In order to better serve Palm Beach County, Palm Tran has undertaken the Route Performance Maximization (RPM) initiative that will result in a more direct, efficient and usable system in Palm Beach County. The new network proposal, using existing resources, will provide Palm Beach County residents with more convenient and faster service to key employment, educational and economic centers throughout the county. The Palm Tran team has been working diligently for more than two (2) years to develop a new fixed route bus network based on feedback that we have received through customer concerns over the years and more recently, through a robust outreach/input effort that has taken place since April 2018. Palm Tran kicked off Phase 1 of RPM in May 2017 and completed it in November 2017. Phase 2 of RPM consisted of bus network modifications, schedule and bus stop location adjustments, and public outreach. Phase 2 public outreach incorporated the feedback as part of the new route network, including a public hearing at the Palm Tran Service Board (PTSB) on June 28, 2018 where the proposed changes were unanimously approved by the board. Additional outreach and customer education of the bus route changes will occur from August 2018 through November 2018 (Adams Consulting Group handled the public outreach and Tindale Oliver consulted on the technical components of the project).

In accordance with Federal Transit Administration guidelines, all grant recipients are required to adopt a Title VI program. Palm Tran's Title VI program update, which was approved by the BCC on September 24, 2013, requires an equity analysis to be conducted in conjunction with all major service changes. Tindale Oliver conducted the analysis and there is no disparate impact to low-income or minority populations. The Title VI analysis was presented to the PTSB on July 26, 2018 and was unanimously approved by the board. Countywide (DR).

Background and Policy Issues: Palm Tran has not undergone any major service changes to its network of routes in over 20 years. Other transit systems across the country (e.g. Houston, Jacksonville and Columbus) have performed similar initiatives and have achieved increases in ridership and customer satisfaction. The proposed enhanced bus network is the result of many months of technical analysis and design and a robust community outreach program.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin. In 2013, Palm Tran updated its Title VI program to require a service and equity analysis when undergoing a major service change to ensure that the proposed changes do not have a disparate impact on low-income or minority populations. This analysis must be presented to and approved by the grant recipient's governing body.

Attachment(s):

- 1. Presentation
- 2. Title VI Service and Fare Equity Analysis
- 3. Resolution
- 4. Notice of Public Hearing

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Recommended By:	Miller	7/31/18	
-	(MExecutive Director	Øate / °	
Approved By:	Wil & B Im	5/10/18	
	Assistant County Administrator	Date	

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Capital	1				
Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External					
Revenues					
Program					
Income(County)					
In-Kind					
Match(County					
NET FISCAL	0				
IMPACT					
#ADDITIONAL			_		
FTE			·		
POSITIONS					
(CUMULATIVE					

Is Item Included in Current Budget?	Yes .	No
Does this item include the use of federal funds?	Yes	<u>No</u>

Budget Account No:

Fund Department Unit Object

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

The Route Performance Maximization initiative enhances the existing network footprint and utilizes existing resources in Palm Tran's approved FY18 and proposed FY19 budgets, therefore no fiscal impact will come about from these proposed changes.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: 1/20/18

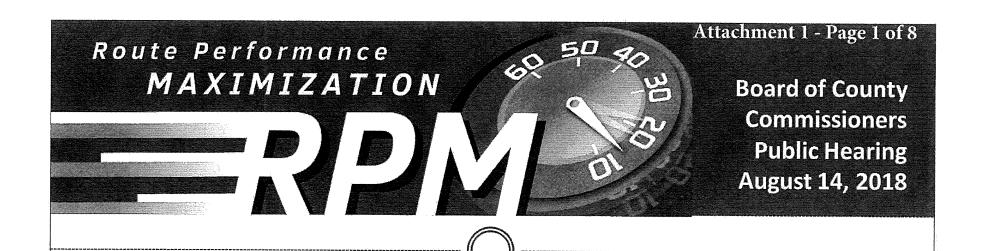
Michael Williams, Director Administrative Services

III. REVIEW COMMENTS:

A.	OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:
	OFMB # 7/3, PO1/3) Contract Dev. & Control
В.	Legal Sufficiency The hom Testishile accounts of a constant of the constant o
C.	Legal Sufficiency The APM Initiative proposes changes to falm Trans bus network only. The Titlett equity analysis did not 8/8/18 analyze impacts of a Change to Palm Trans fake Assistant County Attorney Structure as no face modifications are being proposed An affidavit confirming publication was not available from all entitle at time of Other Department Review

Department Director

(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)



CLINTON B. FORBES

Executive Director

STEVE ANDERSON

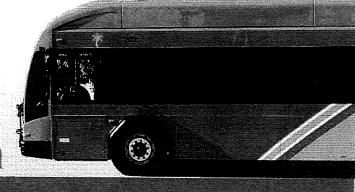
Palm Tran Project Manager

ADAMS CONSULTING GROUP TINDALE OLIVER

Project Team



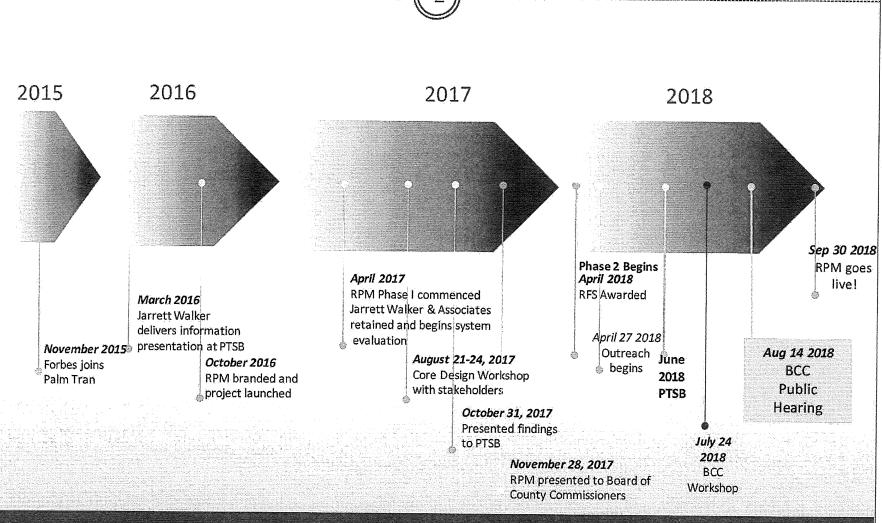






Timeline





BCC Public Hearing - 8/14/2018



RPM Phase II: Goals



Goals of RPM

- Use existing resources
- Enhanced "Coverage" network
- Minimal impact to existing customers
- More access to opportunity
- More direct service
- More seamless connections
- Improve frequency
- o Improve span

Expected Goals

- O Better service for existing customers
- Attract new customers
- O Improve on-time performance





RPM Phase II Results



62,600 unproductive hours identified

Approximately \$5M to Maximize



- Resources reinvested aligns with RPM goals
 - O More frequent service
 - More convenient connections (transfers)
 - More direct service
 - o Improved evening/weekend service





RPM Phase II Results



Frequency of Bus Routes, Palm Tran vs. RPM Network

Frequency	Level of Service	Current Palm Tran	RPM
61 minutes or more	F	4 (12%)	2 (6%)
60 minutes	D	21 (62%)	14 (44%)
31-59 minutes	С	2 (6%)	8 (25%)
30 minutes	В	5 (15%)	5 (16%)
16-29 minutes	B+	2 (6%)	3 (9%)
		34 total routes	32 total routes



Title VI Analysis



Required under FTA/ Civil Rights Act of 1964 as part of many major service change

Determines whether service changes will have disproportionate impact on minority or low-income populations



Title VI findings: No disproportionate adverse impacts to minority or low-income populations

PTSB approved at 7/26 Board Meeting



Wave 3 Outreach



Implementation

- Customer education
- Robust outreach
- •Enhanced Rider's Guide
- Website
- Onboard Announcements
- Social Media
- Call on-hold message
- •Palm Tran App
- •Intense ground game
- •Fare-free transit during first few days of implementation
- •Free Wi-Fi on all fixed-route buses

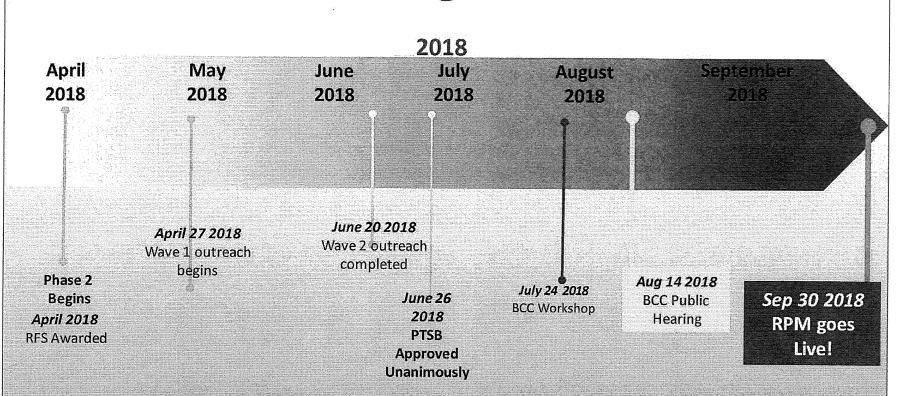






Timeline - 2018







8

Thank You

Discussion



GREAT INSIGHTS. GREATER OUTCOMES.

21 July 2018

To:

Steve Anderson, Planning Manager

From: Randall Farwell, Senior Associate

Re:

RPM Bus Network Changes – Title VI Analysis Findings

Findings: The results of the Title VI equity analysis performed to compare the proposed RPM bus network changes with the existing bus network found no disproportionate adverse impacts on low income or minority populations. The impacts of the proposed RPM bus network changes improves access to transit services for low income and minority populations in greater proportion than for the general public within the bus network service area.

Requirements: Transit providers within service areas containing more than 200,000 residents are required under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to complete an equity analysis of any major service change or fare change. The analysis must be completed during the programming stages, regardless of the proposed amount of fare increase or in the case of service changes, a service equity analysis is required for any major service change. Requirements for major service changes differ based on the magnitude of changes and established thresholds. The purpose of an equity analysis is to ensure that any potential fare structures or service changes are consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and are fair and equitable to all citizens, regardless of race, color, or national origin. The objectives of FTA's Title VI Program, as set forth in FTA Circular 4702.1B, "Title VI Program Guidelines for Federal Transit Administration Recipients," are:

- To ensure that FTA-assisted benefits and related services are made available and are equitably distributed without regard to race, color, or national origin.
- To ensure that the level and quality of FTA-assisted transit services are sufficient to provide equal access and mobility for any person without regard to race, color, or national origin.
- To ensure that opportunities to participate in the transit planning and decision-making process are provided to persons without regard to race, color, or national origin.
- To ensure that decisions on the location of transit services and facilities are made without regard to race, color, or national origin.
- To ensure that corrective and remedial action is taken by all applicants and recipients of FTA assistance to prevent discriminatory treatment of any beneficiary based on race, color, or national origin.

An equity analysis must be completed to determine whether planned changes will have a disproportionate impact on minority populations. Although low-income populations are not a protected class under Title VI, it is recognized through statistical analysis that there is an inherent

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overlap of environmental justice (EJ) principles with low income populations. Additionally, because it is important to evaluate the impacts of service and fare changes on passengers who are transit-dependent, FTA requires transit providers to evaluate proposed service and fare changes to determine if low-income populations will bear a disproportionate burden of the changes. Therefore, an equity analysis determines whether there is a disproportionate burden between the existing fare or service and the proposed fare or service change on low-income riders.

Methodology: The service equity analysis compares access to bus transit services for the proposed bus network changes in relation to the existing bus network. Access to transit services was determined based on changes in routes and related bus stops. The methodology used is as noted:

- Identify existing Title VI areas within Palm Beach County comprised of Census block groups with: a) minority populations greater than the average countywide minority population, and b) low income populations greater than the average countywide low income population. Within the Palm Tran service area, low income population accounts for 13.9% of the general population and minority population accounts for 43.1% of the general population.
- 2. Determine if the service changes constitute a major service change. The proposed bus network changes will affect more than 25% of the existing route network and therefore are considered a major service change.
- 3. Using service planning GIS analyses, calculate impacts of proposed service changes on ridership access within designated Title VI population areas, including:
 - a. Changes to and/or elimination of bus stops using walksheds of ¼-mile
 - b. Changes to service span impacting ridership within the time periods impacted
 - c. Changes to service frequency impacting ridership
 - d. Changes to routes alignments and eliminations impacting accessibility
- 4. Using service planning GIS analyses, calculate impacts of proposed service changes on ridership activity within the overall Palm Tran bus network, including:
 - a. Changes to and/or elimination of bus stops using walksheds of ¼-mile
 - b. Changes to service span impacting ridership within the time periods impacted
 - c. Changes to service frequency impacting ridership
 - d. Changes to routes alignments and eliminations impacting accessibility
- 5. Compare impacts on Title VI protected groups to impacts on the general system
 - a. If impacts to Title VI protected groups are greater than 20% of impacts on the general public, per Palm Tran policy, then an adverse disproportionate impact exists
 - b. If disproportionate impacts do not exists, then changes are in compliance with Title VI

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Attachment 2 - Page 3 of 3



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6. For disproportionate impacts, identify reasonable means to mitigate the adverse impacts on low income and minority areas.

Results: The results of the Title VI analysis found *no disproportionate adverse impacts on low income or minority populations* within the Palm Tran service area using a ¼-mile buffer as a standard walkshed measure of access to service. The results reflect that the proposed bus network changes adversely affect access to Palm Tran fixed route services for non-low income and non-minority areas at a rate greater than the average for low income and minority areas.

The analysis examined net bus stop changes to service access between the existing and the proposed bus networks by focusing on areas in which service access will be eliminated (no access to service within ¼-mile of a bus stop). The proposed bus network changes would result in a net elimination of 89 bus stops where walkshed access is greater than ¼-mile. The existing bus network includes 3221 bus stops. The proposed bus network will include 3132 bus stops.

The impact of elimination of bus stops for low income and non-low income areas as well as for minority and non-minority areas is reflected in the tables below. For low income areas, 1.2% of existing stops are eliminated compared to 4.0% for non-low income areas. For minority areas, 1.2% of existing stops are eliminated compared to 3.4% for non-minority areas.

Low Income	Non-Low Income	Total	
1441 1424 17	1780 1708 72	3132	Existing stop total New stop total Removed stops (beyond 1/4-mile)
1.2% 19.1%	4.0% 80.9%	1	% removed (total existing network) % removed (removed stops)

Non-		
Minority	Total	
2327	3221	Existing stop total
2249		New stop total
78		Removed stops (beyond 1/4-mile)
3.4%	2.8%	% removed (total existing network)
87.6%	100.0%	% removed (removed stops)
	Minority 2327 2249 78 3.4%	Minority Total 2327 3221 2249 3132 78 89 3.4% 2.8%

The direct impact on Title VI protected populations is lower than that for the general population within the service area. Further, the difference in impacts on Title VI populations compared to the general public is less than the 20% Palm Tran policy threshold. Therefore, no disproportionate adverse impacts accrue to Title VI protected populations and no additional mitigation is necessary.

CC:

- J. Rey
- J. Willits
- J. Barber
- D. Rynerson

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RESOLUTION NO. R-

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY (BCC), FLORIDA, APPROVING THE TITLE VI SERVICE AND FARE EQUITY ANALYSES REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SHOWING THAT THE MAJOR SERVICE CHANGES TO THE PALM TRAN NETWORK HAVE NO DISPARATE IMPACT TO EITHER MINORITY OR LOW-INCOME POPULATIONS AND APPROVING THE RECOMMENDED MAJOR SERVICE CHANGES PROPOSED BY THE ROUTE PERFORMANCE MAXIMIZATION INITIATIVE; ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Palm Tran is proposing a major service change to its existing network; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County defines a major service change as either a twenty-five percent (25%) change in system-wide service hours or a twenty-five percent (25%) change in route-level mileage; and

WHEREAS, the fixed route changes proposed by the Route Performance Maximization Initiative (RPM) meet or exceed the guidelines for a major service change; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 4702.1B and Palm Beach County's Public Transit System (Palm Tran) Title VI Program (Title VI Program), the County completed an equity analysis of the proposed major service changes; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of an equity analysis is to ensure that any potential service changes are consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and are fair and equitable to all citizens, regardless of race, color or national origin; and

WHEREAS, the County retained the consultant, Tindale Oliver, to conduct an equity analysis of the proposed major service changes during the programming stages of the RPM initiative in accordance with FTA Circular 4702.1B and the Title VI Program; and

WHEREAS, the results of the Title VI equity analysis performed to compare the proposed RPM bus network changes with the existing bus network found no disparate impacts that will result in adverse effects that are disproportionately borne by minority populations and no adverse effects that will be disproportionately borne by low-income populations; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of the proposed RPM bus network changes improve access to transit services for low-income and minority populations in greater proportion than for the general public within the bus network service areas; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has conducted a final public hearing regarding the proposed RPM service changes and given due consideration to the information and recommendations received from staff, the opinion of experts, the relevant comments and supporting information received from the public, taking into consideration the knowledge and expertise of the commenter to the extent it has information regarding such, the reasons provided from those in support of or opposition to the proposed service changes, and the supporting facts, opinions, research, data, and the Title VI equity analysis and findings; and

WHEREAS, the BCC's decision is not based simply upon the number of commenters in support of or in opposition to the proposed service changes but rather its determination that the approved service changes will reasonably further the desired outcome of providing better, more efficient, and faster fixed route public transportation services to the public in a cost effective manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA:

- 1. That the Board of County Commissioners hereby approves and adopts the Title VI Equity Analysis presented by Tindale Oliver in accordance with Palm Beach County's Title VI Program and FTA Circular 4702.1B.
- 2. That the Board of County Commissioners approves and adopts the major network service changes proposed by the RPM initiative and authorizes those service changes to go into effect on September 30, 2018. Thereafter, a new innovative flex routing system pilot program with a target date of November 1, 2018 will be initiated in the Glades area.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.	
The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner	, who
moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner	
and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:	

Commissioner Melissa McKinlay	/, Mayor
Commissioner Mack Bernard, V	ice Mayor
Commissioner Hal R. Valeche Commissioner Paulette Burdick	
Commissioner Dave Kerner Commissioner Steven L. Abram	s
Commissioner Mary Lou Berger	No. 10 and 10 an
The Mayor thereupon declared the reso	olution duly passed and adopted this
day of	, 2018.
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY	PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA BY ITS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Sharon R. Bock, Clerk and Comptroller
Ву:	By:
County Attorney	Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

RE: PALM TRAN SYSTEM-WIDE CHANGES THROUGH THE ROUTE PERFORMANCE MAXIMIZATION PROJECT

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing has been scheduled for the purpose of presenting Palm Tran major system-wide changes through the Route Performance Maximization project (RPM). The Public Hearing will be held at the Board of County Commissioner meeting as follows:

DATE:

Tuesday, August 14, 2018

TIME:

9:30 a.m.

LOCATION:

Robert Weisman Governmental Center, 6th Floor

301 N. Olive Avenue

West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Served by: Route 1

A. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

The Route Performance Maximization project (RPM) involves system-wide major service changes in schedules and service locations for fixed-route bus service. The project involves the addition or removal of routes and bus stops and modifications to existing route alignments. Proposals, concepts and the Title VI Equity Analysis are available for public inspection at: http://www.palmtran.org and at the Palm Tran offices located at: 3201 Electronics Way, West Palm Beach, FL 33407 and at Palm Beach County Libraries during regular business hours.

B. RELOCATION

No persons, families or businesses will be displaced by the project.

C. ENVIRONMENT

The project will allow Palm Tran to continue providing public transportation services within Palm Beach County that will continue to reduce exhaust emissions from automobiles and reduce air pollution traffic congestion and conserve energy.

D. COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

The project is in conformance with comprehensive land use and transportation planning in the area.

E. ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED

Reduced fares for the elderly and handicapped will continue to be in effect at all times of operation.

Written comments will be received at Palm Tran, 3201 Electronics Way, and at Palm-Comments@pbcgov.org and voice comments will be accepted at (561) 841-4319 until 5 p.m. August 10, 2018.

Proposals and concepts are available for public inspection at: http://www.palmtran.org and at the Palm Tran offices located at 3201 Electronics Way, West Palm Beach, FL 33407.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, national origin, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons with questions or concerns about nondiscrimination, or who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or who want this information in a language other than English, or who need translation services for the public hearing (free of charge), should contact Claudia Salazar, Title VI Coordinator at: (561) 841-4241, or csalazar@pbcgov.org

Para solicitar información en idiomas distintos al inglés, si requiere un intérprete en la audiencia pública, o para solicitar asistencia para una persona con discapacidades, por favor contactar a Claudia Salazar en el (561) 841-4241, o csalazar@pbcgov.org

Pou mande enfòmasyon sa a nan yon lang ki pa angle, oswa si ou bezwen sèvis tradiksyon pou odyans piblik la (gratis), oswa si ou bezwen akomodasyon espesyal anba Lwa sou Ameriken ak Andikap kontakte Claudia Salazar, Koòdonatè Tit VI nan (561) 841-4241 oubyen csalazar@pbcgov.org