November/December 2021

MICROTRANSIT PILOT PROGRAM

This year, the City's community shuttle service, which has provided service to both residents and tourists since 1992, underwent a transformation from a wave and ride system to a fixed route system. Formerly known as Sun Trolley, our new LauderGO! Community Shuttle service is funded by Broward County's Penny for Transportation Surtax with support from the City and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, over 200,000 passengers were served annually along five routes: Beach Link, Downtown Link, Las Olas Link, Neighborhood Link, and Northwest Community Link. To better serve our riders, the City is partnering with FDOT to implement a 6-month microtransit pilot program while we continue working on additional upgrades to the new system including realigning routes and installing new ADA-compliant bus stops.

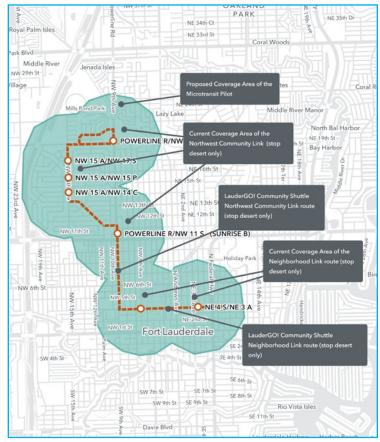
The microtransit pilot program will feature vans that will supplement the City's shuttle service by transporting riders to and from shuttle stops within a half mile buffer area along the routes for the Downtown Link, Neighborhood Link, and the Northwest Community Link. The program will be fully funded through a grant from FDOT.

Through the microtransit pilot program, we will:

- Improve safe access to the Community Shuttle service by connecting residential areas to designated ADAcompliant BCT stops and shelters, as well as to the larger transit network.
- Expand service coverage to residential areas and commercial locations that are currently underserved by the existing Community Shuttle service.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of innovative transit strategies designed to relieve congestion and improve capacity within an identified corridor.



Photo of newly the branded LauderGO! Community Shuttle

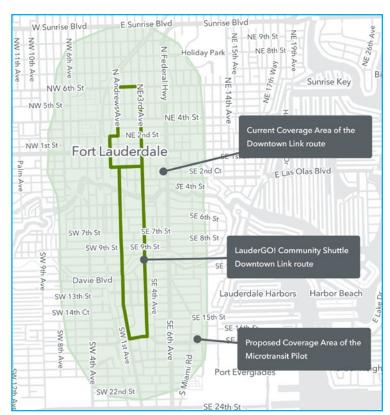


Northwest Fort Lauderdale Proposed Service Area

Earlier this month, Transportation and Mobility Transit staff presented the proposed pilot program to District 3 neighborhood leaders. This presentation was the first step in our outreach efforts to seek public input as we develop this on-demand service. Engaging communities impacted by the 'Transit desert' that exists between fixed shuttle stops along the Neighborhood Link and Northwest Community Link routes is the key to increasing access to Broward County Transit and LauderGo! Community Shuttle services. Commissioner McKinzie and neighbors in attendance offered feedback, support, and recommendations for additional outreach to those greatly impacted by the recent service delivery changes. Staff intends to reach out to the Housing Authority and additional neighborhood associations for input. Presentations will resume in January when staff plans to meet with representatives from District 2 and 4 to discuss the microtransit pilot program as it applies to the Downtown Link route and how it will provide access to employment opportunities within the proposed service area.

While the City's program is currently in development with an estimated launch in mid-2022, a similar program was recently launched by Brightline. Brightline+ is a new door-to-door service that offer guests several first and last mile transit options within a five-mile radius of Brightline stations. The service is being rolled out in phases and testing began this month. Learn more at www.gobrightline.com.

With the launch of this pilot program and the work completed over the past year to complete the Las Olas Mobility Vision Plan, develop the LauderTrail Master Plan, make progress on Transportation Surtax projects, and implement pedestrian safety projects, Fort Lauderdale is becoming a more pedestrian friendly and multimodal community.



Downtown Link Proposed Service Area



Photo of Brightline's new door-to-door service called Brightline+

GET INFORMATION AND UPDATES



24-hour Neighbor Call Center: 954-828-8000

Website: www.fortlauderdale.gov

LauderStreet: www.fortlauderdale.gov/lauderstreet

Email Updates: www.fortlauderdale.gov/enews

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CityofFortLauderdale

Twitter: www.twitter.com/FTLCityNews

Nextdoor: www.nextdoor.com

YouTube: www.youtube.com/CityofFortLauderdale
Instagram: www.instagram.com/CityofFortLauderdale