



City of Coral Gables  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
February 13, 2024

**ITEM TITLE:**

A Resolution authorizing the City Staff to negotiate and execute a contract with Freebee to provide on demand public transportation services for one-year with two one-year options, at an amount not to exceed \$520,785 annually pursuant to Section 2-607 (17) of the procurement code entitled "Exemptions" (Purchase of Public Transportation Services).

**BRIEF HISTORY:**

The City of Coral Gables contracted with Freebee to provide point to point ride services during streetscape construction pursuant to City Commission Resolution No. 2016-270. In January of 2019 pursuant to Resolution No. 2019-15 the City entered into a three-year agreement with Freebee that was partially funded by an FDOT service development grant. The point-to-point (on demand) micro transit service has transported more than 325,000 passengers since its inception and has been well received by the Coral Gables downtown community.

In May of 2023, the City applied for a grant from the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) to fund a TPO Smart Demonstration Project. The City's proposed project is a Flex Route Transportation Service via Electric Vehicles for a total of \$506,000 of which \$253,000 is from the grant and \$253,000 is the required matching funds from the City of Coral Gables. The proposal submitted was approved by the TPO and forwarded to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for final funding determination.

This resolution is authorizing the City to negotiate and new contract with Freebee. As part of the new contract, Freebee will be converting the existing 5 fleet GEM vehicles to Tesla Model X. In addition, the City and Freebee will be modifying the current hours of operation (Monday-Sunday 10am-10pm) to better maximize ridership patterns. The new schedule will be Monday-Thursday 10am-9pm, Friday and Saturday 10am-11:59pm and Sunday 10am-7pm. Freebee has agreed to provide the new fleet vehicles in advance of the start of the FDOT grant and will honor the current monthly rate until the grant commences. Freebee will provide an advertising revenue guarantee in the amount of \$24,000 per vehicle that Freebee will keep and instead provide an upfront discount on the operation cost. The total cost of the program is not to exceed \$520,785 per year.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Proposed Resolution

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

No.	Amount	Account No.	Source of Funds
1.	\$520,785	360-8800-544-3112	Trolley Transportation Fund
Total:	\$520,785		
<b>Fiscal Impact:</b>			

The flex route Freebee service is crucial as it provides mobility throughout and supports commerce within our Downtown and Central business district. The new Tesla Model X fleet will help enhance service by lowering wait times and reducing passengers' exposure to the weather (heat, wind, and rain). The required matching funds will be allocated through the County's Half Penny Tax or PTP funds distributed through the CITT.