

# CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUTER RAIL COMMISSION

FEBRUARY 27, 2025





Date: February 27, 2025

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: LYNX Central Station 455 N. Garland Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room Orlando, Florida 32801

### PLEASE SILENCE CELL PHONES

- I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Announcements/Recognition
- III. Confirmation of Quorum
- IV. Approvals
  - Adoption of January 23, 2025 CFCRC Board Meeting Minutes

### V. Public Comments

• Those joining in person will be permitted to approach the podium in the LYNX Board Room and speak for up to 3 minutes.

### VI. Reports

- SunRail Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Update Tanya Wilder, Chair
- SunRail Customer Advisory Committee (CAC) Update Luis Nieves-Ruiz
- Agency Update SunRail Rail Administration Manager David Cooke
- Connectivity
  - o LYNX Update Bruce Detweiler
  - Votran Update- Bobbie King



### VII. Informational Items

- Transition Update John Slot
- Update of Capital Maintenance Plan Charles M. Heffinger, Jr. P.E.
- Sunshine Corridor Update David Cooke
- VIII. Action Items
  - IX. Board Member Comments
  - X. Other Business
    - Next Meeting March 27, 2025

### XI. Adjournment

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Mr. Roger Masten, FDOT/SunRail Title VI Coordinator, 801 SunRail Drive, Sanford, FL 32771, by phone at 321-257-7161, or by email at roger.masten@dot.state.fl.us at least three business days prior to the event.

## Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission Meeting

### Attendees:

Chair, Volusia County Council Chair Jeff Brower Vice Chair, Seminole County Commissioner Amy Lockhart

Secretary, City of Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer

Board Member, Osceola County Commissioner, Viviana Janer Board Member, Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings

## <u>Minutes</u>

#### The meeting was called to order by Chair Brower at 2:00 PM

#### Pledge of Allegiance and Confirmation of Quorum

#### **Approvals:**

### **Presenter:** Chair Brower

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Adoption of the meeting minutes from November 14, 2024, passed unanimously.

#### **Public Comments:**

• Joanne Counelis – 324 Clermont Avenue, Lake Mary, FL 32746 – We need to have the trains running on weekends and holidays along with weekdays. It should run every 15 minutes, 24 hours a day so no one gets stranded. Please help us keep our bus in Seminole County also on weekends, holidays and weekdays so no one is stranded in Seminole County as well as Orange County.

Sarah Badri – 617 North Magnolia Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801: I have the privilege and pleasure of serving as the Deputy District Director for Congressman Maxwell Alejandro Frost. I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I didn't have the opportunity to share this during the past LYNX board meeting. Given the Central Florida Regional Transit Authority's future, I want to take the moment to highlight some of the achievements LYNX has accomplished recently and underscores commitment to enhancing mobility and sustainability in Central Florida, especially with its stretch resources. First, I want to acknowledge its 20 years of dedicated service to our community, a remarkable milestone. Over the years, LYNX has worked continuously to innovate, as seen in the recent implementation of Tap to Pay technology, which makes transit more accessible and user friendly. I also want to commend LYNX for increasing ridership connected to LYNX by 10% and for the forthcoming completion of the Pine Hills transit center at the end of the month, which is a vital addition to our transportation network. LYNX has also been successful in securing federal funding for its mission. I want to highlight some of those – \$27 million last year for the low and no emission grant program which will allow LYNX to add new CNG buses to its fleet; \$5.8 million through to protect program which will increase the resiliency of this building against hurricanes and improve energy efficiency; additionally, I want to highlight some of the funds Congressman Frost has been able to secure for transportation projects in partnership with LYNX. \$750,000 to improve LYNX Central Station bus terminal to expand its capacity for elongated buses as well as modernize infrastructure; \$500,000 for solar technology at bus shelters. In partnership with Orange County, \$250,000 for transportation mobility hubs. These investments reflect the critical role that transit plays in growth and resilience in our region. I especially want to express Congressman Frost's commitment to working closely with LYNX and the Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission on identifying federal funding opportunities and advancing your mission for service and expansion. Addressing transportation policy issues, especially with the surface transportation reauthorization around the corner, how do we decide on funding? It becomes

January 23, 2025 2:00 p.m. LYNX Admin. Building 455 North Garland Ave. Orlando, FL 32801 potentially more flexible in the ways that we'd like to see here in Central Florida. I want to thank you for your time and once again express Congressman Frost's deep commitment to advancing transportation and mobility in our region.

Agenda Item: Reports – Customer Advisory Committee Presenter: Luis Nieves-Ruiz

• No report given due to Mr. Nieves-Ruiz's absence.

Agenda Item: Reports – Technical Advisory Committee

Presenter: Tanya Wilder

- The City of Orlando is honored to be your 2025 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Chair and look forward to productive discussion and action in the coming year with complex initiatives of the transition and the expansion.
- At the January 8, 2025, meeting we had a quorum and approved the November 6, 2024, meeting minutes. There were no public comments.
- We heard from David Cooke, the Rail Administration Manager, with year-end statistics that are encouraging.
- SunRail is once again gaining ridership. In 2024, ridership was at 1,216,297 riders and a monthly average of 101,349 riders. That is an over 12% increase. Our busiest station on the line is the LYNX Central Station.
- Bruce Detweiler from LYNX and Bobbie King from Volusia County updated us on our bus systems and Votran.
- John Booker reported on the documents you have before you today, which is approval of an attorney for the CFCRC. The CFO and Attorney Working Groups have been instrumental in that process.
- One action item at the TAC was the election of officers. As previously stated, the City of Orlando was voted on to serve as your Chair and Seminole County as your Vice Chair.
- We are honored to serve, and we look forward to our next meeting for the TAC on February 12, 2025, at 2:00 PM.

### Presenter: David Cooke

### Agenda Item: Reports – Agency Update

- Ridership Goal Reached!
  - o 2024 Ridership 1,216,297
  - Monthly Average 101,349
  - This represents about a 12% increase over 2023
  - This year we're looking forward to increasing that ridership even further.
- Rider Surveys Your Voice Counts
  - SunRail is conducting three rider surveys over the next few months.
  - Focus Areas:
    - Survey 1 10/24 City of Orlando and Orange County
    - Survey 2 1/25 Seminole and Volusia Counties
    - Survey 3 2/25 Osceola County and Orlando International Airport
  - Topics Include:
    - Work from home frequently
    - Adoption Mobile Ticketing App
    - Why they choose to ride SunRail Where are they going? What is their destination?
    - As we heard here today, there are quite a few people who would like to see weekend service.
- Black Friday BOGO Success!
  - o SunRail featured a Buy One Give One Black Friday promotion on Friday, November 29th.
  - Riders who purchased one SunRail ticket got to have a friend or family member ride with them for free.
  - Ridership saw a strong boost with nearly 5,200 customers representing an 8% increase over last year.
- Train to the Game Excitement!
  - Train to the Game promotion has been a tremendous success and is continuing to grow in popularity given it helps to alleviate traffic around the Kia Center.
  - There is a significant ridership boost on game nights with numbers consistently over 5,000 and several home games remaining.
  - Extended southbound service from Church Street Station at 11:06 p.m. is sponsored by the Orlando Magic in addition to the regular 10:30 p.m. northbound train.
- Holiday Promotions
  - Tis the Season to ride SunRail to events, unique shopping, seasonal shows, dining, two Bowl games, and more!
    - Local Event Partnerships
    - Onboard Customer Appreciation Events
    - Station Holiday Features
    - December Ridership +17% over 2023
- Average Daily Ridership November-December 2024 5,146
- On Time Performance November-December 2024 Goal=95%; Actual=89.70%; Contract = 98.42%
  - This slide gives a good perspective of our year-over-year ridership and how that's improved. The trend is up and certainly we look forward to 2025 as being above that green line, which was 2024.
- Above Average On-Time 17 Days; 41 Operating Days; Ran 1,680 Trains

### **Additional Remarks**

**Presenter:** Secretary John Tyler

- I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the incredible achievements that we've had with SunRail through 2024, as well as share some of my thoughts for 2025.
- So, 2024 was one of the most monumental years in SunRail history. We agreed on a transition almost ten months ago. We celebrated our 10<sup>th</sup> year of operations in connecting communities. We introduced new technology to our riders, making it even easier and more efficient to ride SunRail. We opened the DeLand Station, completing the original vision of SunRail. We also

completed the TCAR Study for the Sunshine Corridor, which could be SunRail's next chapter. As we closed out the year, your teams and FDOT worked hard to complete the first phase of the transition by completing the financial transition of SunRail. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, the five local governments that make up the CFCRC are paying for operations of SunRail. That is no small accomplishment. It took a lot of hard work from your technical teams, your legal teams and introduced your finance professionals, your CFO's, to the process as well. It was a remarkable year, and I'm proud to have been a part of it and I hope you are too.

- As we move ahead into 2025, I wanted to share with you some of my goals as your CEO.
  - First, I'd like to continue to grow SunRail ridership. We had 1.2 million riders for 2024, resulting in a 12% increase over 2023; ridership is steadily coming back; and 2025 is off to a great start. Later on in the agenda, Mark Calvert with Evolve, part of SunRail's Marketing team, is going to give us some insights on how we can continue to grow ridership throughout the year.
  - My second goal for SunRail is to grow the CFCRC organization. We have completed the financial transition and introduced new people, your CFO's, to help build out the capabilities of the CFCRC as an organization. Also on the agenda today is a proposed selection of legal services to assist this Commission with moving ahead. These are all great steps towards the Commission, growing the Commission into a full-fledged organization that can manage and govern SunRail into the future. Building on this momentum, it will be critical to continue growing the capabilities of the CFCRC. FDOT stands ready to support the Commission with technical support and assistance as we continue to figure out the next steps ahead. The election of officers for 2025 is on today's agenda. As we close out 2024, I want to recognize the leadership of Chairman Brower and his staff at Volusia County Mr. John Booker, Russ Brown, and Ryan Ossowski. Holding the chairmanship and the Commission holds an additional level of responsibility and leadership. In 2024, we saw it as no year before and 2025 will have its own challenges and opportunities. I look forward to working with the next chair and their team as we continue to chart the course ahead.
  - My third goal for 2025 is to grow the SunRail system. This includes improving safety and ο security on the train and around the tracks. Even with the extensive work that we have done, we are still seeing behaviors we would like to change. We continue to use technology and infrastructure improvements as well as our partnerships with law enforcement. As an example, at the SunRail crossing at Horatio Avenue in Maitland, where we have seen three crashes with vehicles stopped on the tracks, Maitland Police Department has issued warnings or given tickets over 260 times in the last two months alone. This is a neverending challenge we will continue to address, but we will continue to work on this. Growing the SunRail system also includes enhancing the resilience and performance of the SunRail system. We have underway \$24 million worth of capital maintenance projects ranging from expanding the facility in Sanford, additional double tracking and crossovers that will improve on time performance, and signalization and communication improvements throughout the corridor. This goal of growing the SunRail system also includes preparing for its future as well. The Sunshine Corridor Working Group will continue to meet in 2025. They are continuing to work on a plan for moving into a PD&E study should the Commission vote to move that ahead. That decision is not on the agenda today as your individual Commissions are weighing that decision at a local level.
  - Finally, in the spirit of growing the SunRail system, I'm pleased to report in the Department's proposed work program, using funds specifically set aside for maintaining the state's rail infrastructure, we have included over \$80 million to replace and widen the SunRail bridge of US 17-92 in Maitland. Should the proposed work program be adopted by the legislature and signed by the Governor, the bridge will be funded for construction in fiscal year 2027.

• As you can see, we've come a long way. We still have a lot of work to do. Personally, I'm looking forward to making more progress as we move through 2025.

Agenda Item: Reports - Lynx Connectivity

### Presenter: Bruce Detweiler

- We saw a 13% increase in ridership in November, and in December we saw a 3% increase in ridership when we compared it to last year for a total of 3% higher total for the fiscal year when we compared it to the previous year.
- Our feeder bus service for November averaged a 5% increase for fixed route service and 35% for Neighbor Link, and the Sand Lake corridor from the Sand Lake Station to the Airport saw a 62% increase when compared to November of last year.
- For December, fixed route was down about 1% and Neighbor Link was up 16%, and the Sand Lake to Airport corridor was up 45% when compared to last year.

Agenda Item: Reports – Votran

### Presenter: Bobbie King

- I want to point out something very significant. You might notice that November and December are much higher than we've had in two years. We've been riding those SunRail routes in the last few months of the year and found that our drivers are selecting the wrong choice on the fare box for the SunRail riders. We really don't know how long that was going on, but data reports that we pulled corroborated that. You'll see that we changed that in November and now we have significantly higher numbers.
- This is our VoRide Micro Transit Service that we provide to both DeBary and DeLand. In DeLand's case, it is on the only service we provide besides a shuttle provided by the City of DeLand. You can see that the difference in numbers is significant because the DeBary numbers also have the bus going there as well. We are seeing increases in the VoRide service for the DeLand Station.
- The DeLand circulator is funded by the city of DeLand. We are looking at making a change to perhaps an all-day service in the near future. Those numbers fluctuate between 300 and 400 ridership a month for seven hours a day. However, the city is still very interested in maintaining this connectivity.
- *Amy Lockhart:* It occurred to me you can give us numbers from DeLand with their circulator. In Seminole County, the city of Sanford has a trolley; I think Altamonte Springs also has a system. Does the LYNX update that we get include those ridership numbers? Have we reached out to the cities who are providing transportation to the SunRail stations to find out what those ridership numbers might be from them?
- *Bruce Detweiler:* No, we do not. The report that I give to the Commission contains numbers coming from our APC units and it's for the boardings and the alightings at the station. It can't really measure if people are getting off the train to use the bus service. It measures the activity at the bus stop at the station.
- *Amy Lockhart:* The numbers that LYNX provides us are people who have gotten off or on a bus at the station.
- *Bruce Detweiler:* That's correct.
- *Amy Lockhart:* In that case, are we reaching out to Sanford or Altamonte Springs to capture those numbers from a SunRail perspective? LYNX has their numbers for LYNX. Since we're sitting here as SunRail members, I wonder how many people are riding SunRail getting to those stations from one of those municipalities. Maybe that's something we can find out. I don't know if Maitland has those as well or any of the other cities, but I would love to know what our municipal partners are doing with their trolleys or shuttles as well for SunRail.
- *John Tyler:* We can certainly investigate that and bring that back to the Commission and potentially add that as a future report. That additional connectivity for those other forms that are picking people up at the stations.
- Jeff Brower: Is your trolley service private or is it run with the city?
- *Amy Lockhart:* The city of Sanford has a trolley, and the city of Altamonte Springs has Crane Rides, an autonomous shuttle service provided by beep. I think those are the only two cities that provide a trolley or shuttle. I don't know how many people are using them, so it would be good to know.

• *Jeff Brower:* Ride SunRail and when you get to the cities, you have transportation to get somewhere else. There's a lot of people in the DeLand area coming into Orlando. We want you from Orlando to come to DeLand and DeBary, and Votran can get you wherever you need to go from there. Come enjoy America's most famous downtown.

Agenda Item: Informational Items – SunRail Transition Update

Presenter: John Booker

- I'm happy and relieved to report that on December 31, 2024, \$13,836,085 was transferred to the FDOT in accordance with the Operations Phasing Agreement. This agreement was entered into the first quarter of 2024 and negotiated by your respective legal teams. Two days later, \$10 million was transferred to the FDOT for the insurance piece of this exercise. This was the culmination of many hours of work by and in between your staffs, comprised of the Working Group of which I'm a member, the CFOs and the attorneys. All three groups of your staff were able to come together and make this happen. The Department expressed their appreciation for us to be able to take over this huge undertaking.
- The CFO Group really came up and was able to perform and take on some of the financial obstacles that we found as we worked through 2024. The group was able to open the bank accounts after we received our Federal ID Number (FEIN). If you're a mobile detailing corporation, getting a FEIN is easy. Not so much for Sun Rail. It was a little bit more challenging than anticipated and I was glad when we finally received the FEIN because it allowed for us to be able to open the bank accounts.
- A few months later, we opened the accounts and provided policies and procedures, so we had safeguards in place for invoicing and payments. The payment to the Department being the main one and so that we could transfer the funds to FDOT.
- Now we're in the second stage of the Operations Phasing Agreement as we begin really looking at transferring operations and that will be our emphasis for the next year. According to the Phasing Agreement, this will entail establishing a term sheet, negotiating some required amendments to the Interlocal Operating Agreement and then reviewing consistency with all the agreements to make sure that one of the agreements doesn't get sideways with another one of the agreements. Intellectual property; a treasure trove of minutia that we will dig through.
- I will point out that the milestones contained in the Phasing Agreement for 2025 are not as long a list as for 2024. That is in no way to means it will be an easy year for us, especially outlined with what Secretary Tyler said were his goals. We will mirror those goals as we continue to move forward.
- The staff are charged with making progress towards ultimately taking over operations from the Department and we believe that we will do just that.

### Agenda Item: Ridership and Growth

**Presenter:** Mark Calvert

- 2024 was an exceptional year for the entire SunRail system, and I'd like to take the next few minutes to highlight a couple of those accomplishments and speak to the vision of 2025.
- SunRail averaged over 101 riders per month, marking a 12.29% increase from 2023. Despite facing the challenge of five lost service days due to hurricanes and the ongoing impact of remote work of our salaried employees, the medical field excluded, our hourly employees and leisure audience ridership continue to grow.
- LYNX Central led the way as our most popular station last year, followed by Winter Park and then Kissimmee.
- In August, we celebrated the completion of Phase 2 North and welcomed the DeLand station to the SunRail network, in front of hundreds of excited guests.
- A special thank you to David Cooke and Patricia Ruffino for their Herculean efforts in upgrading the entire ticket vending, validation and back-office systems to the advanced version we have today.
- We introduced mobile ticketing to our riders and launched the new SunRail website all while celebrating ten years of SunRail.
- We partnered with local governments and organizations to provide 28 service events.

- We welcomed 65 group rides and worked diligently to keep communities safe by installing 21 grade crossing bungalows with important safety message wraps.
- If everybody in this room who isn't currently following SunRail on social media joined us today, we would surpass 71,000 followers. To put things into perspective, our friends down south of Tri Rail have just over 40,000.
- If anyone out there still has an old SunCard with remaining value on it and hasn't converted, we need to talk. In 2024, we reached up to thousands of dormant account holders, but we still need those with unregistered cards to contact us today.
- Ridership spikes when people are given reasons to ride outside of their daily commute, and we did this 14 times with themes from Spellbound on SunRail to College Week, from SunRail Black Friday BOGO to Tis this Season. These events introduced new audiences to the benefits of SunRail.
- In 2025, we have an annual ridership goal of 1.4 million riders, representing a growth rate of 16.67%. We forecast 75,000 new riders from the addition of our DeLand station and approximately 125,000 from regional growth, local partnerships and new marketing efforts.
- January 2025 is already trending at a 19.2% increase over 2024 with daily average ridership of 5,222 riders compared to 4,381 riders just a year ago.
- We love our regional partners in both the public and private sectors, but we must expand this pool to meet our objectives this year. Fortunately, we have the team and the tools in place to deliver safe, quality service to any event.
- Last year we created 14 unique ridership campaigns, this year we're launching 20.
- The team has converted approximately 50% of all riders to mobile ticket users. Our goal this year is to increase that segment to 60%.
- In 2024, we sold 65 group rides; this year we're targeting 100.
- Got on the train last Tuesday at the Poinciana station along with 70 seniors who were headed to Bubbalou's Bodacious BBQ close to the Altamonte Springs station. Wonderful conversations with large groups are where we get all the nuggets to come up with the themes and reasons to ride. Please engage with some of your fellow passengers, you won't be disappointed.
- I am very proud to say that SunRail is a leader in track safety, especially during Rail Safety Week. Secretary Tyler emphasizes that nothing is more important than the safety we provide to the communities we serve. Because of that, we are going to expand our safety initiatives to last throughout the year.
- To reach our ridership goal, we are growing our marketing footprint to include new areas of Osceola, Volusia and even segments of Lake County.
- We are also exploring new technologies to deliver target messaging while managing budgets effectively.
- We will continue our social media momentum and launch a new SunRail Transit Oriented Development (TOD) website to share the value that SunRail brings to the region beyond the rails.
- *Amy Lockhart:* Are there businesses that are utilizing SunRail to attract business that we are just not aware of or did these folks from Poinciana just happen to pick one of the best barbecue places in Seminole County? Who's initiating the use of SunRail for these trips to these private businesses?
- *Mark Calvert:* We have a whole segment on the website which is dedicated to station destinations. Growth provides you with a reason to ride and that takes a lot of creativity. We look at a walkable footprint or if we have a very simple connectivity option and then we'll go and we'll meet with those businesses. We make them advocates. We featured them on the website and then we promote them mostly through social media as another reason to ride. It's wonderful how viral that gets, because then people come back. We are so blessed with the people, the conductors, the engineers, and most importantly, the ambassadors that work at our stations. They are the first face, the first experience that new riders have, and they do an incredible job.

- *Amy Lockhart:* I'd love to explore that more because I don't know if all our cities and their economic development teams know that that relationship and opportunity exists. Anything that we can do to help further those conversations would be fantastic.
- Jeff Brower: I agree. Can a private business pay to advertise on SunRail?
- *Mark Calvert:* Yes. Some years back, we started a very robust advertising campaign. We have limited space on board. We've got these snap posters and there's very few of those; about 8 per vehicle but we also offer advertising online. You've seen some of our heavier hitters like Orlando Health who has wrapped a train. We do have a very robust advertising campaign with SunRail.
- *Jeff Brower*: I'm curious about the group rides but I see in the pictures that it's all children. Is this program available to senior citizens?
- *Mark Calvert:* Yes, absolutely. AdventHealth because of our relationship with OMA and since the Museum of Science is all within walking distance, you see a lot of kids around there. You'll see more senior groups tend to go into Sanford, which is a very popular destination for stopping on the trolley or having lunch at the Willowtree. DeLand we're also seeing more and more riders and Kissimmee is incredibly popular with the senior citizens.
- *Viviana Janer:* A lot of the restaurants and attractions in downtown Kissimmee have SunRail advertisements. People could scan and see all the SunRail stations where they could all go. It works both ways. It's a good thing for businesses that are along the SunRail stops to engage; they have a good program.
- *Jeff Brower:* Do you have any way of tracking how many riders are bringing bicycles on the train?
- *Mark Calvert:* Yes sir, we do.
- *Jeff Brower:* Is it growing?
- *Mark Calvert:* Right now, no. I would have to get that answer for you, as far as the growth rate. That is something that we are tracking. Electric scooters are becoming more popular as well. I had a wonderful conversation with a gentleman who went up to DeLand and then because of headwinds he comes back down to Orlando and that's part of his workout and had the whole biking gear. There are wonderful bike trails if you get off at DeBary that you can actually take you to Mount Dora.
- *Jeff Brower:* In DeLand, one of my favorite bike trails is a microbrewery trail. You don't want to hit eight different microbreweries and then drive somewhere. So, you can ride your bike, get back on SunRail and go home. Any other questions?
- *Mark Calvert:* We also have several different promotions with restaurants that offer anywhere from 10% to 25% discounts. Come in, show your SunRail ticket, and receive a discount; that's been a wonderful program as well. It's truly amazing how engaged the community is.
- *John Tyler:* To answer your question about do we measure the number of bicycles on the train. We do; and included in your supplemental materials are our count and there's also a graph year over year of what those bike counts are on a monthly basis. In 2024, we ended up at the highest that we've been recording.
- Jeff Brower: Does it show where they coming from and going to?
- John Tyler: We will have to dive in deeper to answer that question.

### Agenda Item: Action Items

**Presenter:** Chair Brower

- My name is Brijesh Patel and I'm a senior assistant County Attorney with the Seminole County Attorney's Office. I'm here on behalf of the evaluation committee, which consists of an attorney from each of the local government partners in presenting to you the SunRail Attorney Services action item. My plan is to cover the objective from where we started, the approach we undertook, go over a timeline, cover a few highlights of the firm that's being recommended, and a few highlights from the agreement and then we'll get to the action item.
- The objective that drove us was to retain an attorney for legal services on behalf of the Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission. The approach we undertook at the highest level was a three-step process. There were a lot of mini-steps along the way, but at the highest level there were three steps.

- First was entering into an interlocal agreement regarding cost sharing to obtain attorney services for the CFCRC, and an escrow agreement in July 2024. The attorneys worked on a draft agreement and a scope of work, and we used that to initiate a Request for Proposal (RFP) process.
- Thereafter, July 25<sup>th</sup>, when the interlocal agreement was agreed upon and executed, we advertised the RFP on August 14, 2024. On September 11, 2024, we extended that proposal period for an additional 30 days, which took us to October 16<sup>th</sup>. On December 6<sup>th</sup>, we had an evaluation committee meeting with the firm to have a question-and-answer session and then a best and final rate offer was requested on December 9<sup>th</sup> and received on December 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The proposer is a firm by the name of Kaplan Kirsch LLP. They have offices in Denver, Washington, DC, New York, and San Francisco. They do not have any physical offices in Florida. However, they do have two Florida barred attorneys in good standing who would be assigned to represent the CFCRC should this Commission approve the action item today. One of the attorneys is located in Denver and one of the attorneys is located in Seminole County. The attorney in Seminole County would be the one to have the face to interactions you. The firm has extensive and varied legal experience and issue issues facing transit agencies, complex railroad transactions, railroad regulatory matters, rail litigation, and other related matters. Based on the proposal documents and the Q&A we had, they've indicated and shown that they have experience in dealing with the FRA, FTA, the Surface Transportation Board, CSX, Amtrak, etc.
- A little bit about the agreement. The effective date is upon execution of the Commission and will remain in effect until September 30, 2026. We chose September 30<sup>th</sup> to coincide with local government partner fiscal years, and the agreement also allows for an extension of this term for three successive one-year periods each. The compensation is as set forth in Exhibit B that's included part of the agreement with your agenda materials, and the Commission can terminate for convenience or cause at any time.
- Lastly, the Commission reserves the right to retain any other services needed from other attorneys. It can choose to bifurcate the services. It can choose to provide as little as services as wanted or as many services as wanted under the agreement.
- Since we prepared the agreement documents, there have been some updates by way of examples. Whereas previously FDOT was responsible for funding the system, the Commission is now responsible for funding as of this year. Whereas previously the system was incomplete, it is now complete. We will ask for some leeway for the attorneys to work together and make those minor revisions before providing it to the Chairman for signature should the Commission approve the action item here today.
- The recommendation is to award the SunRail Attorney Services agreement to Kaplan Kirsch LLP and authorize the Chairman to execute the agreement with minor revisions and any related contract documents.
- Viviana Janer: How many firms responded to this RFP?
- Brijesh Patel: One.
- *Viviana Janer:* So, this is the one and only response to the RFP? Is that why it was extended for that period?
- Brijesh Patel: Yes.
- *Viviana Janer:* I've heard it was advertised only on a platform that is pay to play, and people have to have a membership in order to see this RFP, so that's a little bit concerning. The firm looks perfectly qualified from what I reviewed. I'm not saying they're not qualified, but I am concerned that we only received one respondent, and that respondent had access to this platform that they paid for. Other very qualified attorney firms that are not part of this pay-to-play platform didn't have the opportunity to see the RFP. I'm a little bit concerned. They seem perfectly qualified. I don't like that they don't have an office anywhere in the state of Florida. When we only have one respondent, I am very skeptical.
- **Brijesh Patel:** I'm not sure about the pay to participate in a portion of the solicitation, but I can say that it was advertised as with all our other procurements in Seminole County. It was advertised on two platforms, OpenGov and Bluebook. Some of the firms that would probably

come to mind and some of the firms that your local government partner agencies may have contracts with, there was a representative from some of those firms that were notified.

- Buddy Dyer: Was there discussion on why we only got one?
- **Brijesh Patel:** There was not, and the reason is that the attorneys wanted to respect the procurement process. While we had an open solicitation, we didn't want to reach out to any of the other firms in the area that did not submit.
- **Buddy Dyer:** No, I didn't mean did we reach out further. Did you figure out why only one firm wanted to respond? Was there something about the engagement?
- **Brijesh Patel:** We would probably be speculating if we were to try to guess. There's always the opportunity to go back to the drawing board and to revise the documents. That's about the only thing that we can think of. We really have to kind of scratch our heads to figure out what we would probably change, but it's not out of the realm of possibilities to do.
- **Buddy Dyer:** Didn't you say the attorney who would primarily be responsible for handing the account resides in Seminole County?
- **Brijesh Patel:** Yes, there are two attorneys that are barred in Florida. One is in Seminole County, and one is located in Denver. The attorney in Denver has indicated that he's willing to accommodate schedules and the time differences. The attorney in Seminole County would be the one attending the meetings and having face-to-face interactions if they are needed.
- *Buddy Dyer:* Does he have an office in Seminole County?
- Brijesh Patel: I do not believe so. She lives in Seminole County.
- *Amy Lockhart:* This is a specific legal field, and I don't know how many law firms there are across the country specializing in this that would be excellent in this arena. If there are questions about the procurement process further, I know we have a few people here from the procurement division that might be able to answer some questions. I don't know if anyone would be interested in that. I agree with you; anytime one person responds you are concerned. OpenGov is a well-known platform. I would hate to set us back and rebid. If for some reason this is just not a good fit, does the contract allow us to terminate?
- Brijesh Patel: Yes.
- *Amy Lockhart:* If we were to do this and find out, it's just not going to work, could we rebid if we needed to?
- **Brijesh Patel:** Yes, there are a couple safeguards I mentioned. One is your ability to terminate for convenience at any point. As I mentioned, there's no guarantee of services to this firm under the contract just because we enter a contract. The work for the firm will be given on a small size basis should the Commission approve.
- **Buddy Dyer:** Mr. Chairman, all five of our entities had representation on the committee that unanimously approved this and selected it. I'm comfortable that we got adequate representation to do the due diligence on this firm and make that recommendation.
- *Viviana Janer:* We all need to know that there was only one respondent and so we all must be aware of any issues. Our legal representatives did vet them, and they are qualified, so I am going to go ahead and support that motion.
- ACTION ITEM 1: Award the SunRail Attorney Services Agreement to Kaplan Kirsch LLP and authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement and any related contract documents. *Motion made by Buddy Dyer and seconded by Vice Chair Amy Lockhart, motion passed unanimously.*
- ACTION ITEM 2: Ratification of CAC Members Anne Thomas, City of Orlando and Carlos Perez Rivera representing City of Orlando. *Motion made by Buddy Dyer and seconded by Vice Chair Amy Lockhart, motion passed unanimously.*

### **Election of Officers**

**Presenter:** Ryan Mahler

• I'm an attorney with the Florida Department of Transportation. Secretary Tyler has asked me to conduct the officer's elections. Today we're going to have nominations and subsequent votes for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.

• ACTION ITEM 3: Nomination for Commissioner Amy Lockhart as Chair. *Motioned by Buddy Dyer and seconded by Viviana Janer, motion passed unanimously.* 

• ACTON ITEM 4: Nomination for Buddy Dyer as Vice Chair. Motioned by Viviana Janer and seconded by Vice Chair Amy Lockhart, motion passed unanimously.

• ACTION ITEM 5: Nomination for Jerry Demings as Secretary. *Motioned by Buddy Dyer* and seconded by Viviana Janer, motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item: Board Member Comments

- *Jeff Brower:* As the outgoing Chair, I wanted to give credit to the Volusia team John Booker, Attorney Russ Brown, and certainly our Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Ryan Ossowski. It was an interesting time to be chair with a transition in the play and with the opening of DeLand and it put a lot of work on Ryan Ossowski, our CFO. I'm very pleased with how he operated and led the partners through this process.
- *Jerry Demings:* Thank you to Chairman Brower for your leadership during this period of time. It's been stellar.

Next Meeting: February 27, 2025, at 2:00 PM, Lynx Central Station Admin. Building

Meeting Adjourned at 3:02 PM



# WELCOME





# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Please Stand)

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

# TITLE VI



This meeting, project, or study is being conducted without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons wishing to express their concerns relative to FDOT compliance with Title VI may do so by contacting:

Esta reunión, proyecto o estudio se lleva a cabo sin distinción de raza, color, origen nacional, edad, sexo, religión, discapacidad o estado familiar. Las personas que deseen expresar sus inquietudes relativas al cumplimiento del Título VI por parte del FDOT pueden hacerlo comunicándose con:

Reyinyon, pwojè, oswa etid sa a ap fèt san konsiderasyon ras, koulè, orijin nasyonal, laj, sèks, relijyon, andikap oswa sitiyasyon fanmi an. Moun ki vle eksprime enkyetid yo konsènan konfòmite FDOT ak Tit VI ka fè sa lè yo kontakte:

## **ROGER MASTEN**

SunRail Title VI Coordinator 801 SunRail Drive Sanford, Florida 32771 <u>Roger.Masten@dot.state.fl.us</u>

## STEFAN KULAKOWSKI State Title VI Coordinator 605 Suwannee Street, MS65 Tallahassee, Florida 32399 Stefan.Kulakowski@dot.state.fl.us



# A P P R O V A L ADOPTION OF JANUARY 23, 2025, MEETING MINUTES





# PUBLIC COMMENTS





# **REPORTS**

A.TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE Tanya Wilder, Chair **C.AGENCY UPDATE** David Cooke

**B.CUSTOMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE** Luis Nieves-Ruiz, Chair **D.CONNECTIVITY** LYNX Update – Bruce Detweiler Votran Update – Bobbie King

# TAC CHAIR'S REPORT

SunRail

TANYA WILDER





# CAC CHAIR'S REPORT





# AGENCYUPDATE





# HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

As part of a concentrated effort with FDOT, SunRail will be increasing awareness of human trafficking through multiple touch points to educate the community.

- Specialized training for staff
- Platform signage
- Onboard train signage
- Website page

HELP STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING **1-855-FLA-SAFE** 

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN FLORIDA

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS BEING FORCED TO ENGAGE IN AN ACTIVITY AND CANNOT LEAVE — WHETHER IT IS PROSTITUTION, HOUSEWORK, FARM WORK, FACTORY WORK, RETAIL WORK, RESTAURANT WORK, OR ANY OTHER ACTIVITY — CALL THE FLORIDA HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE, **1-855-FLA-SAFE**, TO ACCESS HELP AND SERVICES. VICTIMS OF SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING ARE PROTECTED UNDER UNITED STATES AND FLORIDA LAW.



# LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIPS

SunRail continues to put safety first with multiple partnerships with local law enforcement agencies.

- Onboard and station outreach events
- Equipment familiarization training
- Full scale emergency simulated drills
- Table-top exercises
- Task Force meetings
- Continued grade crossing details





# LOVE YOUR RIDE!

SunRail is promoting all the ways to "Love Your Ride" this February with different Station Destinations and themed categories to bring a little something for everyone.

- Romantics
- Adventurers
- Friends
- Foodies
- Families
- And more...



for February Happenings



# COMING SOON...

SunRail will continue to boost ridership this spring encouraging riders to get onboard!

- Exciting spring break promotions
- Choo-Choo to the Zoo
- Event partnerships with local communities
- Train to the Game
- Social media fun
- And more!





January 2025 Average - 4,974





ACTUAL = 87.27%

CONTRACT = 97.27%

ABOVE AVERAGE

- On-Time 5 Days
- 22 Operating Days
- Ran 880 Trains





# LYNX CONNECTIVITY

		LYNX	(Fixed-Route	Average Da	ily Boarding	s & Alighting	gs by SunRa	il Station Ar	ea					
		Fiscal Year 2025												
SUNRAIL STATION	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Мау	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	DAILY AVERAG	
Days of Operation	19	20	21	23									21	
Sanford	288	289	259	277									278	
Lake Mary	86	90	74	69									80	
Longwood	75	79	68	75									74	
Altamonte Springs	151	170	139	140									150	
Maitland	18	18	14	13									16	
Winter Park/Amtrak	357	360	271	306									324	
AdventHealth	301	295	300	300									299	
LYNX Central Station														
Church Street Station														
Orlando Health/Amtrak	42	44	42	35									41	
Sand Lake Road	439	490	455	458									461	
Meadow Woods	104	107	95	89									99	
Tupperware	16	15	12	0									11	
Kissimmee Intermodal														
Poinciana	7	7	6	5									6	
Total - All Stations	1,884	1,964	1,735	1,767									1,838	
Percent change from FY 24 to FY 25	8%	13%	3%	2%									2%	



# LYNX CONNECTIVITY

### LYNX Feeder Bus Route Analysis (Phase II Routes)

LINK	JC	anuary	Change	% Change
	FY24	FY25		
18	20,848	19,325	(1,523)	-7%
418	4,947	4,394	(553)	-11%
155**	571	0	(571)	-100%
306	2,382	1,930	(452)	-19%
604/804*	360	298	(62)	-17%
831	740	1,036	296	40%

\* Link 604 was renumbered to Link 804 in December 2024. \*\* Link 155 was discontinued after December 31, 2024.

### LYNX Sand Lake SunRail to Airport Average Daily Ridership

LINK	Average [	Daily Boardings	Change	% Change
	Jan-24	Jan-25		, e e e ge
11, 42, 111/311	72	108	36	50%



# VOTRAN CONNECTIVITY

Activity at DeBary Station		Fiscal year 2024											
Activity at Debary Station	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	4 Sep-24 Daily	=
Days of Operation	22	21	20	22	21	21	22	22	20	22	22	20	255
Total Monthly Ridership	708	604	573	422	467	634	515	555	546	676	508	548	6,756
Avg Daily Ridership	32	29	29	19	22	30	23	25	27	31	23	27	26

Activity at DeBary Station		Fiscal year 2025												
	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Daily Average	
Days of Operation	22	20	21	22									85	
Total Monthly Ridership	568	1,005	1,521	1,250									4,344	
Avg Daily Ridership	26	50	72	57									51	



Note: SunRail service was suspended 10/8/24 through 10/11/24 due to Hurricane Milton and Votran Service was suspended 10/10/24. YTD: 88.3% increase compared to same period last year.



# VORIDE - SUNRAIL CONNECTIVITY

### VoRide On-Demand Service - Average Daily Boardings & Alightings at Volusia County Stations

Activity at Stations						Fiscal yea	ar 2024						Annual
Activity at Stations	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Daily Average
Days of Operation	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	22	20	22	22	20	128
Total Monthly Ridership- DeBary	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	14	12	9	15	6	71
Total Monthly Ridership- DeLand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	58	81
Total Monthly Ridership- Both Stations	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	14	12	9	38	64	152
Avg Daily Ridership	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	0	2	3	1
		Fiscal year 2025									Annual		
						Fiscal yea	11 2025						Annual
Activity at Stations	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Daily Average
Activity at Stations Days of Operation	Oct-24 22	Nov-24 20	Dec-24 21	Jan-25 22	Feb-25			May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Daily
					Feb-25			May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Daily Average
Days of Operation	22	20	21	22	Feb-25			May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Daily Average 85
Days of Operation Total Monthly Ridership- DeBary	22 11	20 13	21 21	22 20	Feb-25			May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Daily Average 85 65

Note: VoRide began service in DeBary on April 8, 2024.

Note: Despite VoRide operating on Saturdays, Days of Operation only includes weekdays as the train only operates weekdays.



#### Votran DeLand SunRail Circulator Average Daily Boardings Fiscal year 2024 Annual Activity at DeLand Station Daily Average Nov-23 Jun-24 Jul-24 Oct-23 Dec-23 Jan-24 Feb-24 Mar-24 Apr-24 May-24 Aug-24 Sep-24 Days of Operation **Total Monthly Ridership** 328 289 617 -\_ -------\_ Avg Daily Ridership 19 18 \_ 17 \_ -

Activity at DeLand Station		Fiscal year 2025												
	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Daily Average	
Days of Operation	21	20	21	22									84	
Total Monthly Ridership	341	403	314	403									1,461	
Avg Daily Ridership	16	20	15	18									17	



# INFORMATIONAL ITEMS





# SUNRALL TRANSITION UPDATE




### UPDATE ON CAPITAL MAINTENANCE PLAN

CHARLES M. HEFFINGER JR. P.E.





- Review the Central Florida Rail Corridor (CFRC) with O&M Contractors
- Identify any issues with rail infrastructure in the corridor for State of Good Repair
- Prioritize the work and prepare estimates
- Program funds for areas identified for repair or replacement





Beginning of P2S CRISI Double Track Project -Looking South at new Universal Crossover and Donegan Avenue Grade Crossing

> Donegan Avenue Grade Crossing

> > Installed 3 new No 20 Turnouts to make Universal Crossover at MP 806.2

Existing Box Culvert MP 805.9

Looking South from Vine Street at Magnolia and Oak Streets







## SUNSHINE CORRIDOR UPDATE

FDOT - DAVID COOKE





## BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS





## NEXT MEETING

MARCH 27, 2025, 2:00 PM LYNX CENTRAL STATION ADMINISTRATION BUILDING





# SUPPORTING CHARTS AND DATA





#### ADA Jan 2025 Average: 25











AM PEAK 5:45AM - 8:45AM (NB FROM POINCIANA)





PM PEAK 3:15PM - 6:25PM (NB FROM POINCIANA)





OFF PEAK 10:45AM - 2:45PM; 7:25PM - 9:55PM (NB FROM POINCIANA)









JANUARY



# CUSTOMER SERVICE CALLS



January



### TRAIN PERFORMANCE DETAIL JANUARY 2025

TRAIN PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW	Trains	Percentage
On-Time	768	87.3%
Late	110	12.5%
Annulled	2	0.2%
Total Trains Operated	880	100.0%

PERFORMANCE DETAIL	Days	Trains	Percentage
Efficiency testing	1	2	0.2%
Maintenance of Way	7	24	2.7%
Mechanical	5	11	1.3%
Other	1	3	0.3%
Passengers	6	8	0.9%
Signals & Components	10	25	2.8%
Train Interference	12	24	2.7%
Trespasser/Grade Crossing/Near Misses	6	15	1.7%
Total (Rounded)		112	12.7%

Note: Only categories with a value greater than zero are displayed and rounded to one decimal.











### QUIET ZONES

JURISDICTION	STATUS
Edgewood	Quiet Zone Established
Orange County	Quiet Zone Established Additional Quiet Zone Locations – Awaiting establishment
Maitland	Quiet Zone Established
Winter Park	Quiet Zone Established
Seminole County	Quiet Zone Established
City of Orlando	Quiet Zone Established
City of Kissimmee	Quiet Zone Established
Volusia County	Awaiting Establishment

Local communities may apply for quiet zones and information is available on the "About" page at SunRail.com





### FY 24/25 OPERATING BUDGET UPDATE

OPERATING COSTS, CAPITAL MAINTENANCE AND CONSULTANT SUPPORT	ANNUAL BUDGET	FISCAL 24/25 YTD Jan 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2025	
OF ERATING COSTS, CALIFAL MAINTENANCE AND CONSULTANT SUIT ORT		BUDGET	ACTUAL
Alstom - Operations	\$14,218,190	\$8,293,944	\$7,869,274
Alstom - Maintenance	\$17,239,721	\$10,056,504	\$9,901,748
Alstom - Incentive/disincentive	\$1,572,896	\$917,522	\$755,408
moovel Fare Collection O&M	\$1,541,202	\$899,035	\$19,182
Herzog - Signal Maintenance of Way	\$3,958,813	\$2,309,307	\$2,281,795
WiFi and APC O&M, Cellular for Comms	\$315,000	\$183,750	_
Fleet Management Witronix O&M	\$105,000	\$61,250	\$61,648
Green's Energy - Fuel	\$4,100,000	\$2,391,667	\$1,842,217
Gallagher - Insurance	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$4,229,667
Amtrak/Alstom/Herzog - Preventative Maintenance	\$2,860,000	\$1,668,333	\$650,501
Alstom/Amtrak SOGR Heavy vehicle Maintenance	\$4,400,000	\$2,566,667	\$970,339
Banking, Merchant, and Armored Car Services	\$152,250	\$88,813	\$58,850
Station and Onboard Security	\$1,386,000	\$808,500	\$768,965
PTC O&M (Herzog & Alstom)	\$11,000,000	\$6,416,667	\$5,328,246
Subtotal - System operating costs	\$67,849,071	\$41,661,958	\$34,737,840
Consultant Support	\$12,800,000	\$7,466,667	\$7,999,563
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS, CAPITAL MAINTENANCE AND CONSULTANT			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

TOTAL OPERATING COSTS, CAPITAL MAINTENANCE AND CONSULTAN SUPPORT

\$80,649,071

42,737,403
4



### FY 24/25 OPERATING BUDGET UPDATE

OPERATING REVENUE	ANNUAL BUDGET	FISCAL 24/25 YTD Jan 31st, 2025	
	BODGET	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Farebox revenue	\$2,205,000	\$1,286,250	\$1,071,996
CSX usage fees	\$3,525,648	\$2,056,628	\$1,599,812
Amtrak usage fees	\$988,769	\$576,782	\$860,733
FCEN usage fees	\$20,000	\$11,667	-
Right-of-way lease revenue	\$125,000	\$72,917	\$117,513
Ancillary revenue	\$323,580	\$188,755	\$365,865
Subtotal - System revenue	\$7,187,997	\$4,192,998	\$4,015,919

FTA §5307 - Urbanized Area Grant Funds	
FDOT PTC Contribution	
FTA 5337 - State of Good Repair	

\$13,500,000 \$ 5,000,000 \$4,600,000

\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
\$13,500,000	\$13,500,000
\$4,600,000	\$4,600,000

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE

\$30,287,997

\$27,292,998

<u>\$27,115,919</u>