



## Transit Office Newsletter

*Creating a better travel experience with viable and reliable options to driving for residents and visitors of Florida.*



### Transit News

#### Local/State News

##### [Strong debut for PSTA's SunRunner BRT](#)

*The new bus route hosted more than 10,000 riders in its first weekend of operation.*

##### [Rides on SunRail, Lynx are free on Tuesday in honor of Mobility Week](#)

*The goal of the week is to promote the awareness of safe, multimodal transportation choices in the Sunshine State. Elsewhere in Central Florida, rides on the Citrus Connection in Polk County, SunTran in Marion County, and LakeXpress in Lake County will also be free Tuesday. Space Coast Area Transit fares will be waived on October 27th.*

##### [Tampa Streetcar: From Tourist Trap to Transit Lifeline](#)

*Despite the line's reliability and success, funding for its future expansion and operations remains undetermined.*

##### ["Try Transit Tuesday" to provide fare free StarMetro rides](#)

*Fare will be free in celebration of Try Transit Tuesday during mobility week. According to city officials, Mobility Week is held annually in October to promote awareness of safe, multimodal transportation choices sponsored by the Florida Department of Transportation.*

##### [Cross-Bay Ferry Launches 6th Season Of Service From Tampa To St. Pete](#)

*Hillsborough County is moving full steam ahead with plans to create a commuter ferry service from South County to MacDill Air Force Base.*

##### [BP Invests in Free Local Transit Company Freebee](#)

*The service is currently available in more than 25 municipalities and campuses in Florida and Virginia.*

[2 weeks ahead of sales tax vote, Orlando Mayor Dyer rides, touts transit](#)

*Dyer, along with his counterpart Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings, has backed the tax increase for years and says it's the best option to build a world-class transportation system.*

**Safety**

[As E-Scooter Use Booms, So Do Safety Concerns](#)

*But along with these benefits come notable safety challenges, and work must be done to address regulatory, infrastructure and educational deficiencies that are putting riders at risk. Those are some of the main highlights of a new report, E-scooter Safety: Issues and Solutions, released earlier this month by the Transportation Research Board (TRB), intended to help navigate safety issues.*

**Technology**

[MARTA Evaluates On-Demand Transit Pilot Program](#)

*MARTA, in partnership with the Georgia Institute of Technology, is evaluating MARTA Reach, a six-month pilot rideshare program that connected riders to-and-from MARTA bus and rail.*

[The Next Big Thing for Transit Operators: Smart Ticketing Solutions](#)

*As the world shifts into a post-pandemic stage, it has become clear that transit users want more ease of use and a contactless form of payment to draw them back to buses and rail systems.*

[Using Tech To Make Transit Accessible For Those Without Smartphones](#)

*In the Twin Cities, Boston, New York City and beyond, transit agencies are experimenting with solar-powered e-paper signs and onboard transit signs to provide real-time updates.*

**Funding**

[Notice of Partial Buy America Waiver for Vans and Minivans](#)

*In response to multiple individual requests for a Buy America nonavailability waiver for non-ADA-accessible vans or minivans that can be used in federally funded vanpool programs, and because the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has been unable to identify any manufacturer of non-ADA-accessible vans or minivans that fully comply with Buy America, FTA is issuing a partial, time-limited, general nonavailability waiver from the requirements of Buy America as described in this notice.*

**Mobility**

[Mayor Bowser Launches DC's First Mobility Innovation District](#)

*This new, multi-year mobility project will improve equitable access to transportation for residents and visitors in Southwest Business Improvement District (Southwest BID) and create a global innovation hub to show how mobility innovation can make a city more equitable, sustainable, safe, and prosperous.*

[Treasure Island Robo-Bus Trial Secures Florida-Based Operator, Beep](#)

*Florida-based Beep was selected Tuesday to operate driverless buses for Treasure Island's driverless shuttles pilot program. The San Francisco County Transportation Authority's autonomous shuttle pilot program aims to increase mobility for island residents while slashing reliance on cars.*

**Misc.**

[Post-Pandemic Transit Recovery Hobbled by Worker Shortages](#)

*A long-simmering issue of worker shortages in public transit became most apparent following the COVID-19 pandemic which saw a high rate of departing workers citing low pay and poor working conditions.*

**Resources**

[Video: California Mobility Marketplace – CAL ITP](#)

*The California Mobility Marketplace is a one-stop resource to help California's transportation providers make travel planning and payments simpler, and more cost effective for customers. Cal-ITP*

*(California Integrated Travel Project) is helping transit providers easily make the switch to an open-loop fare solution and start accepting contactless bank cards and smart devices as a means of fare payment.*



[FTA Public Transit Events](#)

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