

Memorandum



Date: March 25, 2026

To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Item No. 2(B)(5)
April 21, 2026

From: Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*
Mayor

Subject: Report Regarding DTPW Fare, Service Adjustments, and Contracted Route Changes – April 27, 2026 Bus Lineup and March 30, 2026 Rail Lineup

Executive Summary

This report, prepared by the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW), is being provided to the Board of County Commissioners (Board) in response to Resolution No. R-235-18 which was adopted on March 6, 2018. The resolution, sponsored by then-Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava, directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to provide a report describing any planned fare or service adjustments to Miami-Dade County transit services made pursuant to Sections 2-150(c) or 2-150(d) of the Code of Miami-Dade County as well as any contracting out of routes prior to the enactment of such adjustments and to place such reports on an agenda of this Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65. This report summarizes adjustments implemented with the April 27, 2026 bus lineup and March 30, 2026 rail lineup. No fare changes will be implemented with these bus and rail lineups. These changes benefit the bus network, and the net fiscal impact is estimated to be a cost of \$400,000 annually. The majority of these costs are for capacity and on-time performance improvements associated with the South Corridor BRT Route 601 and Route 602. It should be noted that the previous December lineup saved \$1.6 million annually, and the next lineup in July is anticipated to have additional savings, offsetting the cost of this lineup.

Bus Changes

The following is a summary of bus service changes that will be implemented with the April 27, 2026 bus lineup:

Minor Service Changes:

- The following route will have routing changes:
 - Route 7A – Weekday peak-only routing to the Airport Station will be discontinued.
- The following six routes have schedule improvements to reflect current traffic conditions and/or to improve service reliability: 7, 12, 21, 52, 601, and 602.
- The following route will have frequency and/or span adjustments based on current ridership data:
 - Route 7 – Weekday peak service increased from every 30 to every 20 minutes to Dolphin Mall and decreased from every 15 to every 20 minutes east of LeJeune Rd.
 - Route 601 – Weekday northbound service begins one hour earlier at 4 a.m. every 15 minutes, service increased from every 15 minutes to every 7.5 minutes from 4:45 a.m. to 6 a.m., and decreased from every 7.5 minutes to 15 minutes from 7:45

- a.m. to 9 a.m. Weekday service decreased from every 15 minutes to 30 minutes from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Saturday northbound service begins one hour earlier at 4 a.m. every 30 minutes and service increased from every 30 minutes to every 20 minutes from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m. Northbound service discontinued two hours earlier at 10 p.m. seven days a week.
- Route 602 – Weekday northbound service increased from every 15 minutes to every 10 minutes from 4:30 a.m. to 6 a.m., decreased service from every 10 minutes to 15 minutes from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. Weekday service decreased from every 15 minutes to 30 minutes from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m. Decreased service from every 30 minutes to every 60 minutes from 12 a.m. to 1 a.m. seven days a week.

Rail Changes

No rail service changes implemented with the March 30, 2026 rail lineup. Minor operational improvements related to single-tracking schedules.

Fiscal Impact

The net fiscal impact for the above-mentioned changes is estimated to be a cost of \$400,000 annually using the latest hourly operating rates available. It should be noted that the previous December lineup saved \$1.6 million annually, and the next lineup in July is anticipated to have additional savings, offsetting the cost of this lineup.

Background

According to the Transport Workers Union Local 291 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), DTPW is required to implement three bus and rail lineups annually, which are scheduled to occur in March, July, and November, as specified in the CBA. This year, the March 2026 bus lineup was rescheduled for April 27, 2026 due to the November 2025 bus lineup being delayed to December 22, 2025 to facilitate the implementation of the South Corridor BRT on October 27, 2025. These are the only scheduled lineups throughout the year when administrative and major service changes are implemented. DTPW continues to solicit feedback to make needed adjustments in future lineups.

Fares, bus service, and rail service can be changed administratively per Section 2-150(c) of the Code, as long as the changes do not meet or exceed the following change thresholds set forth under Section 2-150(b) which require Board approval after public hearing:

1. Any fare, rate or charge for transit service or for service ancillary to transit;
2. Any change in service of 25 percent or more of the number of route miles of a route;
3. If, in a fiscal year, the cumulative changes on a route add up to 25 percent or more change in the number of route miles of a route;
4. A change in the interval between peak period transit services on a route of more than 10 minutes;
5. A change in the interval between off-peak period transit services on a route of more than 30 minutes; or
6. A new transit service is established or an existing service is abolished.

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Any service changes that meet or exceed the above are considered major, requiring Board approval after a public hearing.

When service changes are approved, new schedules are created for routes, and work assignments are put out to bid for bus operators. The entire scheduling and bidding process through implementation takes approximately four months for a typical lineup.

Some routes in the bus network are recommended for contracting out. These routes typically carry less riders or provide service to areas where a full-size bus is not appropriate. Contracting out gives DTPW flexibility if unforeseen situations occur, such as operator shortages or budget constraints, affording DTPW the ability to adjust service as needed.

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65, this report will be placed on the next available Board meeting agenda. Should you require additional information, please contact Stacy L. Miller, P.E., DTPW Director and CEO at (786) 469-5406.

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