



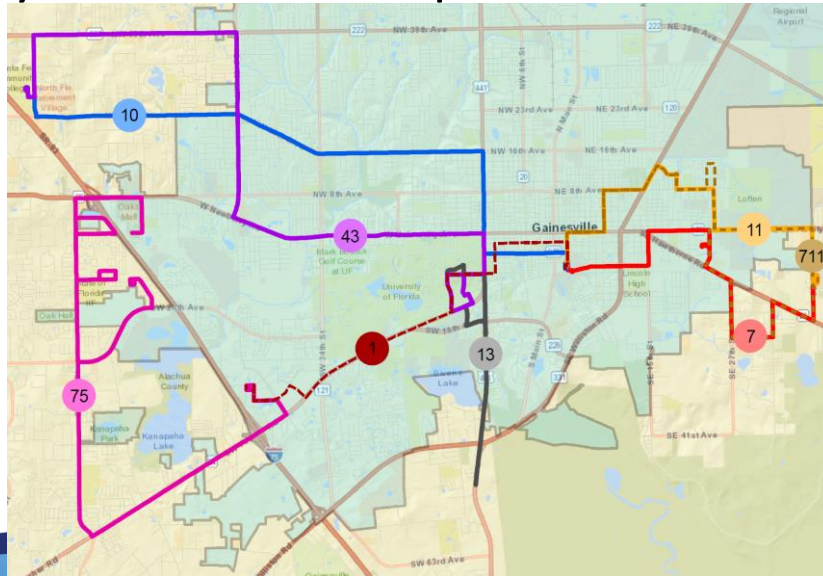
Regional Transit Service Annual Service and Potential Enhancements

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Background

- Alachua County contracts with the Regional Transit Service to provide transit in the unincorporated area. The contract is typically annual.
- The Board has received several requests for enhancements to existing service
 - Extend Route 13 further south along US 441
 - Provide service to Elementary School 'I' for parents
 - Cost out Fare Free Service Options

County Funded Unincorporated Transit Routes



Additional Unincorporated Service

- Santa Fe funds Route 23 from Oaks Mall to SFC
- Santa Fe funds Route 39 from SFC to the Airport
- Santa Fe funds Route 800x from SFC to Butler Plaza
- On many routes, UF funds decreased headways or weekend service

Annual Contract

- Last FY, contract was based on an hourly rate of \$68.36, with a total contract value of \$1,056,426
- Contract includes free fare for all of the BoCC employees
- Previous years have always been hourly rate for operations
 - Rate includes the cost of operating busses on the routes
 - Rate does not include administrative or capital costs



Annual Contract - Changes

- Current Proposed Annual Contract moves from annual to biannual
 - Allows for better planning for RTS and County
- Hourly Rate will increase from \$68.36 in current FY to \$71.44 in FY22, then \$75 in FY23
- Total Cost for current service will increase from \$1,056,426 in FY21 to \$1,140,644 in FY23



Annual Contract – Future Outlook

- During the next two years, City, County, UF and Santa Fe agree to work towards a rate structure that recognizes:
 - Administrative Costs of operating RTS
 - Capital Costs for RTS fleet
 - Fare box revenue for service
 - Grant revenue from State, Federal and other entities



Fare Free for Seniors and Youth

- Providing fare free ridership for Seniors 65+ and youth would cost \$230,000 system-wide
- System-wide fare free may be very expensive, depending on how much ridership increases (20% increase = \$523.5M)
- Fare free ridership would potentially increase ridership, with no additional federal funding, as it's not based on ridership
- Currently, no other partners have definitively committed to funding a share

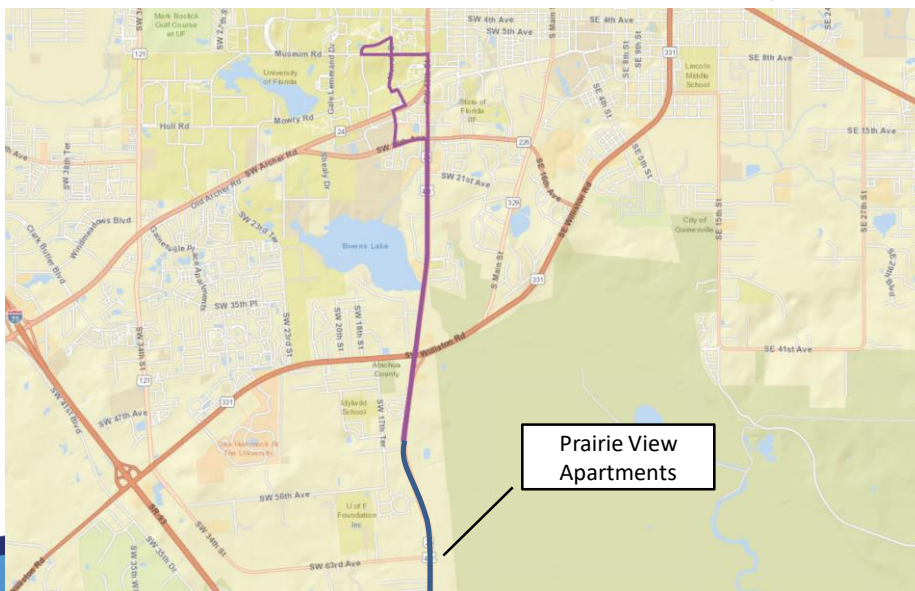


Route 13 Extension – Prairie View Apartments

- Discussed by the Board two years ago, recommendation received from the RTS Advisory Board
- Extends route into the County by 2.1 miles
- Results in additional cost to the County of \$109,265 per year



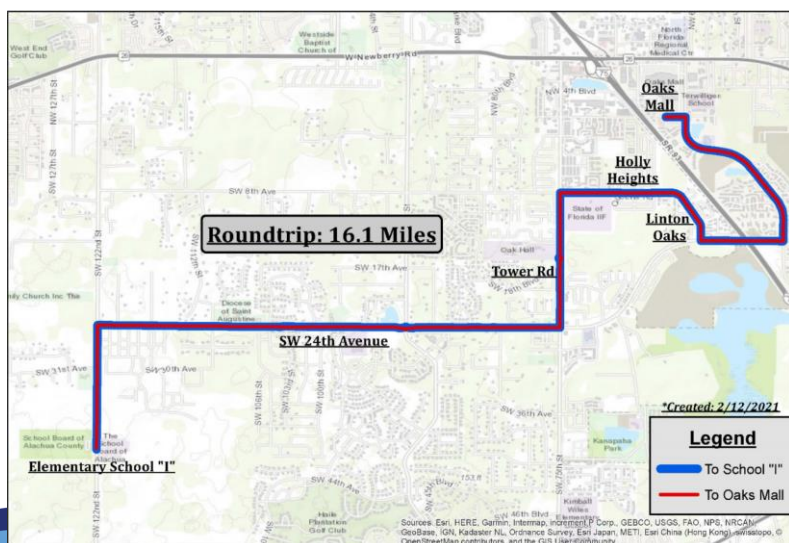
Route 13 Extension – Prairie View Apartments



Terwilliger Elementary Service

- School Board has requested transit service be provided to Elementary School 'I' on SW 122nd St south of SW 24th Ave
- Currently no service in the area, modifying Route 75 is not feasible
- Staff and RTS have developed a route that could provide this service
- Annual Cost for this service is \$462,726
- City currently has no plans to provide funding for this Route as it is not in the Transit Development Plan

Terwilliger Elementary Service



Staff Recommendation

- Direct Staff to finalize a two-year agreement with RTS for existing transit service, with hourly rate increasing to \$75 in FY23
- Provide direction about the Route 13 Extension, Fare Free Service for seniors/youth, and Terwilliger Elementary Service

