



Mobility Matters: Moving Forward





City of Port St. Lucie Council Meeting April 19, 2021



Presented by:

St. Lucie County Staff

Alphonso Jefferson, Deputy County Administrator

Diana Wesloski, Community Services Director

Murriah Dekle, Transit Division Director

Adolfo Covelli, Transit Operations Manager



Acknowledgements

Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), the Cities of Port Saint Lucie and Fort Pierce, St. Lucie Village and MV Transportation for the ongoing support.

These agencies have gone above and beyond for our industry and the information-sharing, best practices, technical assistance, and financial support have been a lifeline for public transportation in St. Lucie County.



Outline

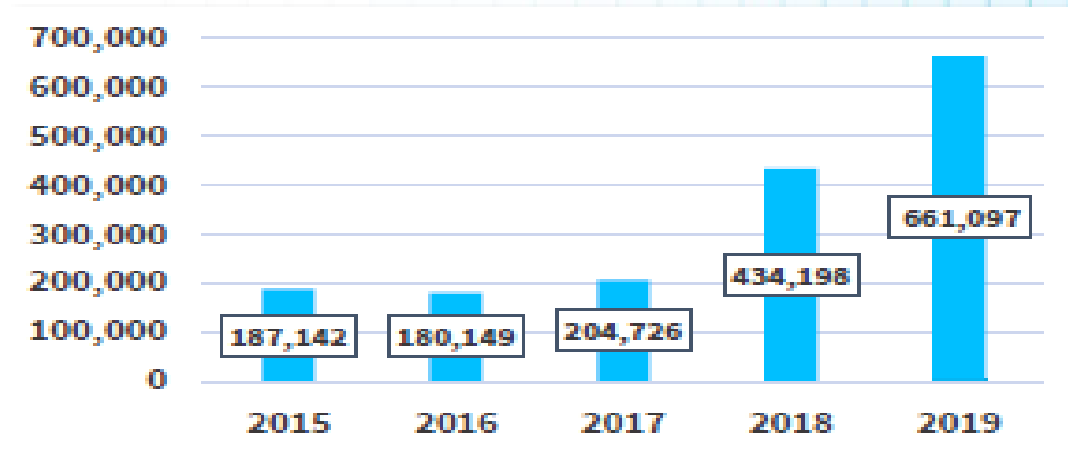
- Accomplishments
 - » Contracted Provider Transition, COVID-19 Response, New Services
- CARES Funding for Public Transportation
 - » Capital Investments and Service Planning
- Community Goals
 - » Current and Upcoming Projects
- Next Steps



Service Summary State Fiscal Year

FY 2019/2020 Accomplishments

- Ridership up 253%
- Increased service frequency (Route 1)
- New Route on 25th Street (Route 8)
- Micro-Transit pilot project in Tradition/Gatlin area
- Bus stop improvements and progress on other capital projects
- New funding opportunities
- Direct Connect partnerships



Ridership Trend (2015-2019)



Micro-transit business card





Operational Improvements

- **Fleet Management:** Vehicles are now maintained at a centralized location, providing for improved efficiency. MV Transportation has a full maintenance department
- **Acquisition and Disposition:** Received sixteen new para transit buses and minivans in December and three new fixed route buses are in production. Seven vehicles auctioned which exceeded useful life





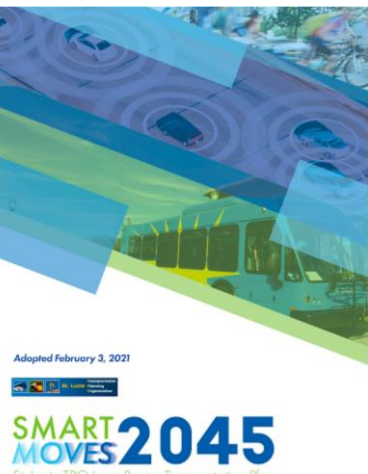
Operational Improvements

- **COVID-19: Ridership Trends:** Positive observation, public transportation was deemed an essential service. Notwithstanding the pandemic, the county's transit ridership has still increased over 150% from July 2020 compared to July 2016. This has been a result of going from charging a fare to fare free
- **COVID-19 Mitigation:** CDC guidelines have been implemented and driver's carry extra masks for the passengers who do not have one upon entry of the bus. Each night the buses are disinfected. All employees have daily temperature checks, are provided with gloves, masks, paper towels, spray bottles and disinfectant ZEP to spray down the buses. On February 1, 2021 federal law was enacted to require all passengers wear masks.





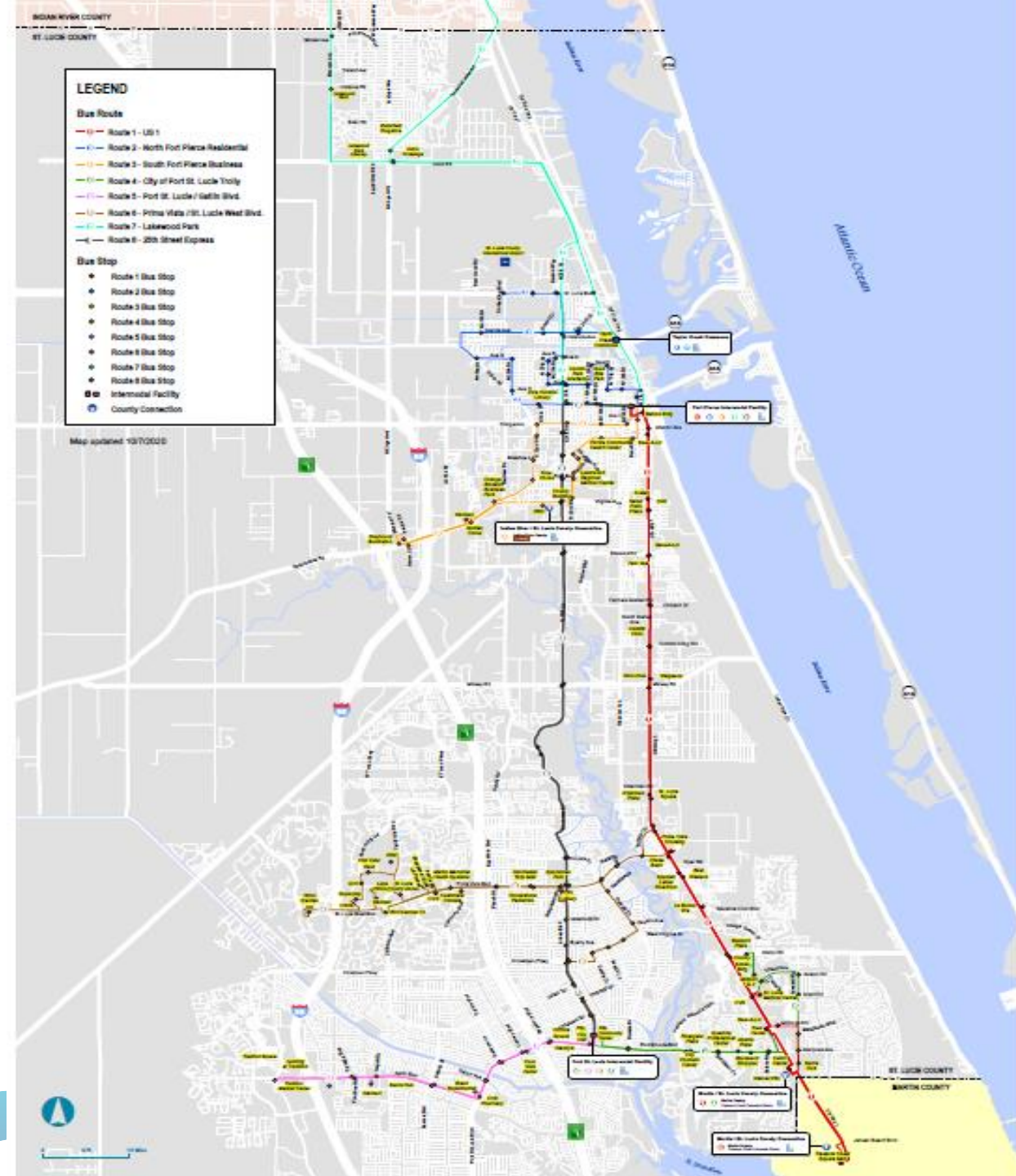
- **Intergovernmental coordination:** Community goals
- **Highlights:** \$1.2m spent to procure new buses and vans. \$1.7m allocated for capital investments including the transit operations and maintenance facility and Port St. Lucie intermodal facility. \$900k spent for operations to service overall transit system, including the citizens of Port St. Lucie





New Service

- **Route 8:** Express service with limited stops, providing for direct connection between Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie Intermodal Facilities
- Service Began March 4th 2020. To date, provided over 3,300 trips.





NEED A PICK ME UP?



Becker Ridge • Paar Estates • Sawgrass Lakes • Crane Landing
Woodland Trails • Tulip Park • Rosser Reserve • Gatlin Pines
Whispering Pines • Gatlin Pines • Newport Isles • Tradition

FREE, CONVENIENT TRANSPORTATION ON-DEMAND

Pilot Program - may be coming to additional neighborhoods

SLCRIDE.ORG
772-464-7433



New Service

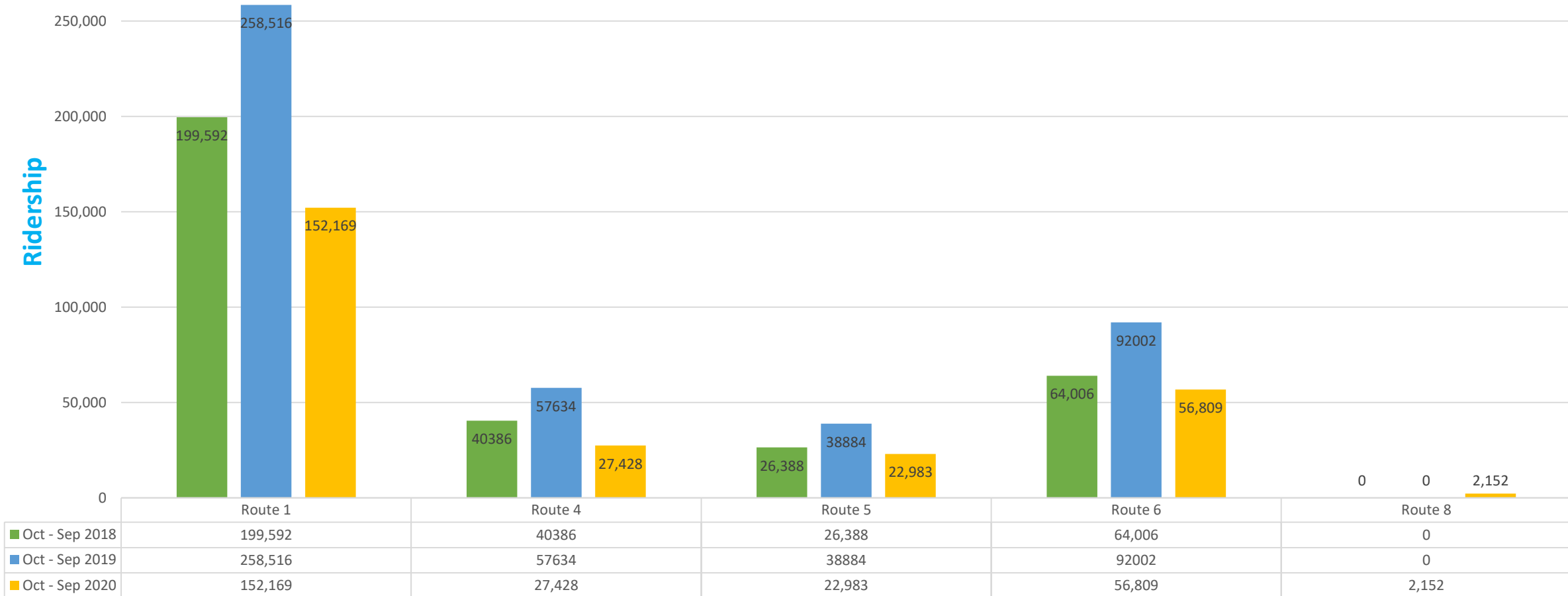
Microtransit: Economic development through Innovative service delivery for providing first/last mile solutions and mobility on demand

Launched December 11th, 2019 in the southwest part of Port Saint Lucie. Provided over 3,600 trips to date





Port Saint Lucie Service Routes Annual Trips Per Route County Fiscal Year 2018 - 2020





Special Transportation Programs

- **Innovative Solutions:** Direct Connect, Advantage Ride, and Paratransit
- Over 4,200 city of Port St. Lucie residents actively enrolled



UZURV® CTD



Project Updates

Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility:

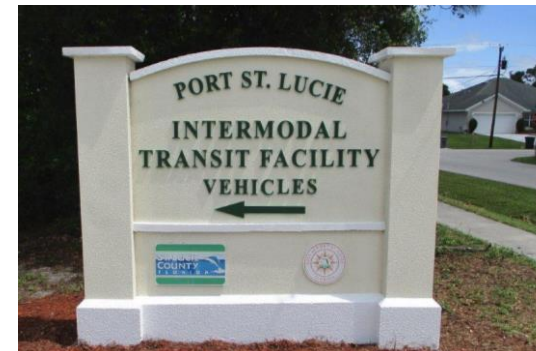
- Improve the operational efficiencies for the City of Port St. Lucie residents
- BUILD grant and other funding opportunities





Capital Investments

- **Rolling Stock:** Sixteen new buses/vans added to the fleet with three more in production
- **City of Port St. Lucie Intermodal Facility:** Public outreach, design and engineering





Rider Experience

- **Infrastructure Enhancements:** Installation of twenty new simme-seats and three solar powered annunciators in the city and procured seven new bus shelters
- **Public Outreach:** Google Transit, Bing Maps, RouteShout





Community Feedback

- Results from Citizen Survey, Transit Development Plan and ongoing paratransit riders
- Predominant themes related to operations: “More Service” and feedback regarding capital investments cited “More Bus Shelters”

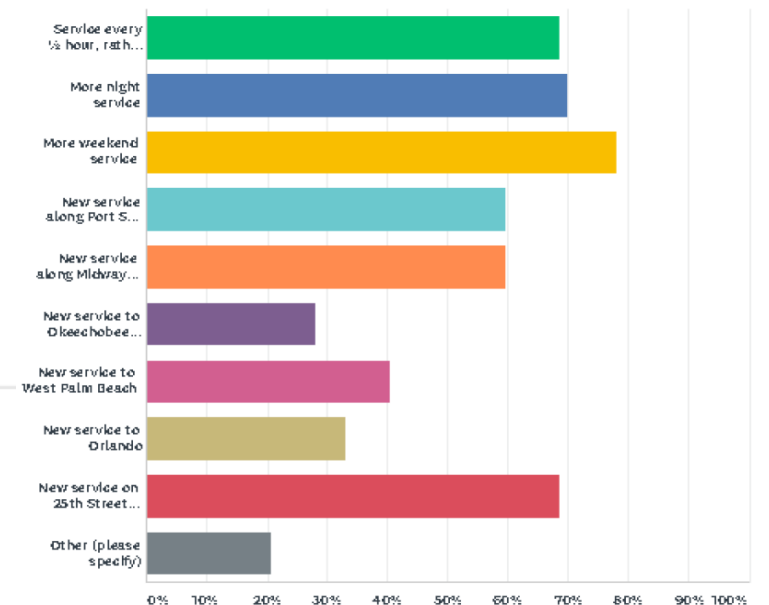
Figure 5-37: Technology/Capital – Please indicate how strongly you disagree or agree with the following:

Answered: 180 Skipped: 0



Figure 5-10: Check one or more improvements that you think are needed.

Answered: 136 Skipped: 5





Next Steps

- Rebranding Campaign
- Route Optimization Study
- Transit Development Plan Annual Update
- Microtransit Request for Proposals
- Port St. Lucie Intermodal Facility
- Transit Municipal Services Taxing Unit Interlocal Agreements



Questions?

Feedback?

Thank you!