

Orlando City Council – Lynx Annual Update
Council Chambers, City Hall
400 South Orange Avenue
December 5, 2016

In attendance:

Mayor Buddy Dyer

Commissioner Jim Gray, District 1

Commissioner Tony Ortiz, District 2

*Commissioner Robert F. Stuart, District 3 – Left at 10:10 a.m., returned at 10:14 a.m.

Commissioner Patty Sheehan, District 4 – arrived at 10:34 a.m.

Commissioner Regina I. Hill, District 5

Commissioner Samuel B. Ings, District 6 - arrived at 10:05 a.m.

Kyle Shephard, Chief Assistant City Attorney

Amy T. Iennaco, Interim City Clerk

Police Officer, Chris Realin, Sergeant at Arms

Police Officer, James West, Sergeant at Arms

Mayor Buddy Dyer called the meeting to order at 10:04 A.M. and announced the topic of the workshop as Lynx Annual Update. He called on Lynx CEO Edward Johnson to provide an update on Lynx Services/Status.

Mr. Johnson provided an update for the past six months as well as an outlook for the future. He stated major emphasis would include the following points of interest:

- Enhance Communications
- Improve Service Efficiency
- Establish More Partnerships w/hospitals, local colleges & universities and Central Florida Expressway
- Improve Customer Confidence in System – Improving on technological tools
- Increase Brand Recognition & Community Involvement – Recommending that Board of Directors serve on at least two community boards with one to include a human service agency.

Mr. Johnson next discussed the history of Lynx with some fast facts, as well as the 2017 Operating Expense Budget. A graph of ridership by mode of all Lynx transportation services for the last 10 years was included in the presentation. A decrease in usage was reflected starting in 2015. Mr. Johnson attributed this decrease to lower gas prices, indicating this was a trend nationwide. He expects this to change as gas prices rise.

*Commissioner Robert Stuart exited the meeting.

He discussed the importance of community partnerships and discussed a current public/private partnership with NoPetro. Nopetro utilizes a fast fuel process generating a 40 gallon per minute capacity. He indicated that Nopetro provides a six-acre facility with a station for Lynx and a second station open to the public. Nopetro capital was used to purchase and build the facility with Lynx agreeing to purchase CNG fuel from the station for the 15-20 years at cost, plus a

compression fee. He explained that Lynx receives royalties when third parties purchase CNG fuel from the station as well as a reduction in cost of gasoline as fuel prices rise.

Mr. Johnson explained another dedicated partnership with Sunrail with the purpose of improving connectivity with Lynx feeder routes and destinations.

*Commissioner Stuart re-entered the meeting.

Mr. Johnson discussed the Vision 2030 Plan which was completed in October 2011, stating that expanding partnerships with Sunrail and the East/West Expressway is currently being considered, as well as enhanced and more frequent service to include route optimization. He stated they are currently analyzing performance of the entire fixed route system. Some of the major areas/projects underway are the SR 436 Corridor Study; BRT & Lymmo Business Plan; Parramore BRT Construction; Rosemont Superstop and the NoPetro Land Purchase. The primary objectives of the projects is to improve mobility, improve system expansion North to South; support revitalization efforts of Parramore Neighborhood, Creative Village; and to provide better transportation options for residents in all of these areas.

Mr. Johnson further discussed areas of technological advances to be implemented such as Wi-Fi on buses. They have currently started demonstrations with two carriers on 30 buses with the idea to locate the dead spots to determine which carrier is best utilized. A full implementation is planned for 270 buses by the end of this year to early 2017. He discussed the “Next Vehicle” app which was developed November/December 2016 to assist users to track the exact location of their bus, as well as a program called Real-Time on the Neighborlink and Paratransit which allows for real-time trip requests and updates on vehicle arrivals. Mr. Johnson stated these technological advances are planned to give customers more confidence in Lynx and the timing and location of their bus.

Lastly, “Mobile Fare Payment” is expected to be available as a pilot within the next several months with final acceptance in June – July, 2017. Mr. Johnson would like to see the same system extended to all sister agencies of Volusia, Lake and Sunrail to further customer confidence.

At approximately 10:25 A.M., the workshop was opened to comments and questions from the City Council. Discussion ensued.

At 10:45 a.m. the Workshop was adjourned.

Amy T. Iennaco, Interim City Clerk