

# UF-RTS Partnership



# UF-RTS Partnership

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# History of UF-RTS Partnership

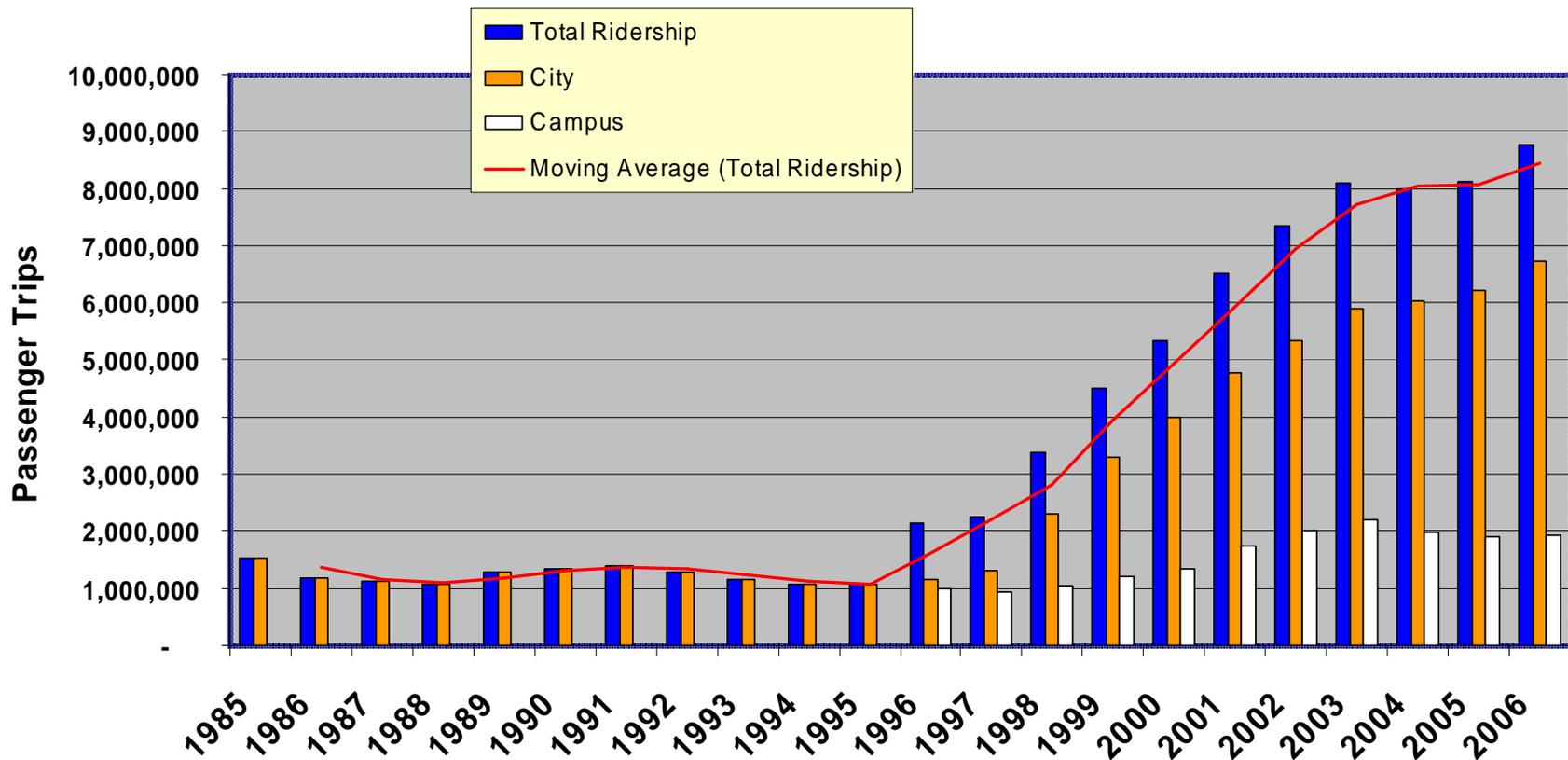
- **1996**
  - **RTS service on most routes was provided at a one-hour frequency and was criticized for the system's inability to accommodate their travel needs**
  - **UF students were identified as an ideal transit market due to campus parking restrictions and the number of students residing in high-density areas**
  - **RTS budget was \$5,046,404. There were eleven fixed routes operating in the Gainesville urban area, and four routes on campus**

# History of UF-RTS Partnership

- **1997**
  - In September 1997, a demonstration project enhancing frequency on student-oriented routes was in place with the partnership of the City, County, UF, and FDOT. Campus Development Agreement (CDA) funds were also used. In FY 1997 total system ridership was 2.2 million.
- **1998**
  - Service improvements continued in the Southwest area.
  - In addition, RTS and UF entered into an Interlocal Agreement to provide students with prepaid, unlimited access to transit service simply by showing their student identification card. Funding for these enhancements came from: FDOT, CDA funds, and a new student transportation access fee, which was levied by the University of Florida. The fee was \$.19 per credit hour.

# History of UF-RTS Partnership

## RTS System Ridership (Calendar Year)



# History of UF-RTS Partnership

- **1999**
  - RTS services continue to improve and the UF transportation fee was paying \$.29 per credit hour
  - RTS obtained FDOT grant for UF campus circulators
  - Ridership in FY 1999 was 4.4 million
  - RTS obtained FDOT grant to provide Late Night Services (“Later Gator”)
- **2000**
  - New Transportation fee of \$.50 per credit hour to continue existing and new service
  - New UF Campus Route -- Hall 2000 (now known as Lakeside).
  - New grant for new City Route 35 on the SW Area
  - New Employee Pass program was established to give unlimited access to transit to UF Faculty and Staff
  - Ridership was over 5.2 million in FY 2000

# History of UF-RTS Partnership

- **Immediate success on Later Gator A, B, & C**
  - Every 10 & 20 minutes from 8:00pm to 3:00am
  - Averaging between 15 to 30 passengers/hr
  - Later Gator A - 9,636 trips in April 2006
- **Results**
  - Reduction of accidents at night





## Annual Employee Bus Pass Program

| Agency                | Start Date | # Employees   | Amount            |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|
| University of Florida | 1/24/2000  | 13,000        | \$ 58,500         |
| City                  | 4/3/2000   | 1,397         | \$ 6,287          |
| GRU                   | 4/3/2000   | 848           | \$ 3,816          |
| County                | 7/24/2000  | 1,000         | \$ 4,500          |
| AI/Bradf. Workforce   | 9/11/2007  | 1,000         | \$ 4,500          |
| VA Hospital           | 5/1/2005   | 2,000         | \$ 9,000          |
| Shands                | 2/1/2006   | 7,949         | \$ 35,771         |
| <i>Total</i>          |            | <i>27,194</i> | <i>\$ 122,373</i> |

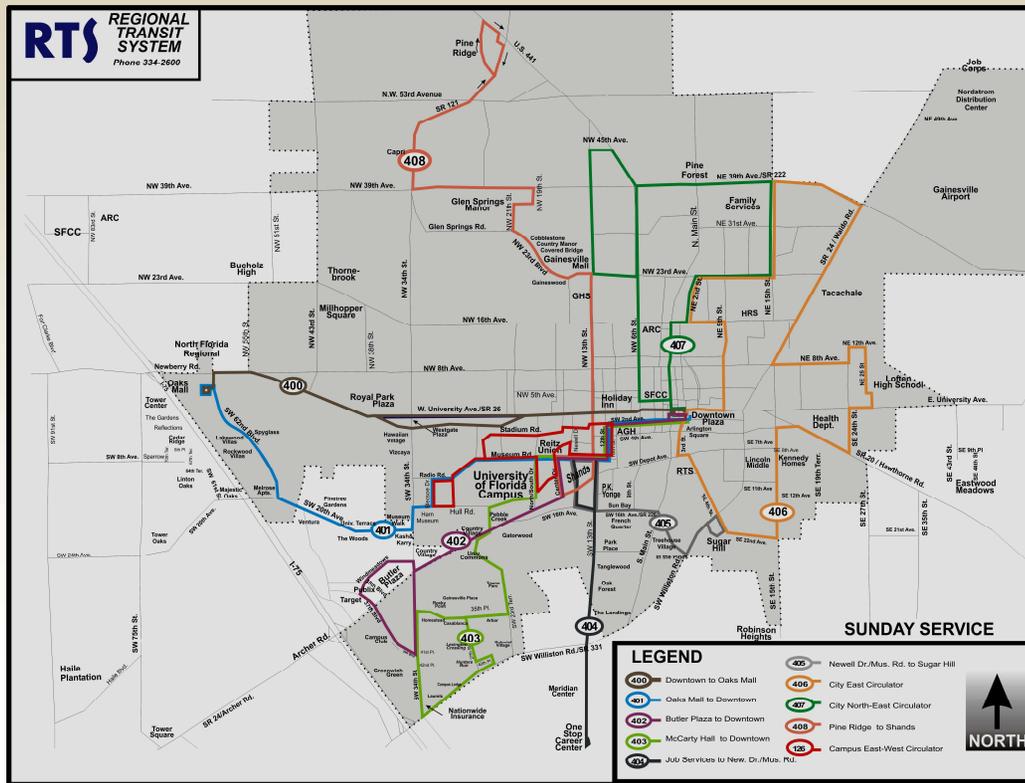
# History of UF-RTS Partnership

- **2001**
  - Transportation fee was \$2 per credit hour
  - Ridership in FY 2001 was 6.3 million
- **2002**
  - Transportation fee was \$3 per credit hour
  - UF students initiated an annexation campaign to save Route 35 by petitioning the City of Gainesville City Commission to place the issue on a referendum ballot. The largest annexation into the City of Gainesville (Sep. 2002), over \$2.5 million of new revenue, 15,000 new citizens and two new City Commissioners were all added due to this annexation.
  - Ridership in FY 2002 was 7.2 million

# History of UF-RTS Partnership

- **2003 - Present**
  - **Service continued to improve;**
  - **Current Transportation Fee is \$4.81 cents per credit hour**
  - **Ridership in FY 2006 was 8.6 million**
  - **Estimated FY 2007 Ridership = 9 million**
  - **Estimated UF funds to transit FY 2008 = \$9 million (51% of total funds)**
  - **New Sunday Service**

# Sunday Service



- 9 Routes
- 10 am to 5 pm
- First Day of Service
  - Ridership = 1,069 passengers
  - Productivity = 17.3 passengers/hr

# Results of UF-RTS Partnership

- **RTS Facts and Figures:**
  - Ridership increased 298% between FY 1997 (2.2 million) and FY 2006 (8.6 million)
  - Increased fleet - 47 buses in 1997 to 114 in 2006
  - RTS created 149 full-time jobs between 1997 and 2007 increasing the workforce to 233 people
  - Carries 4th highest number of passengers per weekday in the State of Florida
  - RTS ranks among the 100 largest transit agencies in the United States due to the current type of service

# Results of UF-RTS Partnership

- **RTS Facts and Figures:**
  - Transformation of City of Gainesville into a “transit intensive community”
  - RTS has one of the highest per capita trip rates in the State of Florida
  - Developers realize that a successful project must incorporate transit access into their design

- **The Future**
  - **Branding of On-Campus Facilities with University identity**
  - **New Bus Purchase (CDA funds)**
  - **New Transit facilities and amenities on Campus. Implementation of Technology**
  - **Expansion of Transit Facilities to accommodate existing and future demand**
  - **Sustainability efforts and Initiatives**

# UF-RTS Partnership

33064 RTS Illustrated Bus-3 orange Large.ai



## Questions?