LSF SHUTTLE
A TRANSPORTATION AMERICA COMPANY

May 14, 2024

Ms. Rickelle Williams
Interim City Manager
City of Miami Beach
1700 Convention Center Drive
Miami Beach, FL 33139

Re: Item C7 W – May 15, 2024, City Commission Agenda
Replacement Route for Former Miami-Dade County Route 115

Dear Madam Manager:

Limousines of South Florida (LSF) has been honored to serve as the City's exclusive Fixed-Route transportation provider for the Miami Beach Trolley Program since 2014. Together with City staff, we have built one of the most successful municipal Fixed-Route (Trolley) Programs in the State of Florida, transporting an average of 500,000 passengers per month during our pre-Covid peak.

In reviewing the Agenda for the May 15, 2024 City Commission Meeting, we discovered that the City is considering awarding a two (2) year, no-bid contract to BeeFree LLC d/b/a FreeBee to operate a single vehicle, fixed-route service to replace Bus Route 115, which was discontinued by Miami-Dade County as part of the Better Bus Network.

LSF is uniquely positioned to provide this Fixed-Route service to the City, while the City determines how to restructure its Citywide Fixed-Route system through ITN 2024-008-ND Municipal Circulator Services (the "ITN").

First, LSF is the only City vendor that provides comprehensive Fixed-Route transportation services, and LSF has an extensive track record of success with the City. Indeed, LSF successfully competed in the first Fixed-Route procurement publicly let by the City, and has successfully participated in all other solicitations – having been ranked the highest and most responsible and responsive provider in each publicly awarded contract thereafter. Second, as it turns out, LSF actually operated Route 115 on behalf of Miami-Dade County prior to its discontinuation in late 2023, as the County's contracted Fixed-Route provider. In this regard, LSF drivers are trained to operate Fixed-Routes, trained to assist passengers with mobility challenges, and very familiar with Route 115. **We can resume service immediately, using a 20-passenger vehicle with two (2) secure Wheel-chair spaces (for a total of 22 passengers) at an annual cost of $245,000** – the same cost proposed by FreeBee to operate a 14-passenger van with unknown wheelchair capacity.[1]

[1] The vehicle proposed by LSF has seamless side-entry capabilities for passengers in wheelchairs, a far superior option to rear-loading wheelchair access. This is particularly important because the terminus of the proposed route is Mount Sinai Hospital, meaning that the likelihood of wheelchair passengers is higher than most routes. Also, it should be noted that LSF's price offer assumes

2766 NW 62nd Street
Miami, Florida 33147

Tel305.265.3302
Fax305.265.3303

Recognizing that the City is in the midst of a competitive procurement for transportation services, LSF is willing to include this service in LSF's existing **month-to-month Contract** with this City. This will give the City maximum flexibility, and allow the City to transition this service to the successful proposer of the ITN, along with all other Fixed-Route services. Awarding a two-year contract for this small route can create operational challenges following the award of the ITN.

We applaud the City for developing quick solutions to assist passengers impacted by the County's decision to discontinue Route 115 and, frankly, we applaud FreeBee for stepping outside of its comfort zone and offering to provide Fixed-Route service for the first time. That said, LSF respectfully suggests that the most prudent and flexible path forward for the City is to reactivate the 115 Replacement Route through a month-to-month agreement with the City's only Fixed-Route operator, LSF.

We are available to initiate service immediately, and welcome the opportunity to resume providing high-quality, fixed-route transportation services to passengers along Route 115. Please do not hesitate to contact us at 305-989-6423 should you wish to discuss further. I am available anytime.

Sincerely,

Ray Gonzalez, President & CEO

---

operation of one (1) vehicle for thirteen (13) hours per day, seven (7) days per week, from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM, as described in the Commission Memorandum dated May 15, 2024.

2766 NW 62nd Street
Miami, Florida 33147

Tel305.265.3302
Fax305.265.3303