

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1052

TITLE: Resolution Advocating for The Implementation of RTS Bus Maps Inside of Residence Halls

AUTHOR(S): Senator Jack Gregg, Majority Party Leader Maya Idiculla

SPONSORS:

WHEREAS, The University of Florida houses over 7,600 students in residence halls [1], and as of April 2024, the University of Florida Students constitute approximately 68% of riders for RTS services [2]; and,

WHEREAS, The University has a responsibility to ensure students living on campus have access to necessary resources that promote efficient transportation due to the fact that the RTS system is the primary mode of public transportation for UF students, relying on commutes to class, clubs, and essential services [3]; and,

WHEREAS, on-campus students living in residence halls can be unaware of the bus routes and schedules, if not provided directly with this information [4]; and,

WHEREAS, the current app, GNV RideRTS, monitoring and tracking RTS bus routes and schedules, is inefficient and is claimed to be “terrible” by users [5]; and,

WHEREAS, a different method of providing RTS bus routes and times is needed to communicate this information with on-campus students, as TAPS recommends that on-campus students should not bring a vehicle [6]; and,

WHEREAS, incorporating RTS bus maps inside residence halls would allow students to better plan their commutes, reducing delays and the overcrowding of certain bus routes, and encouraging students to utilize the bus routes without fear of utilizing the wrong route [7]; and,

WHEREAS, the implementation of RTS bus maps will promote the University of Florida’s mission to keep students connected with their community through means of transportation; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate formally acknowledges the role that clear, accessible public transportation information plays in the daily lives of students and strongly advocates for the installation of RTS bus maps in all residence halls. By ensuring that comprehensible route maps are readily available in common areas within dorms, UF can enhance students’ ability to navigate campus efficiently, reduce uncertainty in travel planning, and promote greater usage of sustainable transportation options.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate believes the implementation of RTS bus maps inside residence halls will provide students

with an immediate and convenient reference, ensuring that they have a thorough understanding of campus and city-wide transit options.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes that for students to benefit the most from the RTS bus system, the University of Florida encourages the implementation of RTS bus maps in each residence hall to ensure all on-campus students are aware of the transportation and routes available to them.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to IRHA President Kaylee Kedroski, Senior Director of Housing and Residence Life Tina Horvath, Associate Director of Residence Life Temetria Hargett, Senior Director of Transportation and Parking William MacDonald.

[1] <https://umatter.ufl.edu/office/department-housing-residence-life/#:~:text=Housing%20and%20Residence%20Life%20provides,and%20Family%20Housing%20village%20residents.>

[2] <https://www.wuft.org/politics/2024-04-12/residents-students-stand-with-city-of-gainesville-as-uf-proposes-major-reduction-in-rts-funding>

[3] <https://www.news.ufl.edu/2025/01/rts-contract/>

[4] <https://taps.ufl.edu/alternative-transportation/rts/>

[5] https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.RTS.RideRTS&hl=en_US&pli=1

[6] <https://taps.ufl.edu/customer-resources/2024-preview/2024-preview-faqs/>

[7] <https://www.wcjb.com/2024/10/25/city-gainesville-university-florida-propose-rts-route-changes-scale-back-holiday-paratransit-services/>