



## Freebee Palmetto Bay Racks Up Big Ridership in First Month; Will Soon Introduce Freebee Park & Ride Shuttle to Metrorail

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### ***For Immediate Release***

**PALMETTO BAY, FL** (August 26, 2019) -- If Palmetto Bay were to adopt a theme song, it might appropriately be The Edgar Winter Group's "Free Ride." It's been just weeks since "Freebee," the on-demand, Village-wide electric ride system was introduced to residents, who, according to ridership numbers are embracing the cost-free alternative to driving .

"During the first 24 days of operation, we've had over 1,050 rides in Palmetto Bay. I'm so happy that we are able to provide commuters another opportunity to get out of their cars and take advantage of ride sharing. Working with our community partners, I hope to be able to expand hours and encourage even more ridership. This coupled with our Park & Rides will assist our Metrorail commuters as well as those looking for options to get around the Village," said Karyn Cunningham, Mayor of Palmetto Bay.

Two Freebee vehicles were introduced in Palmetto Bay Park on July 22, 2019, and [operate six days a week, Monday-Saturday](#). According to analytics provided by the company, from launch through August 18th, ridership is especially high during the afternoon hours (827 rides). According to company Co-Founder Jason Spiegel, this is largely due to ridership from students and others who are just learning about the program. "Typically, there's a big educational curve when we are initially introduced. We already are enjoying solid ridership, and we expect to build on these numbers each week," said Spiegel.

Palmetto Bay is now preparing for the second phase of the Freebee roll-out. Beginning September 19th, riders can hop on one of two "Freebee" vans to the Dadeland South Metrorail station from Palmetto Bay Park, FREE. The vans will be making both morning and evening scheduled runs. This Park & Ride program is **in addition** to the existing IBus shuttle program that departs from Holy Rosary-St. Richard's Church. The other two Freebee vehicles will continue to offer free on-demand rides throughout the Village ([download the "ride freebee" app, flag one down, or call for a ride at 305-397-5002](#)).

To welcome this new Freebee Shuttle system to the Village, a ribbon-cutting is scheduled for September 19th at 11:30 am Palmetto Bay Park.