LET'S RIDE!

LEARNING TO RIDE THE MIAMI GARDENS EXPRESS

Map Basics

The Miami Gardens Express is a free service that can take you to schools, parks, libraries, trails, stores, and any other places you might like to go in Miami Gardens. Let's learn how to plan a trip and take a ride on the Express!

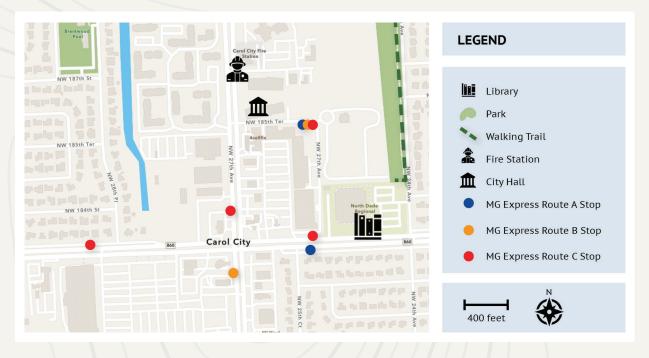
First thing's first, let's go over some basics of using a map. Maps are drawings of places that help us understand where things are located. They teach us about the world by showing sizes and shapes of countries, cities, and neighborhoods, and the distance between places. Maps come in all styles, but have some consistent elements.











Cardinal Directions: There are four cardinal directions: North (N); East (E); South (S); and West (W). There are also four intermediate directions: Northeast (NE); Northwest (NW); Southeast (SE); and Southwest (SW).

Compass Rose: A compass tells you the direction you are traveling—North, South, East or West—or any direction in between. On this compass, North is at the top. South is at the bottom. West is on the left, and East is on the right. If you move right, you will be heading East.

Map Scale: People often use a map to find out how far it is from one place to another. Since a map represents an area much larger than the sheet of paper, a scale is provided so distances between places can be measured.

Map Legend: A map legend (or key) explains the symbols used on the map. It typically includes a sample of each symbol (point, line, or area), and a short description of what the symbol means.

Transit Maps and Schedules:

Miami Gardens Express



Transit maps show us how to get around using buses, trolleys, subways, and trains. In addition to showing the route that a bus will take, transit maps show stops where you can get on and off, transfer points where you can get off of one bus, and onto another, and the schedule of times when the bus will reach the stops.

The City of Miami Gardens operates a free bus and trolley service, called the Miami Gardens Express.

The Express runs on three routes: **Blue Route A, Orange Route B, and Red Route C.** Each route runs in a loop, and has stops marked with numbers on the map. If you need to use more than one route to get to your destination, you'll need to transfer buses at one of the transfer points marked with a star.

Connecting to Places

At transfer points, you may be able to transfer Miami Gardens Express Routes A or B, or to a different transit line, like a Miami-Dade MetroBus or Metrorail. These other transit options can take you all over the county. Visit their websites to see their schedules and maps.







Miami-Dade County Transit

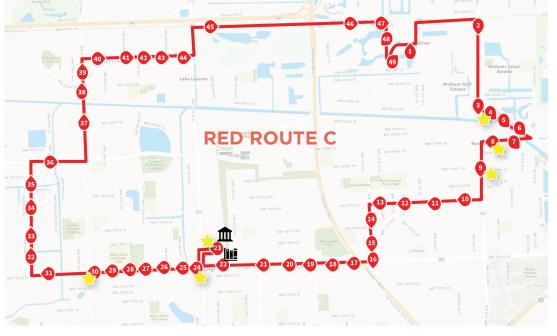


Tri Rail



Brightline





Take a look at the map and schedule on the following pages, to answer the following questions:

What number is the stop for the North Dade Regional Library?

What's the earliest time in the morning that I could get on the bus at North Dade Regional Library?

Can you find your school on the map?

Where's the closest bus stop?

Which route is it on? What number is the stop?

How would you get from City Hall to Bennet Lifter Park?

What's the earliest time that you could arrive by bus at Bennet Lifter Park?

Bus Rules



When finding a place to sit or stand, be a good neighbor and kindly show consideration for older people, passengers with disabilities, pregnant women, and families with small children.

Stay out of aisles and doors, so other passengers are able to move around easily. Keep all limbs and personal belongings within the trolley at all times.

Be courteous to your fellow passengers by using headphones to listen to audio devices.

Only service animals are allowed on board, so leave your pets at home!

Eating, drinking, smoking and weapons are not permitted on the trolley.

The operator will be glad to answer questions once the bus has come to a complete stop.

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Planning Your Ride

Make a plan: Use the map and schedule to plan your route and find your bus stops and transfers.

Using Transit During Health Crisis To keep from spreading germs, always wear a mask or face covering while waiting for or riding on transit, and wash your hands (or use hand sanitizer) before and after you ride. Try to sit and stand 6-feet away from other riders when possible.

Wait safely: When you find your bus stop, try to wait near the stop in a well-lit area if it is dark or under shelter if it is sunny. Stay on the sidewalk until the bus has come to a complete stop.

Signal before your stop: Make sure the bus driver stops at your stop by pulling the line that runs down either side of the bus. When you pull it, it'll make a noise (a tone or a beep). This signals the bus driver that you'd like to get off at the next stop.

Look before you step: When exiting the bus, always look left and right before stepping out of the door, and move directly to the sidewalk.

Stay alert! Pay attention to your surroundings while riding transit. If you're listening to music with headphones, only listen in one ear, so you can hear what's going on around you.

Riding transit is really important in keeping our communities healthy and it is a really fun way to travel too!





First and Last Mile

Sometimes, transit service cannot take you to the exact spot that you need to go. This is often referred to as the first or last mile. There are a couple of different options available to get to your final destination after you ride transit:

Walk - It counts as exercise too!

Bicycle - Bring your own or rent one. Don't forget your helmet.

Micro-mobility - This may seem like a strange word, but if you think about what micro and mobility mean separately, it might may make more sense.

Micro = Small and Mobility = Getting Around. A small way to get around. These are things like bicycles, electric bicycles, and scooter that you can borrow for a fee and ride to your final destination. Have you seen them around Miami?

Ride Share - These are services like taxis, uber, lyft.

Autonomous Vehicles - This is a cool idea that you should be on the lookout for... driver-less vehicles!

Project Partners

This project has been funded with support from **Health Foundation of South Florida**. The mission of Health Foundation of South Florida is to invest in and be a catalyst for collaborations, policy and systems change that improves the health of South Florida communities, with a focus on vulnerable, low to moderate income populations. Visit hfsf.org and follow @HealthSFL.

This project is part of **Live Healthy Miami Gardens**, which is a multi-year project aimed at making the City a healthier place to live, work and play. The project focuses on bringing the community together, developing a plan of action, increasing coordination, and making change that improves the health of Miami Gardens residents. Visit livehealthymiamigardens.com

Urban Health Partnerships (UHP) is a non-profit organization founded in 2011 focused on promoting health and equity through policy, systems, and built and social environment changes through community-driven approaches. Our mission is to invest in our communities by co-designing sustainable change and promoting equity and well-being across the lifespan. Visit urbanhp.org.