



**For Immediate Release**

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## **SunRail Ridership Grows to 1.2 Million Riders in 2024**

**DELAND, Fla.** – 2024 was a year of many successes for SunRail commuter rail, the partners of the Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission, and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) – with expanded service, enhanced the customer experience, and boosted ridership across all stations.

SunRail hit the 1.2 million ridership mark in late December as a great way to close out the year. That represented a 12% growth in ridership from 2023 to 2024. The SunRail team focused on a blend of efforts that encouraged routine commuting, as well as promoting local attractions, to grow ridership this past year.

The highly anticipated opening of the DeLand SunRail Station accompanied by an improved ticketing system and new mobile ticketing app, helped introduce SunRail to a new and invigorated audience.

The newly redesigned [www.SunRail.com](http://www.SunRail.com) website features expanded information on “Station Destinations” with even more reasons to ride such as family-friendly events and activities in addition to helpful information on getting to and from final destinations. Robust partnerships with groups such as the Orlando Magic, area colleges, and local businesses encouraged public transportation over driving and parking for both ease and cost savings.

### **SunRail 2024 milestones:**

- Realized the vision for a SunRail commuter rail line to connect four Central Florida counties through 17 stations, over 61 miles, with the opening of the DeLand SunRail Station.
- Upgraded the station ticket vending system, increasing transaction speed and convenience.

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- Launched a new mobile ticket app and website, offering mobile tickets, advanced purchases, and more reasons to ride.
- Increased ridership to more than 1.2 million passengers – representing a 12% rise over last year.
- Expanded safety measures – enacting additional training programs for first responders plus implementing engineering solutions and additional public outreach.

“It was exciting year for our riders and partners as we celebrated the completion of SunRail’s 17<sup>th</sup> station and introduced advancements to our fare collection system that make riding SunRail easier and more convenient than ever before,” said FDOT District Five Secretary John E. Tyler, P.E.

In 2025, SunRail will build upon its success by continuing to grow its daily ridership through partnerships such as the direct connection with LYNX to Orlando International Airport. SunRail will also seek to expand its reach by attracting riders from parts of Lake County while strengthening marketing initiatives for the new DeLand Station and working with local partners to offer sponsored special event and weekend service.

Looking to experience the latest and greatest with SunRail? Explore easy and stress-free travel by visiting the new website at [www.SunRail.com](http://www.SunRail.com) for destination ideas and to download the SunRail Mobile app today.

Media inquiries should be directed to the FDOT District Five Public Information Office at [FDOT-D5COMM@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:FDOT-D5COMM@dot.state.fl.us) or by phone at 386-943-5593.

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