



January 14, 2009

Downtown Cape Coral trolley system could be online next month

By news-press.com

Downtown Cape Coral is quite different from San Francisco, but it soon might be a little more similar.

The Downtown Cape Coral Community Redevelopment Agency is in the process of bringing a two-car trolley system to the area.

The concept still needs board approval, however the CRA has already met with Lee Tran and will meet with Naples Trolley System on Thursday to iron out operations.

The CRA already uses trolleys for its special events which include its Downtown Martini Competition, Downtown Wine and Food Tasting, Red, White and Brew and International Beer and Food Tasting.

CRA executive director John Jacobsen said the purpose of the trolley system would be to offer a free alternate mode of transportation and to promote downtown businesses as the plan is trolley drivers will serve as tour guides as well.

"Our aim is to get it on the road as soon as possible," he said. "It's part of our redevelopment plan."

Although the routes are not yet in stone, initial plans have the trolleys running up and down Cape Coral Parkway and SE 47th Terrace and extending out to Miramar Street.

Jacobsen said the idea is to run the trolleys from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, through Friday; from 6 to 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday; and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Some of the planned stops would be the Downtown Street Market, the Farmers Market, Paesano's Italian Market.

Jacobsen said they are pushing hard for the trolley system to be on rail by Feb. 5, but said that there is still a lot of red tape to cut through.

"We're going to push hard for that date," he said.
