



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Department of Public Works and Transportation
Office of Transportation



Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

Martin L. Harris
Acting Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 2, 2021

TO: Martin L. Harris, Acting Director

FROM: Semia L. Hackett, Associate Director

RE: FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity—Bus and Bus Facility Grant

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) recently announced the availability of up to \$409.6 million in competitive grant funds for building and maintaining transit buses and vans in communities throughout America. FTA is encouraging applicants to submit projects that will help improve air quality and promote environmental justice. A summary of the grant is provided for your review and approval to proceed.

In 2008, the Prince George's County Council adopted a resolution to reduce countywide GHG emissions by 80% below 2008 levels by 2050. To support that goal, DPW&T has estimated the cost of full transit fleet and infrastructure transition to electric by 2035 would be in the range of \$80M. The impact of transition is significant. Every eight diesel buses replaced with battery electric buses saves 229,167 lbs. of CO₂ which is equivalent to 6,026 streetlights upgraded to LED or on average, 5,000 street trees being planted annually.

DPW&T is making progress towards its goal through significant support from grant sources. For the Bus and Bus Facility Grant, DPW&T requests concurrence to utilize FY23 capital outlay funding of \$1,667,700 as the 20% local match to support \$6,670,800 in federal grant funding. **If award funding the County will purchase at least five (5) additional battery electric buses, related charging equipment and upgrade the existing transit facility for electrical infrastructure advancements such as solar canopies.**

- Funding is 100% WSTC reimbursable; the Agency seeks General Fund reimbursement on a quarterly basis.
- The capital outlay funding is allocated for aging bus replacement; the purchase of five (5) battery electric buses in FY24 will meet the County's replacement need and qualify as the 20% match.
- Similar process has been utilized in meeting the match for the FY19 LoNo grant funding and FY19 Volkswagen Mitigation fund reservation.

<u>Target</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Federal</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cash	\$1,667,700	0	\$6,670,800	\$8,338,500

This is part of DPW&T's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability through the transition to a low and no emission transit fleet. The application builds on several recent successful efforts in this area, including:

- FY21 Low to No Emissions Funding: only Maryland jurisdiction awarded funding-- \$5.2M for the purchase of four battery electric buses, onsite charging infrastructure and remote pantographic on route fast charger; 20% match will be met utilizing FY23 capital outlay funds
- FY19 Low to No Emissions Funding: acceptance of four (4) battery electric buses, as well as unveil the installation of four (4) three port electric charging stations by December 2021.
- FY19 Volkswagen Mitigation Funding: anticipation of eight (8) battery electric buses arrival Spring 2022
- FY18 SSTAP: purchase of nine propane propelled cutaways