

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

AGENDA DATE: April 9, 2024
PUBLIC HEARING DATE: N/A

**CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME
AND PHONE NUMBER:** Anthony R. Dekeyzer, Director of Mass Transit, (915) 212-3306
Jerry DeMuro, Deputy Transit Officer, (915) 212-3470

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

STRATEGIC GOAL: 7.3 – Enhance a regional comprehensive transportation system

SUBJECT:

That the City Manager or his designee is authorized to sign the documents related to the FY 2024 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program which offers funding in the amount of \$30,597,000 and requires a cash match of \$2,303,000. The City Manager or designee is authorized to sign any agreements, verifications or documents required to carry out the purpose of this resolution and that the City shall provide all matching funds, in the amount of \$2,303,000 for said grant.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Sun Metro previously applied for and was awarded funds from the FY 2022 Low or No Emission Grant Program to purchase 50 electric para-transit vehicles and to install 50 charging stations for the vehicles at its LIFT para-transit operations facility. The department is now applying to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for \$30,597,000 in funding to purchase 32 35-ft. buses and to install canopies at the bus parking area at the Sun Metro Transit Operations Center at 10151 Montana Ave. The City shall provide all matching funds in the amount of \$2,303,000 for said grant.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? ☒ YES ___ NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Sun Metro

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

Anthony DeKeyzer

Name

Anthony R. Dekeyzer

Signature

3-25-24

Date

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration ("FTA") is currently accepting applications for the FY2024 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso, Texas ("City") wishes to submit a grant application for the FY2024 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program ("Grant"); and

WHEREAS, the Grant funding is in the amount of \$30,597,000 and requires a total match of \$2,303,000.

WHEREAS, if awarded, the funds received under the Grant would be utilized for improving public transit and funding the acquisition of low emission vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the project will improve City's Transit system, further the City's goal to improve air quality throughout the City and therefore support a high quality of life for the El Paso community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

1. That the City Manager or his designee is authorized to sign the documents related to the FY2024 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program which offers funding in the amount of \$30,597,000 and requires a cash match of \$2,303,000; and
2. That the City manger or his designee is authorized to sign any agreements, verifications or documents required to carry out the purpose of this resolution; and
3. That the City shall provide all matching funds, in the amount of \$2,303,000, for said grant.

(signatures begin on the following page)

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2024.


MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD:

ATTEST:

Oscar Leeser, Chairman

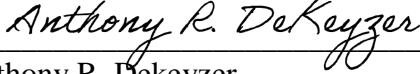
Laura D. Prine, Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Joyce Garcia
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Anthony R. Dekeyzer
Sun Metro/ Mass Transit Department



City Manager's Office

MAYOR

Oscar Leeser

CITY COUNCIL**District 1**

Brian Kennedy

District 2

Dr. Josh Acevedo

District 3

Cassandra Hernandez

District 4

Joe Molinar

District 5

Isabel Salcido

District 6

Art Fierro

District 7

Henry Rivera

District 8

Chris Canales

**INTERIM CITY
MANAGER**

Cary Westin

April 9, 2024

Ms. Veronica Vanterpool
Acting Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: City of El Paso Mass Transit Department (Sun Metro) application for FY 2024 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission and Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Program

Dear Ms. Vanterpool:

The City of El Paso's Mass Transit Department, Sun Metro, respectfully seeks your support for the FY 2024 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission and Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Program. The project will focus on the replacement of aging buses and construction of facility enhancements to better serve the El Paso community and provide efficient public transportation service. The total grant request is \$30,597,000 and will have a local match of \$2,303,000.

Our plans to modernize Sun Metro and ensure a viable public transportation system, aligns with the City of El Paso's Strategic Plan to deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community. Currently, 43% of Sun Metro's fleet is beyond its useful life. Sun Metro's request for federal support would provide funding to acquire (32) 35-foot compressed natural gas (CNG) buses to aid Sun Metro's attainment of a state of good repair. In addition, the funding would assist in the design and construction of four bus canopies at Sun Metro's Transit Operations Center (TOC).

The funding will ultimately connect the El Paso community to jobs, maintain a productive economy, as well as ensure safe, dependable, and accessible transportation services. As the largest public transit provider in West Texas along the U.S. – Mexico border, a substantial proportion of our residents, workers, and visitors rely on Sun Metro. The City of El Paso is considered a historically disadvantaged and low-income community. As a result, public transportation is considered a lifeline for many individuals.

Cary Westin – Interim City Manager

City Manager's Office | 300 N. Campbell | El Paso, TX 79901

O: (915) 212-0023 | Email: citymanager@elpasotexas.gov



DELIVERING **EXCEPTIONAL** SERVICES



City Manager's Office

MAYOR

Oscar Leaser

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If awarded, this project will help replace vehicles which have exceeded their useful life, enhance transit sustainability, and improve our community's livability, economic development, and air quality.

CITY COUNCIL

Sincerely,

District 1

Brian Kennedy

District 2

Dr. Josh Acevedo

Cary Westin

Interim City Manager

District 3

Cassandra Hernandez

cc: Tracey Jerome, Senior Deputy City Manager

Ellen A. Smyth, Chief Transit and Fields Operation Officer

District 4

Joe Molinar

District 5

Isabel Salcido

District 6

Art Fierro

District 7

Henry Rivera

District 8

Chris Canales

**INTERIM CITY
MANAGER**

Cary Westin

Cary Westin – Interim City Manager

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DELIVERING **EXCEPTIONAL** SERVICES



Goal 7.3 ENHANCE AND SUSTAIN EL PASO'S INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

FY 24 Low or No Emissions Grant Buses and Bus Facilities Program

Sun Metro Mass Transit Board 4.9.2024

Sun Metro Current Inventory

Total Number of Buses:

- 55 CNG (60) Foot Articulated Buses (brio)
- 69 CNG (40) Foot Low Floor Buses
- 42 CNG (35) Foot Low Floor Buses
- 166 Total Buses



Note: Actual picture above shows a 60 foot CNG Articulated brio bus



Sun Metro Buses Exceeding Useful Life

- 2008 NABI (North America Bus Industries)-Low Floor CNG buses- 32 units Average mileage 785,000 LTD some units are at 850,000 miles LTD

Total units that need replacement: 32

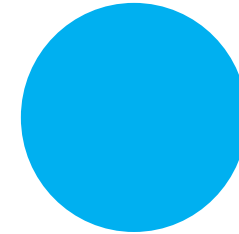



Note: Actual picture above is a 35 foot low floor CNG bus

Sun Metro Bus Replacement and Facility Enhancement Project

Scope of Work:

- Purchase 32 New CNG buses to replace 32 outdated CNG buses (12 years old and exceed 500 K mileage)
- Construction of 4 missing bus shade canopies 20,000 square feet each canopy



EP TX  Note: Actual aerial picture above shows the area where the four shade canopies should be located

Grant Budget

Expense Forecast:						
FY 2024 Low or No Emission Grant Program and Buses and Bus Facilities						
	Cost per unit	Quantity	Total Project Cost	Total TDC Match	Grant Request Amnt	City Cash Match
CNG Buses (35-foot)	\$750,000.00	32	\$24,000,000.00	\$1,668,000.00	\$22,320,000.00	\$1,680,000.00
Operations Facility Bus Canopies	\$2,000,000.00	4	\$8,000,000.00	\$928,000.00	\$7,440,000.00	\$560,000.00
Construction Contingency (10% Times Total Canopy Cost)	10%	4	\$800,000.00	\$92,800.00	\$744,000.00	\$56,000.00
Engineering Costs	\$100,000.00	1	\$100,000.00	\$11,600.00	\$93,000.00	\$7,000.00
Grand Total			\$32,900,000.00	\$2,700,400.00	\$30,597,000.00	\$2,303,000.00
TXDOT-will be providing Transportation Development Credits (TDCs)						

Grant Name: 2024 Low or No Emissions (FTA) Grant

Scope of work: Purchase 32 New CNG Buses and Construct 4 Bus Canopies

Grant Request Amount: \$30,597,000.00

Match Amount: \$2,303,000.00

Application Opened: Feb 8, 2024

Application Deadline: April 25, 2024

Note: Transportation Development Credits Provided by TXDOT \$2,700,400.00



Council Action

City Council Authorizes the submission of staff recommended project and grant budget proposal to the FY24 Low or No Emissions (FTA) grant application.



MISSION



Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community.

VISION



Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government.



VALUES

Integrity, **R**espect, **E**xcellence,
Accountability, **P**eople