

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

DEPARTMENT: Sun Metro

AGENDA DATE: 6/10/25

PUBLIC HEARING DATE:

CONTACT PERSON NAME: Anthony R. DeKeyzer

PHONE NUMBER: 915-212-3306

2nd CONTACT PERSON NAME: Jerry DeMuro

PHONE NUMBER: 915-212-3470

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

STRATEGIC GOAL:

7.0 - Enhance and Sustain El Paso's Infrastructure Network

SUBGOAL:

7.3 - Enhance a Regional Comprehensive Transportation System

SUBJECT:

Discussion and action on a resolution that City staff is authorized to submit an application to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Fiscal Year 2025 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program, in the amount of \$1,963,500.00 for the procurement of Sun Metro Transit Route Vans Replacement Project; and that the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to sign any documents necessary for the proper submission of said application; and that the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to sign any documents necessary to accept a grant resulting from said application, after consultation with the City Attorney's Office; and the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to sign any documents related to a grant resulting from the application, including, but not limited to, revisions to the project scope, and revisions that increase, decrease or de-obligate program funds; and the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to explore funding sources and partnerships that leverage the strength of said application and any grant resulting from said application.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Sun Metro previously applied for and was awarded funds from the FY 2024 Low or No Emission Grant Program to purchase 32 35-foot buses and construction of four bus canopies. The department is now applying to the FTA for funds to purchase 14 transit route vans. In addition, the cash match of \$346,500 for the requested grant may be supplemented by transportation development credits administered by the Texas Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$161,700.00.

COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH:

N/A

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

REPORTING OF CONTRIBUTION OR DONATION TO CITY COUNCIL:

N/A

NAME	AMOUNT (\$)

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD: *Jerry DeMuro*

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration (“FTA”) is currently accepting applications for the Fiscal Year 2025 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”), through its Mass Transit Department (“Sun Metro”), wishes to submit a grant application for the Fiscal Year 2025 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 \$1,963,500.00 and requires a total match of \$346,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the City will be requesting \$161,700.00 in Transportation Development Credit from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to reduce the City’s match portion; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the funds received under the Grant would be used for improving public transit and funding the purchase 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 designee, is authorized to sign the documents related to the Fiscal Year 2025 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program which offers funding in the amount of \$1,963,500.00 and requires a cash match of \$346,500.00; and
2. **THAT** the City Manager, or 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 \$184,800.00, for said grant.

(signatures begin on the following page)

APPROVED this _____ day of _____ 2025.


MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD:

Renard U. Johnson, Chairman

ATTEST:


Laura D. Prine, Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Joyce Garcia
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

 Deputy Transit Officer for
Anthony R. Dekeyzer, Director
Sun Metro/Mass Transit Department

****Please submit on your official letterhead****

July 14, 2025

Ms. Kirsten Wiard-Bauer
Senior Program Manager
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: City of El Paso Mass Transit Department (Sun Metro) application for FY 2025 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission and Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Program

Dear Ms. Wiard-Bauer:

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of The City of El Paso Mass Transit Department, Sun Metro application for the FY 2025 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission and Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Program. The total project cost is \$2,310,000 and will focus on the replacement of aged transit route vans to better serve the El Paso community and support the overall public transportation service.

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. Sun Metro's request for federal support would provide funding to acquire (14) compressed natural gas (CNG) vans and appurtenances for transit route assistance and supervision.

The funding will ultimately ensure timely, efficient, and safe transportation services for the El Paso community. As the largest public transit provider in West Texas, a substantial proportion of our residents, workers, and visitors rely on Sun Metro. The City of El Paso is considered a low-income community and Sun Metro serves several opportunity zones within the city. Accordingly, public transportation is considered a lifeline for many individuals who use Sun Metro to access jobs, educational opportunities, medical needs, and economic activities.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to helping the El Paso community maintain and sustain our public transit system. Furthermore, thank you for your consideration and I hope this letter of support will aid in the application process for the Low or No Emission and Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Program.

Sincerely,

Renard U. Johnson
Mayor



City Manager's Office

MAYOR

Renard U. Johnson

CITY COUNCIL**District 1**

Alejandra Chávez

District 2

Dr. Josh Acevedo

District 3

Deanna M. Rocha

District 4

Cynthia Boyar Trejo

District 5

Ivan Niño

District 6

Art Fierro

District 7

Lily Limón

District 8

Chris Canales

CITY MANAGER

Dionne Mack

July 14, 2025

Mr. Tariq Bokhari
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 2025
Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission and Buses and Bus Facilities
Grant Program

Dear Mr. Bokhari:

The City of El Paso's Mass Transit Department, Sun Metro, respectfully seeks your support for the FY 2025 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission and Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Program. The project will focus on the replacement of transit route vans which have reached their useful life. The total grant request is \$1,963,500 and will have a local match of \$184,800.

Sun Metro's request for federal support would provide funding to purchase (14) compressed natural gas (CNG) vans and appurtenances, which support daily mass transit operations. 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.

As the largest public transit provider in West Texas, a substantial proportion of our residents, workers, and visitors rely on Sun Metro. The City of El Paso is considered a low-income community and therefore, public transportation is considered a lifeline for many individuals.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If awarded, this project will help purchase much-needed transit route vans to sustain transit safety, reliability, and improve our community's livability.

Sincerely,

Dionne Mack
City Manager

cc: K. Nicole Cote, Deputy City Manager

Dionne Mack – City Manager

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

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





Goal 7.3 ENHANCE AND SUSTAIN EL PASO'S INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

FY 25 Low or No Emissions Grant Buses and Bus Facilities Program

June 10, 2025

Sun Metro Current Inventory

Total Number of Transit Route Supervisor Vans:

- (14) 2017 Ford Transit Extended CNG Vans
- All vans have exceeded the federal useful life of 8 years in service
- Total units that need replacement (14)



Figure 1: 2017 Ford Transit Extended CNG Van

Grant Budget

Grant Name: 2025 Low or No Emissions (FTA) Grant

Scope of work: Purchase 14 New CNG E Transit Vans (350)

Grant Request Amount: \$1,963,500.00

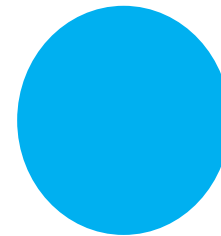
Total Match Amount: \$346,500.00

Application Opened: May 14, 2025

Application Deadline: July 14, 2025

Note: Sun Metro was awarded Transportation Development Credits from TXDOT in the amount of \$161,700.00 to reduce City match to 184,800.00.

Expense Forecast:						
FY 2025 Low or No Emission Grant Program and Buses and Bus Facilities						
Project: Sun Metro Transit Route Vans Replacement Project						
	Cost per unit	Quantity	Total Project Cost	Total Match	Grant Request Amnt	City Cash Match
2025 CNG E-Transit Van 350 (Base Model)	\$100,000.00	14	\$1,400,000.00	\$210,000.00	\$1,190,000.00	\$210,000.00
Purchase and Installation of CNG Conversion Kit and Parts	\$40,000.00	14	\$560,000.00	\$84,000.00	\$476,000.00	\$84,000.00
Painting and Striping	\$20,000.00	14	\$280,000.00	\$42,000.00	\$238,000.00	\$42,000.00
Purchase and Installation of Emergency Lighting and Appurtenances	\$5,000.00	14	\$70,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$59,500.00	\$10,500.00
Grand Total	\$165,000.00		\$2,310,000.00	\$346,500.00	\$1,963,500.00	\$346,500.00
Sun Metro will be requesting Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) from TXDOT						



Recommendation

Mass Transit Department Board authorizes the City Manager to approve the submission of the grant application and budget proposal to the FTA for consideration of the FTA FY25 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program.



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, Respect, Excellence,
Accountability, People