

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: SHAWN SOSA, ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST  
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS  
SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING AND EXECUTION OF  
AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE FEDERAL  
TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION LOW OR NO EMISSION BUS  
PROGRAM FOR FY 2020 AND APPROPRIATING ANY  
NECESSARY MATCHING FUNDS

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Council, by resolution, authorize the Director of Transportation and Public Works or designee to file and execute a grant application and related documents under the Federal Transit Administration Low or No Emission Bus Discretionary Grant Program requesting \$1,434,093 in federal funds for the purchase of electric bus charging equipment and installation costs, and appropriate any necessary matching funds.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires a resolution adopted by the governing board to be included in the grant application for the FTA Low or No Emission Bus Discretionary Program ("Low-No Program") to identify the local cost share for a successful award.

The Transportation and Public Works Department is preparing a grant application to request funding for electric bus charging equipment and installation, related to the charging and operation of our upcoming electric buses.

BACKGROUND

1. Section 5339(c) of Title 49, United States Code, as amended under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015 provides funding for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Low or No Emission Bus Discretionary

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Program (“Low-No Program”).

2. The Low-No Program provides funding for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and low-emission transit buses, including acquisition, construction, and leasing of required supporting facilities such as charging stations.
3. The FAST ACT authorizes the FTA to award grants for low or no emission buses through a competitive process.
4. Federal transit law authorized \$130 million in FY 2020 for competitive grants under the Low-No Program.
5. The Low-No Program covers 90% of the costs to purchase electric bus equipment, and requires a 10% local match of funds.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

On May 23, 2017, the City Council approved RES-2017-077 for submission of an application for the 2017 FTA Low or No Emission Bus Discretionary Program.

On June 5, 2018, the City Council approved RES-2018-086 for submission of an application for the 2018 FTA Low or No Emission Bus Discretionary Program.

On April 30, 2019 the City Council approved RES-2019-043 for submission of an application for the 2019 FTA Low or No Emission Bus Discretionary Program.

ANALYSIS

1. Transportation and Public Works wishes to submit an application for the acquisition of charging equipment and infrastructure installation for our upcoming electric bus fleet.
2. The Low-No Program grant will cover 90% of the costs to purchase the vehicle related charging equipment and installation costs.

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3. If the grant is awarded to Santa Rosa, the 10% required match is anticipated to come from Transportation Development Act Article IV funds. Additionally, the Transit Division will pursue other grants that may offset the use of TDA IV funds.
4. This project supports the Tier 1 goal of the City Council to implement the City's Climate Action Plan.
5. The FTA requires a resolution of the City Council authorizing the submittal of the grant application and committing the matching funds for the grant.

FISCAL IMPACT

This action has no impact on the General Fund. The required 10% local match of \$159,344 would be drawn from the Transit Division's annual allocation of Transportation Development Act Article IV funds. However, the Transit Division will seek funding from other programs and grant opportunities that could be used as local share in place of TDA IV funds if successful.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution

CONTACT

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