



PUBLIC HEARING & RESOLUTION

Authorizing Filing Grant Application for FTA Section 5310 Funds for Purchase of replacement ADA Paratransit Vehicles

City Council Meeting
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CURRENT

- Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Program is authorized under Title 49 U.S.C. 5310.
- Funds are to improve mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- Caltrans is recipient of FTA Section 5310 funds and is responsible for administering 5310 funds.

CURRENT

- 5310 has two project types:
 - Traditional = ADA accessible vehicles, equipment, misc. capital (radios, etc.)
 - Expanded = Expansion of paratransit services (beyond minimum set by ADA, more hours, same-day, escorts, etc.)
- CityBus is applying for Traditional Program.

CURRENT

- Traditional Program application process requires public agency to certify there are no other non-profit agencies “readily available” to provide the proposed service.
- Readily available = “Willing, interested and **capable** of providing the proposed service at a comparable cost to the identified clientele in the same service area, with the same hours of frequency, and at the same level of service.”

CURRENT

- Santa Rosa Paratransit (within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from CityBus routes) is provided using City owned vehicles and City contracted operations.
- Other non-profits may competitively apply for funding in Traditional Program, even if not replacing our paratransit service.
- Previous 5310 applications
 - In 2017 asked for 5 vehicles, \$252K was awarded for 4
 - In 2019 asked for 7 vehicles, \$81K was awarded for 1
 - In 2022 asked for 5 vehicles, \$212K was awarded for 3

PROPOSED

- Vehicle fuel type
 - If awarded 5310 funds, Transit Division will evaluate the availability of electric vehicles prior to grant expenditure, consistent with Council-adopted CityBus Zero-Emission Rollout Plan
 - Adopted plan recognizes the limited availability of battery-electric cutaway vehicle
 - First battery electric cutaway purchase projected for 2032 due to current market conditions and charging needs
 - Full cutaway electrification 2037

PROPOSED

- Hold a public hearing to meet the federal 5310 requirement to determine if any private non-profit is readily available to provide paratransit services within the City.
- Authorize City Manager or designee to execute and file a grant application with Caltrans for the FTA Section 5310 Program to purchase replacement ADA Paratransit vehicles.

BENEFIT

- Community supported services
- Modernize vehicle fleet providing ADA Paratransit
- Assist in reducing CityBus funding applied to cost of vehicle with any awarded grant funds
- Invest and sustain infrastructure and transportation

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Council:
 - 1) hold a public hearing to determine whether any private non-profit is readily available to provide paratransit services in the City; and,
 - 2) by resolution, authorize the City Manager or designee to execute and file a grant application with the California Department of Transportation under Federal Transit Act Section 5310 to purchase replacement ADA Paratransit vehicles.
- Questions?