

To: Marketing, Planning & Legislative Committee

Date: 07/30/2020

From: Ruby Horta, Director of Planning, Marketing & Innovation

Reviewed by: WC.

SUBJECT: Transit Capital Priorities Program FY 2021-2025

Background

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) established the Transit Capital Priorities process to help ensure that the limited federal transit dollars available go to projects that are essential. Transit operators use this process to compete for funds used for a wide range of investments, including:

- Vehicle replacement or rehab
- Rail system equipment replacement or rehab
- Replacement or rehab of ferry propulsion systems or other major ferry components
- Purchase or replacement of vehicle communications equipment
- Replacement of Clipper® fare collection equipment or other fare boxes
- Purchase and installation of emissions-reduction systems for diesel buses
- Safety projects
- Station and parking lot rehab

The current call for projects has been released and is due September 4th. County Connection is scheduled to replace several fixed route and paratransit vehicles in the FY 21-25 project cycle.

Proposed Vehicle Replacement Submittal

Based on our most current Short-Range Transit Plan (S RTP), County Connection's following fleets will be eligible for replacements:

Vehicle Type	Quantity	Replacement Year
Heavy Duty Bus – 40'	40	2022
Heavy Duty Bus – 40'	10	2024
Heavy Duty Bus – 30'	7	2025
Ford Cutaways – 22'	15	2024
Dodge Caravan	3	2024

The call for projects requires each agency to indicate the fuel type of the replacement vehicles. Staff recognizes there are several uncertainties that will not be resolved by the September deadline, such as: total infrastructure costs, local match sources, service cuts relative to COVID-19 and the overall financial viability of any capital purchases. However, agencies must submit the project list to remain eligible for federal funds, within the MTC’s process. Therefore, staff proposes the following combination for vehicle replacements.

Vehicle Type	Quantity	Replacement Year
Heavy Duty Bus – 40’ (Diesel)	20	2022
Heavy Duty Bus – 40’ (Fuel-Cell)	20	2022
Heavy Duty Bus – 30’ (Fuel-Cell)	10	2024
Heavy Duty Bus – 30’ (Fuel-Cell)	7	2025
Ford Cutaways – 22’	15	2024
Dodge Caravan	3	2024

It should be noted that this exercise serves as a planning tool for MTC to begin calculating cash flow requirements and work with operators on adjusting replacement schedules, if necessary, based on projected expenses, any given year. Agencies can submit amendments, with proper explanation, to change any aspect of the project submittal. If, for example, purchasing a certain fuel type is no longer viable, an amendment could be submitted to change the fuel type.

Financial Implications:

The TCP program is designed as an 80/20 formula – 80% federal/20% local.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the MP&L committee forward the proposed TCP project list to the Board for approval. This action will allow staff to submit the project list by the September deadline. Future amendments to the vehicle type and replacement years can be made by working with MTC staff.

Action Requested:

Staff requests that the MP&L committee forward the proposed TCP project list to the Board for approval and submittal to MTC.