

Western Contra Costa Transit Authority

09, July, 2024

WestCAT Announces New Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus and Hydrogen Fueling Station Project Advancing Sustainable Mobility Thanks to \$20.6 Million Federal Grant

The Western Contra Costa Transit Authority (WestCAT) announced a new Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus and Hydrogen Fueling Station Project today. The Western Contra Costa Transit Authority will receive **\$20,646,189** to buy hydrogen fuel cell buses to replace older diesel buses and expand its hydrogen fueling station and maintenance facilities. This project will provide workforce training to support WCCTA's transition to an entirely zero-emission fleet and improve regional air quality.

Federal support for bus projects over the last several years has been instrumental in moving people and helping communities advance their climate goals.

Today's announcement is part of approximately \$1.5 billion in funding to support 117 projects that will improve public transportation in 47 states. Over the last three years, the Federal Transit Administration has sent nearly \$5 billion in the past three years to replace and modernize transit buses on America's roadways, building new technology with American workers. U.S. factories will produce more than 3,650 new buses.

This funding continues the Biden-Harris Administration's historic federal investment in the nation's bus systems as well as the transit workforce Approximately 80 percent of the buses being funded will run on zero and low-emission technology, reducing air pollution and helping meet the President's goal of zero emissions by 2050.

The projects announced today are supported by FTA's <u>Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities</u> and <u>Low-and No-Emission (Low-No) Vehicle</u> programs.

The <u>Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities</u> program provides federal funding for transit agencies to buy and rehabilitate buses and vans and build and modernize bus facilities. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides nearly \$2 billion through 2026 for the program. For Fiscal Year 2024, approximately \$390 million for grants was available under this program.

FTA's <u>Low-and No-Emission</u> program makes funding available to help transit agencies buy or lease U.S.-built low- or no-emission vehicles, including buses and vans, make facility and station upgrades to accommodate low- or no-emission vehicles, and buy supporting equipment like battery electric charging. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides \$5.6 billion through 2026 for the Low-No Program – more than six times greater than the previous five years of funding. For Fiscal Year 2024, approximately \$1.1 billion was available for grants under this program.