




MEMORANDUM

Date: May 16, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

Via: Albert P. Childress 
City Manager

From: Rodrigo Delostrinos
Director of Transportation

Subject: **State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Grant Agreement to Assist with the Purchase of an Electric Bus to Replace a Diesel Bus.**

Introduction

Approve execution of the Grant Agreement with FDEP via Electric Transit Bus Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

Background

The FDEP allocated the City of Key West \$300,000 in funding through the Electric Transit Bus Project. This FDEP project supports the purchasing of electric transit buses to replace eligible diesel transit buses. The purchasing of these electric transit buses is an important and effective way to reduce harmful emissions, especially in highly populated areas where mobile sources are the largest sources of air pollution. As more electric transit buses are deployed, emissions of air pollutants will be reduced, which will continue to improve Florida's air quality.

The City of Key West Strategic Plan "Key West Forward" Priority 6- Traffic and Pedestrian Friendliness, lists the reduction of the island's carbon footprint as Goal 4. Transitioning a portion of the transit fleet from diesel transit buses to electric transit buses is consistent with the Strategic Plan.

This project requires the City of Key West to replace an existing eligible diesel transit bus with an electric transit bus. The diesel transit bus must be permanently removed from service and scrapped by: (1) making a 3-inch diameter hole in the engine block; and (2) cutting the chassis in half between the axles or rendering the chassis incapable of being reused or repurposed as a vehicle. The remains of this vehicle could prove to be a useful training aid for law enforcement and/or fire service.

Procurement

The \$300,000 will be listed as a revenue in account 4110000-3314220. This grant agreement allows for the entire \$300,000 to be used as the local 20% cost share. Moving this \$1,500,000 electric bus project forward necessitates seeking other grant programs such as the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Low or No Emission Vehicle Program -5339(c) to fund the remaining \$1,200,000 (80%). This initiative could provide the City of Key West with its first electric transit bus at 100% reimbursement. The purchase of this electric bus must be completed by June 30, 2025.

Recommendation

The City Manager's Office recommends the Mayor and Commission approve the resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement and execute the FDEP Grant Agreement, in the amount not to exceed \$300,000.

Exhibits:

Exhibit A – FDEP Grant Agreement