



Planning for Low-No Emission Vehicles

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What we will cover

- Federal Transit Administration's Low-No Program
- Transit Partners and MnDOT application
- What to consider if interested in low-no vehicles

Low or No Emission Vehicle Program 5339(c)

- Competitive program provides funding to state and local government to get zero- and/or low-emission transit buses with required facility equipment.
- Eligible applicants:
 - States (on behalf of rural communities and/or consolidated urbanized proposals)
 - Local governmental authorities
 - Tribal governments
- Authorized funding through FFY 2026

US DOT / FTA Program Priorities

- The Low-No and Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program support US DOT and FTA's priorities and objectives through investments that
 1. renew our transit systems;
 2. reduce greenhouse gas emissions from public transportation;
 3. advance racial equity;
 4. maintain and create good-paying; and
 5. connect communities.

What was funded in FFY22 in Minnesota?

- Bois Forte Band of Chippewa (low or no emission)
- MN Chippewa Tribe-White Earth Band of Chippewa Indians (bus facility)
- Prairie Island Indian Community (low or no emission)
- SouthWest Transit (low or no emission)
- MnDOT (low or no emission)
- [Funded projects list found online](#)

BETTER MN Communities Application

- Buses Electrified To Travel Efficiently in Rural Minnesota Communities
- 4 rural transit systems:
 - **Heartland Express (New Ulm)**
 - Southern MN Area Rural Transit (Owatonna)
 - Prairie Lakes Transit (Fairmont)
 - **MN River Valley Transit (Saint Peter and Le Sueur)**
- 6 battery electric buses and associated electrical upgrades

Program Requirement & Considerations

- Fleet Transition Plan
- 5% Workforce Development for Zero-Emission Projects
- Continuation of the Partnership Provision (e.g., procurement)
- Low-No Program: minimum of 25% of amount awarded to low emission projects other than zero-emission vehicles and related facilities.

Evaluation Criteria

- Demonstration of need: how project addresses unmet need
- Demonstration of benefits: how project supports reduction in emissions and/or energy consumption
- Planning and local/regional prioritization: how project fits with local planning
- Local share: identify a source of local share
- Project implementation strategy
- Technical, legal, & financial capacity

Be prepared to think through...

- Climate change (for bus/bus facilities projects only)
- Environmental justice
- Racial equity and barriers to opportunity
- Creating good-paying jobs (facility projects)
- Zero-emission fleet transition plan – workforce development
- Next solicitation anticipated early spring 2023



Questions?