



MEMO TO: Council Community Planning and Transportation Committee

FROM: Taylor Johnson, Transit and Parking Program Manager

THROUGH: Shawn O'Leary, P.E., CFM, Director of Public Works

DATE: May 25, 2023

SUBJECT: Public Transportation Monthly Report

Purpose

The Public Transportation Monthly Report provides updates to City Council on public transit related items. In addition to the updates provided below, attached is the EMBARK Norman Performance Report for the previous month. The Performance Report provides updates on key metrics associated with the operations of the transit system.

Updates

• Go Norman Transit Plan (City of Norman Transit Long Range Plan Update)

- The Go Norman Transit Plan was approved by resolution by Council on June 22nd, 2021. Staff are continuing to move forward on the next steps as recommended in the plan. Recent work includes:
 - On February 14, 2023, Council approved contract K-2223-72 with Stronghold Construction to complete the renovation of the 320 E. Comanche St. property into a City Transit Center. A pre-construction meeting was conducted on February 21, 2023 to organize the start of the project, and a Notice to Proceed was issued on February 28, 2023. Construction commenced on March 1, 2023. It is estimated that the project will be completed in August 2023 pending asbestos delays. On April 12, 2023 Council approved Change Order 1 to address asbestos issues. Work on the project during the month of April 2023 includes:
 - Complete Asbestos Remediation of interior.
 - A change order encompassing the contractor's asbestos remediation costs was included on Council's April 11 agenda for consideration and was passed unanimously.
 - The City Manager authorized a task order with a remediation firm to remove the contaminated material. After a delay due to scheduling issues, work began on April 25 and after conducting air quality tests the all clear was given on May 9 to resume interior work.
 - Concrete forming
 - Pouring curbs
 - Underground electric sleeves
 - On December 13, 2022 Council unanimously approved a resolution to alter bus routes and transit bus services as recommended in the Go Norman Transit Plan to take effect in 2023. Staff have started the work to implement the newly approved changes, which includes changes to bus stops, signage and advertising, as well as operator training.

• Grants

- Staff continue to program and draw down on Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grants periodically to reimburse the City for eligible public transit expenses.
- On April 12, 2023 Council approved a grant application to FTA's Bus and Bus Facilities (5339b) and Low- or No-Emissions Grants to purchase 6 CNG cutaway buses for fleet replacement. Award announcements are expected to be made in August.
- Staff continue to research eligible grants to support existing operations, vehicle needs, and future improvements. Staff are researching project opportunities for the various ACOG (Air Quality) grants that will be available over the next few months.

• Microtransit Pilot Program

- Responses to RFP-2223-59 were received on May 5, 2023. This RFP was created to establish a microtransit pilot program in the City of Norman. The RFP selection committee is now reviewing the responses and will make a selection. Once a selection is made, an agenda item including the RFP process and a proposed contract will be created for Council's consideration at a meeting in the near future. Below is background information on the project:
 - Following prior feedback from Councilmembers, two workshops were conducted on October 18, 2022 and January 3, 2023, regarding possible alternatives for a microtransit pilot program. After