



Date: August 12, 2025

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Danielle McHugh, Transportation Program Analyst

Title: **Authorization of Federal Funding under Federal Transit Act (FTA) Section 5339 for the Procurement of Two Replacement Transit Vehicles**

Jen Callaway, Town Manager

Recommended Action: The Town Council

- (1) Adopt Resolution 2025-50 authorizing Federal funding under FTA Section 5339 – Bus and Bus Facilities Program; and
- (2) Authorize the purchase of two (2) Allstar Starcraft 22-foot buses through the California Association of Coordinated Transit- Morongo Basin Transit Authority (CalACT-MBTA) Vehicle Purchasing Cooperative under Agreement No. 20-01 in the amount of \$364,287.02.

Discussion: The Town has been awarded an FTA 5339 grant in the amount of \$240,000 to purchase two (2) light-duty mid-sized transit cutaway buses to replace two (2) existing like-kind transit buses that have exceeded the useful life, as defined by the FTA. As a member of CalACT, the Town is eligible to purchase these vehicles from Model1 (formerly known as Creative Bus Sales) through the CalACT/MBTA Purchasing Cooperative Agreement #20-01, which is a governmental cooperative joint purchasing program consistent with Town of Truckee Purchasing Rules and Regulations Section 9-Exception to Competitive Bidding/Piggybacking on Government Contracts, which provides for an exception to the Town bidding requirements in circumstances where the Town is a member of a joint purchasing group to obtain the best price for a product. This Vehicle Purchasing Cooperative is made available to the Town as a member of CalACT and is intended to streamline the procurement process for California transit agencies and has been utilized as part of past vehicle purchases. The Town has utilized this Cooperative Agreement in the past to purchase Vehicles 930 and 931, as well as the six (6) new Ford E-Transits, within the current transit fleet.

Staff have received a quote (Attachment 2) from Model1 for two (2) Starcraft 22-foot transit vehicles with 14-passenger seated capacity, each equipped with a wheelchair lift and full camera system, for a total cost of \$364,287.02.

The Transportation Division is proceeding with the purchase of gasoline-powered buses due to several practical constraints. Currently, there are no electric bus models available in the small to medium sizes our system requires for fixed route services; existing models are limited to 35- to 40-foot vehicles, which are too large for our service demand and operational context.

While staff did explore diesel alternatives to leverage renewable diesel benefits, multiple vendors confirmed that diesel powered buses are no longer available for sale in California due to current and forthcoming California Air Resource Board (CARB) mandates. Additionally, our electric vehicle infrastructure is still under development; the Municipal EV Infrastructure Master Plan is in progress, and the necessary upgrades to the Public Service Center will not be completed for at least a few years. Finally, purchasing gas powered vehicles also provides resiliency and reliability by maintaining fuel

diversification within the transit fleet which is critical in times of power outages and/or emergency evacuation.

Given these limitations, gasoline buses represent the most feasible option to maintain service continuity and reliability and overall flexibility.

Priority:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Climate and Greenhouse Gas Reduction	<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Infrastructure Investment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emergency and Wildfire Preparedness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Core Service

Fiscal Impact:

The FTA 5339 grant award requires a minimum local match of fifteen (15%) percent. Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) staff have verbally committed to supporting the Town’s claim of State Transit Assistance (STA) funding in the approximate amount of \$125,000 to cover the local match as well as the funding gap between the FTA award and the purchase price. Further, NCTC staff have instructed the Town to hold off on submitting the claim for the STA funds, in case any cost increases arise as a result of market conditions throughout the procurement, providing flexibility for the Town to claim a higher amount if needed.

Public Communication: None beyond this staff report and posted agenda.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Resolution 2025-50

Attachment B: Quote for Vehicles