



900 East Gwinnett Street · Savannah, GA 31401

AGENDA NO
2026-07-019-004

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 29, 2025

PROJECT NAME: FY2022 and FY2024 Low or No Emission Grants Amendment

DEPARTMENT: Planning and Infrastructure Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

Request Board authorization for the amendment to the grant applications and authorization for the Interim CEO to execute the grant award for:

1. FY 2022 Low or No Emission Competitive Bus/Bus Facility-Urbanize from four (4) 35-foot electric buses and four (4) depot chargers to seven (7) 35-foot diesel buses, for a total application amount of \$6,814,807 with federal award of \$5,451,844 and local match of \$1,362,93.
2. FY 2024 Low or Emission Competitive Bus/Bus Facility-Urbanize to allow the purchase six (6) 35-foot electric buses and six (6) depot chargers to eleven (11), 35-foot clean diesel buses for a total application amount of \$9,862,300 with federal award of \$7,899,840 and local match of \$1,972,460.

DATE AND IDENTIFICATION OF PRIOR BRIEFING OR AUTHORIZING ACTION – N/A

ISSUE:

On October 24, 2022, Chatham Area Transit (CAT) was awarded \$6,814,807 through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339(c) FY 2022 Low or No Emission Competitive Program for Bus and Bus Facilities – Urbanized. This included a federal award of \$5,451,844 and a local match of \$1,362,963 to support the purchase of four (4) 35-foot electric buses and four (4) depot chargers. On July 26, 2024, CAT was awarded additional funding through the FTA Section 5339(c) FY 2024 Low or No Emission Competitive Program – Urbanized to purchase six (6) 35-foot electric buses and six (6) depot chargers. Recent federal guidance now allows grantees to amend their Low or No Emission grants to support the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles, including diesel, in addition to electric vehicles and infrastructure. Given ongoing supply chain constraints, limited charging infrastructure, and vehicle delivery delays, purchasing diesel vehicles may be the most effective way to maintain service reliability and meet immediate fleet replacement needs.

DISCUSSION:

CAT is seeking to amend its current grant application to better address immediate operational needs. The original FY 2022 award was designated for the purchase of four (4) electric buses and four (4) depot chargers, while the FY 2024 award supported six (6) electric buses and six (6) depot chargers. CAT now proposes to amend the application to instead procure a total of eighteen (18) clean diesel buses. This adjustment will allow CAT to replace aging vehicles that have exceeded their useful life, ensuring continued reliability of service during a period of constrained vehicle availability and infrastructure readiness.

One of the key challenges CAT currently faces is limited charging infrastructure, which has resulted in electric vehicles being out of service for extended periods while awaiting access to chargers. This not only reduces fleet availability but also compromises schedule adherence. Amending the application will provide the flexibility needed to maintain service levels by adding reliable diesel buses, while simultaneously allowing time to expand charging infrastructure and upgrade scheduling software to account for electric vehicle charging requirements. CAT remains committed to a long-term zero-emission fleet and will update its Zero Emission Transition Plan to reflect a phased and realistic approach aligned with current resources and technology readiness.

PROCUREMENT | COMPLIANCE:

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The FY 2022 Grant GA-2025-011-00 5339 (c) Low or No Emission Competitive grants - Bus/Bus Facility, total application amount is \$6,814,807. The grant is paid by the Federal Transit Administration at 80% with a required 20% Local Match. The Federal Share of this application is \$5,451,844 with a required local match contribution of \$1,362,963. The local match of \$1,362,963 is included in the FY 2026 Proposed Operating Budget and 5-Year Capital Plan for FY 2027.

The FY2024 Grant 1103-2025-5 Low 5339 (c) Low or No Emission Competitive grant - Bus/Bus Facilities total application amount is \$9,862,300. This grant is in the final stage of execution by the Federal Transit Administration. The Federal share of this application is \$7,899,840 with a required local match contribution of \$1,972,460. This grant is also paid 80% Federal funds with a 20% local match. The local match of \$1,972,460 is included in the FY 2026 5 -Year Capital Plan for FY 2027.

Project Scope Number	FTA/ Grant Number	CAT Budget Line Item	Budget Line-Item Description	Federal Funding Request Amount	State Funding Request Amount	Local Funding	Total Funding Amount
				0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$
TOTAL SECTION FUNDS:							\$

NEXT STEPS:

A separate action to amend the Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Transition Plan is also under consideration. If approved by the Board, staff will submit amended grant applications in the Transit Award Management System (TrAMS). Once the application is approved by the FTA, the ICEO will have the authority to execute the grant award.

ATTACHMENTS:

Georgia Power Proposal dated June 20, 2025

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION: (to be read into the minutes)

Move to: Approve the amendment to the grant applications and authorize the Interim CEO to execute the grant award for:

1. FY 2022 Low or Emission Competitive Bus/Bus Facility-Urbanize from four (4) 35-foot electric buses and four (4) depot chargers to seven (7) 35-foot clean diesel buses, for a total application amount of \$6,814,807 with federal award of \$5,451,844 and local match of \$1,362,93.
2. FY 2024 Low or Emission Competitive Bus/Bus Facility-Urbanize to allow the purchase of six (6) 35-foot electric buses and six (6) depot chargers to eleven (11), 35-foot clean diesel buses, for a total application amount of \$9,862,300 with federal award of \$7,899,840 and local match of \$1,972,460.

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

Department Item Preparer – Prepared by: Mary Moskowitz, CPIDO

Department Chief – Reviewed by: Mary Moskowitz, CPIDO

Procurement | Compliance – Procurement and Compliance Reviewed by:

Chief Financial Officer – Financial Impact and Budget Reviewed by:

Executive Director/CEO - Final Reviewer – Stephanie S Cutter, Interim CEO

Board of Directors – Final Approval [insert board action]

This section is completed by the Board Administrator

Passed and approved this [insert date] of [insert Month and Year]

Motioned by:

Seconded by:

AGENCY BOARD DESIGNEE:

Board Approval (signed by Board Chair or Board Administrator)



STAFF SUMMARY/BOARD REPORT CHECKLIST

Chief Staff Liaisons oversee the preparation of written Board material from their unit and department managers. Please ensure that the staff summary report, completed by the manager, has exercised rigorous quality control, is free of grammatical errors, and is detailed enough that the public will understand the business of CAT as a public agency. Please ensure your department completes the checklist, confirming all "YES." The Chief will submit the final copy of the staff summary, along with the completed list, to the Board Administrator for the CEO's review.

NOTE: This will not move forward to the Agenda if the final copy is not received 10 days before the committee meeting.

1. SUBJECT/PROJECT NAME (TEXT BOX)

- YES, the title of the report is included in the subject line, the agenda # has been added
- YES, the agenda number has been added using the fiscal year, month, dept, and item sequence #
- YES, the action request has been marked as approval, review and comment, information only, or other

2. RECOMMENDATION

- YES, the recommendation of action is concise
- YES, when applicable, the recommendations provides the length of the proposed contract, the name of the company, the type of service or purchase, and the cost of the contract or purchase amount

3. BACKGROUND/PRIOR BRIEFING

- YES, the item presented describes the background/history/prior related approvals
- YES, the item provides details of recommendation including, but not limited to, addressing background information on last board approvals

4. ISSUE

- YES, the item presented include the staff analysis, timeline, and deliverable
- YES, the item answers the "why, when, how, what, and where"
- YES, the item explanation is written so a member of the public clearly understands the projects, its history, and the action the Board is being asked to take.
- YES, the item using third person pronouns (e.g. they, it, its)
- YES, the item spell out the first instance of an acronym

5. DISCUSSION

- YES, the item discussion includes additional items for factual purposes that you would expect the public to ask
- YES, the item explains what staff is asking the board to do
- YES, the item explains what it is and the scope
- YES, the item explains why this is a need for CAT
- YES, the item explains how it benefits the agency and public
- YES, the item explains how this item align with CAT Strategic Goals and Priorities
- YES, the item, if applicable, provides discussion language to support the procurement history for the item, based contract value, and contingencies, if any
- YES, the item define words or names that are used by the Agency department that would be difficult for others to understand (e.g., Munis is an enterprise resource planning software; IQM2-Minutetraq is an Agenda Management Software)

6. PROCUREMENT/COMPLIANCE

- YES, the item provide a compliance statement from the Procurement Officer

7. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- YES, the item confirms if the item is budgeted and which line item(s) the funds are coming from
- YES, the item explains the cost, increases, where the allocated funds are coming from, cost comparisons to other current and proposed contracts
- YES, the item operating budget has been confirmed by Finance
- YES, Finance (Grant Administration) has confirmed the item capital budget

8. NEXT STEP(S)

- YES, the item list the next steps taken after Board approval for implementation or execution

9. ATTACHMENT(S)

- YES, the item is supported with all documentation and sources as a single file

10. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

- YES, the item includes the language “Business transaction brought forth by [insert name of committee and date] for Board consideration.

11. PROPOSED MOTION

- YES, the item has the proposed motion for the board to consider

12. STAFF REVIEW

- YES, the item has the name of the staff person who prepared and reviewed the item

13. PAGE FOOTER

- YES, the item has the Day, Month, Date, and Year at the footer

Submit your completed checklist and staff summary for review and next steps.