



May 4, 2022

Ms. Amy Volz
Low-No/Bus Grant Program Manager
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for North Central Regional Transit District's Submission to FTA's FY 2022 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program

Dear Ms. Volz,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NPRTPO) for the North Central Regional Transit District's (NCRTD) submission in response to the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) FY 2022 Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program Notice of Funding Opportunity.

NCRTD is the transit provider responsible for operating regional fixed route, ADA paratransit, and on demand mobility services in Taos, Rio Arriba, Los Alamos, and Santa Fe counties in northern New Mexico. NCRTD is a partner in the Taos Ski Valley (TSV) Green Transportation Corridor (GTC) improvement project, a \$155 million project involving multiple stakeholders, both public and private. TSV GTC includes a variety of infrastructure upgrades and improvements on a section of the NM-150 corridor between the Town of Taos and the Taos Ski Valley ski basin. This application will fund NCRTD's components of the TSV GTC project, which consists of the procurement of four battery electric buses and associated charging infrastructure. In addition, NCRTD is in partnership with Taos Ski Valley, Inc. to assume operation of the private entity's winter employee shuttle services to provide fully zero emission mass transportation services to the Ski Valley, with the eventual goal of operating year-round service to provide transportation options to residents and visitors who wish to take advantage of the myriad recreational opportunities along the NM-150 corridor. The battery electric bus deployment represents just one part of a larger vision to provide environmentally friendly services to the ski basin and the state highway leading to it.

NCRTD's project is an exciting opportunity for our community, and we look forward to the expansion of zero-emission buses and associated charging infrastructure to their fleet, as well as needed improvements to NCRTD's future Taos operations and maintenance facility yard to accommodate the expanded fleet of vehicles.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this project. I fully support NCRTD in their efforts and look forward to the implementation of this project and the benefits it will bring to our community.

Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NPRTPO) is a public body that includes tribal and local public agencies in the four counties covered by NCRTD (Taos, Rio Arriba, Los Alamos, and Santa Fe). NPRTPO members recognize the services that NCRTD provides to this region and beyond and supports NCRTD's efforts to reduce transportation emissions to ensure that the people in New Mexico have energy-efficient transportation options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Candyce O'Donnell
Northern Pueblos RTPO Chair
Taos County Commissioner-District V

CC: Anthony Mortillaro, NCRTD Executive Director
Bryce Gibson, NCRTD Planning and Projects Manager
Paul Sittig, Northern Pueblos RTPO Transportation Planner