# RFTA Planning Department Monthly Update

**July 11, 2019**

## RFTA Mission Statement

RFTA pursues excellence and innovation in providing preferred transportation choices that connect and support vibrant communities.

## RFTA Planning Department Vision Statement

We will work creatively, cooperatively and comprehensively with our partners in the public, private and nonprofit sectors and other groups to create healthy and vibrant communities.

## Current Planning Projects

### Destination 2040 Regional Project List Implementation

The Planning Department is engaged in all three D2040 Staff Working Groups: Capital Improvements, Service Enhancements and Bus Procurement. Recent discussion is centered on recent grant awards from the CCCP process (see below), and how the capital awards fit into the current bus and facility work plans.

**RMI Mobility Innovation Lab**

In May, RFTA was invited to apply to the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) Mobility Innovation Lab (MIL), to be held from Aug. 5-8th at the Basalt offices. "RMI's MIL is an invitation-only, four-day working meeting bringing together teams to tackle obstacles to large-scale mobility transformation. By bringing together the stakeholders required to advance specific projects, address gaps, and derive solutions, breakthroughs can be achieved that deliver a replicable real-world foundation for scaling up." More information: https://rmi.org/mil-accelerator/

The RFTA-Aspen Battery Electric Bus (BEB) Pilot Project was chosen as an accelerator project. Jason White, Team Champion, is assembling a powerhouse team that includes RFTA, Aspen, Holy Cross, CLEER, New Flyer Buses and ABB Charging. CDOT will also be present to provide a statewide perspective on how to implement their evolving electrification goals. Over the next month, a team facilitator will contact each team member to discuss expectations, concerns and roles. A final workshop agenda will be crafted by the team. Some stakeholder questions arising so far include:

- What are our goals for electric buses moving forward
- How do we monitor and evaluate the existing EV buses to determine their performance
- When and how to procure more electric buses
- What does future technology need to look like in order to proceed on procuring more electric buses

- What are the anticipated impacts on RFTA logistics and operations from the pilot as well as future procurement?

**RMI/HCE Energy Resilience Initiative**

Holy Cross Energy (HCE) contracted with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) on a project to strengthen the resilience of the electricity system in the Upper Roaring Fork Valley, especially in light of threats created by the Lake Christine Fire in 2018. RFTA was asked to participate as a larger consumer of electricity in the Upper Valley, as well as a provider of public transportation during unfortunate public emergencies. Two large group workshops, and several smaller working group meetings were held over the last 5 months. More specifically, RFTA attended the Microgrids Working Group. A microgrid is defined as a group of interconnected loads and distributed energy resources within clearly defined electrical boundaries that acts as a single controllable entity with respect to the grid (source: LBNL). These are basically little energy islands. The group discussed ideal criteria for a feasible microgrid project, as well as several potential locations i.e. AABC that would include RFTA, the Airport, the Fire Station, CMC etc. All of the subgroups reported at the final group workshop on June 25th, and RMI will be releasing a report later this summer that will provide a wealth of information and possible next steps for the public and regional decision makers to discuss possible outcomes. More information: https://rmi.org/energy-resilience-in-the-roaring-fork-valley/.

**Snowmass Village West Village Mall Transit Station Redevelopment**

The Town of Snowmass Village has hired a design firm, SEH, to create conceptual designs for redeveloping the West Village Mall Transit Station. On March 20, SEH conducted an internal review of the rough sketches, and presented them to the TOSV Council on April 1. SEH met with staff on Monday, May 6. The last changes to the conceptual plans will be developed for presentations to the Town Council and the Planning Commission by Late May. It is anticipated that the preferred alternative will be selected by mid-June.

**Grant Funding Management and Development**

The Planning Department is responsible for submitting Federal/State/Local capital and operating grant applications, managing grant contract responsibilities and researching creative funding opportunities for the financial sustainability of RFTA. Most recently, CDOT provided preliminary grant awards for Federal and State funding from the Consolidated Call for Capital Projects (CCCP) grant process. RFTA is poised to receive an estimated $7 million in capital awards for the GMF, AMF, diesel replacements and on-route electric chargers. Please see the grant tables on Page 5.

**Q2 2019 Report, Active Grants, revised 7/3/2019**

| Project | Grant Source | Execution Date | Expiration Date | Grant Amount | Match Amount | Total Project Cost | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Buses: Battery Electric Buses (1) | FY17 FTA 5339(c) LoNo | 9/7/2018 | 12/31/2020 | $715,528 | $178,882 | $894,410 | New Flyer buses/charger contract was executed on Oct. 24th, the 4 chargers should arrive in May, and the 8 buses should start to arrive in mid-August. We intend to test in September and begin revenue operation around Thanksgiving. |
| Buses: Battery Electric Buses (2) | FY19 FASTER (SB 228) | 9/7/2018 | 12/31/2020 | $1,404,000 | $351,000 | $1,755,000 | New Flyer buses/charger contract was executed on Oct. 24th, the 4 chargers should arrive in May, and the 8 buses should start to arrive in mid-August. We intend to test in September and begin revenue operation around Thanksgiving. |
| Buses: Battery Electric Buses (3) | FY18 and FY19 FASTER | 9/7/2018 | 12/31/2020 | $2,154,400 | $538,600 | $2,693,000 | New Flyer buses/charger contract was executed on Oct. 24th, the 4 chargers should arrive in May, and the 8 buses should start to arrive in mid-August. We intend to test in September and begin revenue operation around Thanksgiving. |
| Buses: (4) Diesel MCI Coaches | FY18 5339(b) Bus/Facility | 2/21/2019 | 12/31/2021 | $2,231,500 | $557,872 | $2,789,372 | These 4 coaches, in addition to 2 coaches from FY19 CCCP, will be added to an active joint procurement with the State of WA. Bids are due July 2nd and a contract will be awarded in August. Buses would be ordered in September 2019, with project delivery between September 2020 and March 2021. |
| Buses: (4) Hybrid Replacements | FY19 5339(b) Bus/Facility | Pending | Pending | $1,788,312 | $447,080 | $2,235,392 | CDOT/FHU submitted our application to FTA on 6/21/19, and awards are projected for September 2019 |
| Buses: 9 Diesels (7 low floors, 2 coaches) | FY19 CCCP (FTA 5339) | Pending | 12/31/2021 | $3,991,440 | $997,860 | $4,989,300 | We expect an executed contract in August/September. The 10 Gillig low-floor diesels should arrive in Nov/Dec, with acceptance and payment in Jan. 2020. The 2 diesel coaches will be added to an active joint procurement with the State of WA. Bids are due July 2nd and a contract will be awarded in August. Buses would be ordered in September 2019, with delivery between Sep. 2020 and March 2021. |
| Equipment: BEB 450 kW (1) On-Route Charger | FY19 CCCP (FTA/CDOT) | Pending | Pending | $480,000 | $120,000 | $600,000 | We received CCCP award letters in March, and we expect an executed contract in August/September. |
| Facility: AMF Phase 9: Replace 6 Fuel Tanks | FY19 CCCP (FTA/CDOT) | Pending | Pending | $1,000,000 | $250,000 | $1,250,000 | We received CCCP award letters in March, and we expect an executed contract in August/September. |
| Facility: GMF/Regional Transit Center Renovation/Expansion | FY19 CCCP (FTA/CDOT) | Pending | Pending | $1,581,460 | $395,365 | $1,976,825 | We received CCCP award letters in March, and we expect an executed contract in August/September. |
| Facility: GMF/Regional Transit Center Renovation/Expansion | FY19 USDOT BUILD | Pending | Pending | $7,983,000 | $13,000,000 | $20,983,000 | Staff has been working with the consultant, Sustainable Strategies DC, for grant submittal. The grant is due July 15th and we project award announcements in Q3 2019. |
| Operating Regional Commuter | FTA FY19 5311 | 12/7/2018 | 12/31/2019 | $1,115,810 | $1,115,810 | $2,231,620 | The Finance Dept. is submitting reimbursement requests via COTRAMS |
| Operating Hogback | CDOT FY19 FASTER | 12/28/2018 | 12/31/2019 | $200,000 | $200,000 | $400,000 | The Finance Dept. is submitting reimbursement requests via COTRAMS |
| | | | | **$14,874,138** | **$4,705,389** | **$19,579,527** | |

**Battery Electric Bus Pilot Project**
**FY 19 CCCP projects**
**Operating Grants**