RFTA Planning Department Monthly Update

March 9, 2023

RFTA Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Transition Plan

RFTA will begin its Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Transition Plan this month. RFTA will use this planning document to determine the capital investments and operational changes required for successful implementation of zero emission buses, equipment, and facilities, consistent with the goals set forth in RFTA's Climate Action Plan (to be completed in April or May 2023) and the State of Colorado's goal to transition the state transit fleet to 100% ZEB by 2050.

RFTA Staff reviewed proposals in January. We hope to have a contract in place by mid-February, and a final ZEB Plan in October/November 2023.

Grants Update

Facilities

The Glenwood Springs Maintenance Facility (GMF)/Regional Transit Center (RTC) remains RFTA's highest priority capital project. Phase 6B and Phase 8 represent the remaining core phases to be funded. Phase 6B consists mostly of the 3-story Operations and Administration center on top of Phase 6A, the West Glenwood Springs Transit Hub. Phase 8 is approximately 10,000ft2 of enclosed space dedicated to storage and light maintenance of fleet and facility-related equipment. Cost estimate to construct these remaining core phases of the GMF, Phase 6B and Phase 8, is about $23 million.

In fall of 2022, RFTA submitted a grant proposal for FY2023 CDOT "Super Call" capital funds to complete these two components. Super Call awards will be announced in April 2023. RFTA is also requesting FTA

Section 5339b (Bus and Bus Facility) funds and 5339c (Low and No Emissions) funds. IF RFTA receives the required funding, Phase 6B and Phase 8 can be added to the design-build construction package, and the core GMF Phases 1-8 can be complete and implemented by end of 2025, culminating in about 15 years of planning, design and construction.

Phase 6A: West Glenwood Hub (funded by a $4.8 million RAISE grant

Phase 6B: The Administration and Operations Center (3 stories above Phase 6A)

Fleet
RFTA is also requesting FTA 5339c (Low and No Emissions) funds to replace ten buses that have exceeded their 12-year/500,00-mile service life with ten Model year 2025 battery electric buses.

Trails
RFTA will request Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds to renovate the Satank Bridge near Carbondale and the Rosebud Trailhead in Glenwood Springs. RFTA will meet with CDOT Region 3 staff, who administer the TAP grant program, on Monday, March 6, 2023 to discuss the proposals.