

# Bus and Bus Facilities Program (5339(b))

## Applicant and Proposal Profile

Is this a resubmission due to an invalid/error message from FTA? ☐ Yes ☒ No

### Section I. Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name: Incorporated County of Los Alamos

FTA Recipient number ID Number: N/A (County Government)

Applicant Eligibility: ☒ Direct or designated recipient  
☐ State  
☐ Tribe (Federally recognized Native American Tribe)

Population Served: ☐ Urbanized Area  
☒ Rural

Description of services provided and areas served.

Los Alamos County (dba, Atomic City Transit) provides fixed route service with 16 buses on 13 routes in peak service; evening demand-response service for the general public; and ADA complementary paratransit service with an origin and destination anywhere within the County. Atomic City Transit services provided over 538,000 passenger trips in FY 2015 (ending June 30, 2015).

### Section II. Project Information/Evaluation Criteria (This section repeats per project)

#### About the Project

Project Title: Replacement 30-Ft Bus  
(Descriptive title of this project)

Project Executive Summary:

Proposed project is for the procurement of one (1) 30-ft, heavy duty, low floor transit bus, to replace an older bus that has exceeded its useful life in transit service. This project is not scalable, as one bus must be purchased in its entirety. This is a one-time need that cannot reasonably be funded from annual FTA program formula allocations administered by the New Mexico DOT. Without this funding opportunity, the County would have to defer replacement of the older bus by one year or more.

- Project Type: ☒ Vehicle purchase for the purpose of replacement or rehabilitation of buses or vans  
☐ Vehicle purchase for the purposes of expansion of service  
☐ Equipment (Including but not limited to ITS, fare equipment, and communications devices)  
☐ Maintenance Facilities for the purposes of rehabilitation, replacement or expansion  
☐ Passenger Facilities for the purposes of rehabilitation, replacement, or expansion  
☐ Other

If Other, specify:

## Policy Priorities

If applicable, describe how this application addresses one or more policy priorities addressed in the announcement (State of Good Repair, Safety, Connectivity with other Networks, and Ladders of Opportunity)?

The proposed project is in response to FTA-2016-002-TPM, the FY16 competitive funding opportunity for Section 5339(b) grants for Buses and Bus Facilities (Bus Program), to improve the condition of the Los Alamos County public transportation fleet.

**\*\*\*Address each of the evaluation criteria as described in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.\*\*\***

## Demonstration of Need

The proposed project will replace a 2009 medium duty, high floor bus that is decorated to look like a trolley. The older bus is rated by FTA as a 7 year/200K mile vehicle, and has exceeded its useful life in years in 2016. While having a novel appearance, the trolley type bus is ill-suited for the heavy passenger loads that are placed upon it in fixed route service; makes the loading/unloading of wheelchairs (at the rear of the bus) awkward and inefficient; and has become cost-prohibitive in the repair and replacement of parts. In the seven years this vehicle has been in service, it has been in the shop at least 147 times for a sum total exceeding \$82,000 in labor and parts cost - nearly one-half the original price of the vehicle - and parts for the vehicle have become increasingly hard to locate. The replacement bus is a 12 year/500K mile vehicle, and will serve Los Alamos County for years to come. As it is a replacement vehicle, the County's current spare ratio of 23.8 percent for the fixed route fleet will also be maintained.

**For vehicle replacement/facility rehabilitation projects only:**

Vehicle Description	QTY	Vehicle Year	Vehicle Mileage
30-ft, medium duty, trolley type, 7 year/200,000 mile bus	1	2009	146,000

Facility Description	Years Facility Used by Applicant	Facility Construction Date	Last Renovation Date
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## Demonstration of Benefits

The proposed project will enable Atomic City Transit to continue to provide a high level of service on one of its most heavily-utilized fixed routes - with nearly 2 passengers per service mile and over 22 passengers per service hour. Replacing an unreliable vehicle that is more designed for novelty of appearance with one that is "purpose built" for the heavy passenger loads that are placed upon it on a daily basis, will provide residents and visitors to Los Alamos with an enhanced transportation experience, and more access to economic opportunities in the community. The low-floor design of the proposed vehicle will also significantly improve the transit experience of individuals with disabilities, who will be able to enter/exit the bus, with dignity, through the front door - like all other passengers.

## Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization

The proposed project is consistent with the Comprehensive Transit Study and Five-Year Plan adopted by the Los Alamos County Council in March 2015, which called for smaller, heavy-duty buses that have a longer expected life, better endurance and lower maintenance costs in the Los Alamos environment; as well as the advantages of flexibility in usage and consistency within the transit fleet. The study specifically recommended replacing the trolley type bus with one that is the same as others in the fleet (e.g., the New Flyer MiDi).

## Local Financial Commitment

The source of the local cost share will be the Regional Transit Gross Receipts Tax that is collected by Los Alamos County and re-distributed by the North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD), per the service plan submitted by the County and approved by the NCRTD board of directors. In FY 2017 (July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017), the amount of transit gross receipts tax estimated to be returned to the County is \$1,419,000 (see Attachment 1). The service plan for FY 2017 is currently in development for consideration by the NCRTD board in July 2016.

## Project Implementation Strategy

The proposed project can be implemented within months of the award of Federal funds. The County will use the State of New Mexico, General Services Department, Statewide Price Agreement for transit vehicles (#60-000-15-00015), which has a term of April 4, 2016 to April 3, 2017, to procure the vehicle.

Can this project be implemented within 12 months? ☒ Yes ☐ No

## Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity

Los Alamos County has been an eligible recipient of 49 U.S.C. Sections 5309, 5310 and 5311 funds since 2007, and has the technical, legal and financial capacity to implement the proposed project. There are no outstanding issues that would affect the outcome of the proposed project.



## Project Budget

Description	QTY	Federal Amount	Local Match	Total Cost
Replacement 30-Ft Bus	1	296,000	74,000	370,000
Total:		296,000	74,000	370,000

## Project Scalability

Is Project scope scalable? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, specify minimum Federal Funds necessary:

Provide explanation of scalability with specific references to the budget line items above.

The proposed project is for the procurement for one (1) 30-ft bus, which must be purchased in its entirety.

## Matching Funds Information

Matching Funds Amount:

Source of Matching Funds.

Regional Transit Gross Receipts Tax, collected by Los Alamos County and re-distributed by the North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD), per the service plan submitted by the County and approved by the NCRTD board of directors.

Supporting Documentation of Local Match.

FY17 Regional Transit Gross Receipts Tax proposed to be returned to the County by NCRTD (see Attachment 1)  
FY17 Equipment Replacement Schedule, approved by County Council on May 2, 2016 (see Attachment 2)

## Project Timeline

Timeline Item Description

Timeline Item Date

Issue Purchase Order

10/03/2016

**Congressional Districts** (Place of Performance)

Congressional District

Congressional Representative

NM-003

Luján, Ben Ray