



**El Dorado County Transportation Commission
FY 2023/2024 SB 125 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital
Program (TIRCP) and Zero Emission Transit Capital Program
(ZETCP) Allocation Package**

Summary Narrative

December 31, 2023

Prepared by: El Dorado County Transportation Commission
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December 31, 2023

Chad Edison, Chief Deputy Secretary, Rail and Transit
California State Transportation Agency
400 Capital Mall, Suite 2340
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: El Dorado County Transportation Commission Fiscal Year 2023-24 SB 125 TIRCP and ZETCP Allocation Package

Dear Chief Deputy Secretary Edison:

I am pleased to submit the El Dorado County Transportation Commission's (EDCTC) Fiscal Year 2023-24 SB 125 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP) Allocation Package. As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for the west slope of El Dorado County (The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency is the RTPA for the Tahoe Basin), EDCTC is responsible to submit an initial Allocation Package to the California State Transportation Agency by December 31, 2023. Following consultation with the El Dorado County Transit Authority (El Dorado Transit), EDCTC's Allocation Package requests allocation of \$9,085,857 of Year 1 (FY 2023-24) TIRCP funding and \$763,770 of Year 1 (FY2023-24) ZETCP funding for one El Dorado Transit project comprised of the following two individual elements:

- Deployment of zero-emission buses and the technologies to support them
- Microtransit demonstration project with the goal of future expansion of that service

The EDCTC FY 2023-24 SB 125 TIRCP and ZETCP Allocation Package includes EDCTC Board Resolution 23/24.09 supporting the recommended project, and the following items as well as others not listed:

- A description and justification of EDCTC's strategy to use SB 125 funding for a capital project
- Breakdown and justification of how the funds will be distributed consistent with SB 125
- Detailed project description
- TIRCP and ZETCP project fact sheets including project map, project schedule with key milestones
- Declaration of operational funding need
- Short-term financial plan for immediate service retention
- Greenhouse gas reducing features of the project
- Excel table showing proposed uses of TIRCP and ZETCP funds by fiscal year of availability
- El Dorado Transit's regionally representative operator data

EDCTC's Allocation Package also includes a request for the 1% Maximum Admin Share of \$208,011 of Year 1 ZETCP PTA funds available to EDCTC for RTPA administration of SB 125 funds across the fiscal years of the program.

Please feel welcome to call me at 530.642.5260 should you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Woodrow Deloria
Executive Director

Section 1 Project Description

The El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) will distribute \$9,085,857 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/24 TIRCP funds and \$763,770 in FY 2023/24 ZETCP funds to the El Dorado County Transit Authority (El Dorado Transit) who will utilize the funds to deliver the following capital project: **Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Fleet Conversion Project** that has two elements, conversion of the existing fleet to a ZEB fleet and a microtransit demonstration project. The proposed capital project is consistent with the September 29, 2023, SB 125 TIRCP and ZETCP Final Guidelines and is based on recommendations contained in the 2019 Western El Dorado County Short- and Long-Range Transit Plan, the 2021 El Dorado Transit Zero Emission Bus Fleet Conversion Plan, and the 2023 El Dorado Transit Short-Range Transit Plan Update. Consistent with the final guidelines, EDCTC requests allocation of the 1% Maximum Admin Share of \$208,011 ZETCP PTA funds for RTPA administration of the SB 125 funds across both TIRCP and ZETCP.

El Dorado Transit provides a variety of fixed-route and demand response services throughout Western El Dorado County as well as commuter services to downtown Sacramento and Folsom in Sacramento County. Together with EDCTC, the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for the west slope of El Dorado County, El Dorado Transit and EDCTC provide and promote sustainable mobility throughout the county and surrounding areas.

With a service area population of approximately 150,000 and a fleet of fifty standard and motor coach buses for fixed-route services, El Dorado Transit is classified as a small transit agency under the Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) regulation. This regulation by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) mandates that all transit agencies have a goal of gradually transitioning to a zero-emission bus (ZEB) fleet by 2040. As required by CARB, El Dorado Transit submitted its Roll Out Plan to CARB by July 1, 2023, and will utilize the FY 2023/24 TIRCP and FY 2023/24 ZETCP funds to begin ZEB purchases by 2026 as required by CARB. While the ICT regulation is directed primarily at larger, heavy-duty transit buses, El Dorado Transit and EDCTC have chosen to be a leader in the zero-emission (ZE) space and to transition El Dorado Transit's entire fleet, including demand response cutaways, vans, and non-revenue light-duty vehicles.

El Dorado Transit will utilize a phased approach to transitioning its existing fleet to a ZEB fleet and for the construction of infrastructure upgrades at its maintenance facility needed to support ZEB operations, including new electrical equipment and vehicle chargers. However, while the 2021 El Dorado Transit Zero Emission Bus Fleet Conversion Plan anticipated that El Dorado Transit's existing fleet would be replaced with a battery electric bus (BEB) fleet, since the completion of that plan in 2021, advances in hydrogen fuel cell technology as well as the potential for a co-located hydrogen fueling station within the SACOG region necessitates the exploration of the feasibility of utilizing hydrogen fuel cell technology to replace EDCTA's existing fleet. Also, given that portions of El Dorado Transit's service area are highly impacted by elevation and topography and the resultant impacts terrain and elevation have on the energy efficiency of ZEBs, the decision of which technology to move forward with will be critical given the difference in range between BEBs and hydrogen fuel cell buses. That decision will also impact the type of infrastructure upgrades needed at El Dorado Transit's maintenance facility to support a new BEB or hydrogen fuel cell ZEB fleet.

The second element of El Dorado Transit's capital project is a demonstration project to provide new on demand micro transit in a yet to be determined part of El Dorado Transit's service area. The 2023 El Dorado Transit Short-Range Transit Plan Update suggested utilizing microtransit as an extension of Dial-a-Ride or to provide microtransit service in El Dorado Hills, so those as well as other service area options will be considered.

Section 2 Declaration of Operational Funding Need

The El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) prepared the FY 2023/24 SB 125 TIRCP and ZETCP Allocation Package in consultation with the El Dorado County Transit Authority (El Dorado Transit), the sole transit operator within EDCTC's jurisdiction on the west slope of El Dorado County. EDCTC declares that El Dorado Transit confirmed they will not have an operational funding need for SB 125 funds or additional discretionary or nonformula state funding between the 2023-24 fiscal year and the 2026-27 fiscal year, inclusive.

Section 2 Short-term Financial Plan for Immediate Service Retention

- a) Explanation of what funding and service actions are being taken within the region that utilize sources other than SB 125 funding.

El Dorado Transit is using \$1.5 million of Low Carbon Transit Operations (LCTOP) funding to augment the \$9,849,627 of SB 125 funding for the ZEB Fleet Conversion Project capital project. Additionally, El Dorado Transit intends to utilize future LCTOP allocations as well as potential grants from the Federal Infrastructure and Investments Job Act (IIJA) Low- and No-Emission Transportation Grant Program and other state and federal zero-emission grant programs as sources other than SB 125 funding to deliver the ZEB Fleet Conversion Project.

- b) Description and justification of EDCTC's strategy to use SB 125 funding to construct El Dorado Transit's capital project.

El Dorado County Transit Authority (El Dorado Transit) is the sole transit operator within EDCTC's jurisdiction on the west slope of El Dorado County, and therefore is the only transit operator in EDCTC's jurisdiction that is an eligible recipient of a distribution from EDCTC of FY 2023-24 SB 125 TIRCP and ZETCP capital funding. Additionally, the ZEB Fleet Conversion capital project proposed by El Dorado Transit is an eligible capital project per the September 29, 2023, SB 125 TIRCP & ZETCP Final Guidelines and is a high priority project that will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the region, helping the state and region achieve GHG reduction goals and fight climate change.

- c) Detailed breakdown and justification for how the funding is proposed to be distributed between transit operators and among projects.

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Section 3 Opportunities for Service Restructuring, Eliminating Service Redundancies, and Improving Coordination Among Transit Operators

EDCTC participated as a planning partner in the 2023 El Dorado Transit Short Range Transit Plan Update. Following a robust public outreach effort, the update recommended service restructuring and stated El Dorado Transit 's existing funding was sufficient to implement the recommended service restructuring that would strengthen the transit system's usability and attractiveness. EDCTC participates in the bi-monthly the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Transit Coordinating Committee (TCC) meetings that serve as a regional forum to improve overall coordination amongst transit operators and for the discussion of transit plans and issues, and to coordinate transit studies and systems on a regional basis, as well as to disseminate federal, state, and local transit information. As a member of the TCC, EDCTC learns about opportunities for service restructuring and efforts to eliminate service redundancies other transit operators in the six-county SACOG region are pursuing and then collaborates with El Dorado Transit on the appropriateness of adopting similar measures in El Dorado Transit 's service area. Membership on the TCC also provides EDCTC with an opportunity to actively coordinate with transit operators across the SACOG region on issues such as consolidation of agencies, something considered in SACOG's 2021 Next Generation Transit Strategy that EDCTC participated in as a member of the project's Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Appendices

- 1. TIRCP Fact Sheet**
- 2. ZETCP Fact Sheet**
- 3. Resolution 23/24.09 Documentation of 2023-24 SB 125 Allocation Package Approval**

TIRCP PROJECT FACT SHEET – NOT TO EXCEED 2 PAGES

PROJECT TITLE

ZEB Fleet Conversion

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY OR AGENCIES

El Dorado County Transit Authority

PHASE	START DATE	END DATE
Planning-ZEB and Microtransit	January 1, 2024	June 30, 2028
Bus Yard / Park and Ride Infrastructure	January 1, 2024	June 30, 2028
Fueling / Charging Facility	January 1, 2024	June 30, 2028
Fleet Replacement	January 1, 2024	June 30, 2028

[add additional rows as needed]

ANTICIPATED DATE OF CONSTRUCTION, IF APPLICABLE

January 1, 2025.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT SCOPE

To comply with California Air Resources Board Zero Emission Bus requirements, this project will include the planning and implementation of needed infrastructure on- and off-site, replacement of the current fleet including micro-transit vehicles and ancillary needs in order to transition.

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (USD\$)

\$65,000,000 for full implementation.

TOTAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT COSTS (USD\$), IF APPLICABLE

N/A

AMOUNT OF FUNDING USED FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING RTPA PROJECT MANAGEMENT (USD\$)

FUNDING SOURCE	FUNDING TYPE	FUNDING AMOUNT (USD\$)
TIRCP (Contracted)	State of California	\$160,000
TDA (Internal)	State of California	\$125,000
ZETCP PTA	State of California	\$208,011

[add additional rows as needed]

ADDITIONAL PROJECT DETAILS (REQ) – NOT TO EXCEED 2 PAGES

EXPLANATION OF GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCING FEATURES OF THE PROJECT

The ZEB Fleet Conversion Project will replace El Dorado Transit's existing diesel bus fleet and gasoline powered vans with zero-emission buses powered by electric batteries or hydrogen fuel cells, meaning there will no longer be internal combustion engines in El Dorado Transit's fleet that spew dirty exhaust into local communities, including disadvantaged and low-income communities. According to the Federal Department of Transportation (DOT), the transportation sector represents 27% of total GHG emissions nationwide, and diesel buses are one of the major emitters of GHG's. DOT's statistics indicate that replacing one diesel bus with a zero-emission bus (ZEB) eliminates 1,690 tons of CO₂ over the ZEB's 12-year life span, which is the equivalent of taking twenty-seven cars off the road. A ZEB will also eliminate nitrogen oxides and diesel particulate matter, improving air quality in communities served by the project and in the region. Based on DOT's projections, the project replacing El Dorado Transit's entire 50-vehicle fleet will result in a significant reduction in GHG emissions and improved air quality in El Dorado Transit's service area and the region.

EXPLANATION OF EXPECTED RIDERSHIP BENEFITS, INCLUDING INTEGRATION WITH REGIONAL MODES & PROVIDERS

Zero-emission vehicles benefit riders by providing quieter and cleaner vehicles, which will encourage the use of public transportation and increase safety by removing vehicles from the roadway. The project's zero-emission bus fleet will also benefit public health by reducing GHG emissions and improving regional air quality. El Dorado Transit's service is integrated with regional modes and providers, especially through El Dorado Transit's Sacramento commuter service and daily Lake Tahoe service, but the increased reliability and quieter, cleaner ride offered by the project's zero-emission bus fleet will only enhance that existing integration.

IF APPLICABLE, EXPLANATION OF THE BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED & LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES AND/OR HOUSEHOLDS (PER SB 535 AND AB 1550)

During the planning for the Western El Dorado County 2019 Short- and Long-Range Transit Plan consultants conducted surveys and held four public meetings and two stakeholder meetings to gather insight and feedback. El Dorado Transit's Local Fixed routes serve Low-Income Communities in the Placerville, Pollock Pines and Diamond Springs areas, and El Dorado Transit's Commuter routes serve Low-Income Communities in Placerville and Diamond Springs. This project will provide zero-emission buses to connect households in the area as well as the surrounding communities to jobs, groceries, and medical appointments. This project will reduce air pollutant or toxic air contaminant emissions by operating zero emission buses rather than diesel buses to provide transportation services on the western slope of El Dorado County.

ZETCP PROJECT FACT SHEET – NOT TO EXCEED 2 PAGES

PROJECT TITLE

ZEB Fleet Conversion

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY OR AGENCIES

El Dorado County Transit Authority

PHASE	START DATE	END DATE
Planning-ZEB	January 1, 2024	June 30, 2028
Bus Yard / Park and Ride Infrastructure	January 1, 2024	June 30, 2028
Fueling / Charging Facility	January 1, 2024	June 30, 2028
Fleet Replacement	January 1, 2024	June 30, 2028

[add additional rows as needed]

ANTICIPATED DATE OF CONSTRUCTION, IF APPLICABLE

January 1, 2025.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT SCOPE

To comply with California Air Resources Board Zero Emission Bus requirements, the project will include the planning and implementation of needed ZEB infrastructure on- and off-site and the replacement of the current fleet, including micro-transit vehicles, and ancillary needs to transition the full fleet to zero-emission vehicles.

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (USD\$)

\$65,000,000 for full implementation.

TOTAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT COSTS (USD\$), IF APPLICABLE

N/A

AMOUNT OF FUNDING USED FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING RTPA PROJECT MANAGEMENT (USD\$)

FUNDING SOURCE	FUNDING TYPE	FUNDING AMOUNT (USD\$)
ZETCP PTA	State of California PTA	\$208,011
ZETCP (Contracted)	State of California	\$160,000
TDA (Internal)	State of California	\$125,000

ADDITIONAL PROJECT DETAILS (REQ) – NOT TO EXCEED 2 PAGES

EXPLANATION OF GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCING FEATURES OF THE PROJECT

The ZEB Fleet Conversion Project will replace El Dorado Transit's existing diesel bus fleet and gasoline powered vans with zero-emission buses powered by electric batteries or hydrogen fuel cells, meaning there will no longer be internal combustion engines in El Dorado Transit's fleet that spew dirty exhaust. According to the Federal Department of Transportation (DOT), diesel buses are one of the major emitters of GHG's. DOT's statistics indicate that replacing one diesel bus with a zero-emission bus (ZEB) eliminates 1,690 tons of CO₂ over the ZEB's 12-year life span, which is the equivalent of taking twenty-seven cars off the road. Based on DOT's projections, by replacing El Dorado Transit's entire 50-vehicle fleet the project will significantly reduce in GHG emissions and improve local community and regional air quality.

EXPLANATION OF THE BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED & LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES AND/OR HOUSEHOLDS (PER SB 535 AND AB 1550). This should support your completed CARB benefit criteria table (Attachment 3) and should utilize the criteria in Attachment 1

During the planning for the Western El Dorado County 2019 Short- and Long-Range Transit Plan consultants conducted surveys and held four public meetings and two stakeholder meetings to gather insight and feedback. El Dorado Transit's Local Fixed routes serve Low-Income Communities in the Placerville, Pollock Pines and Diamond Springs areas, and our Commuter routes serve Low-Income Communities in Placerville and Diamond Springs. The project will provide zero emission buses to connect households in the area as well as the surrounding communities to jobs, groceries, and medical appointments. This project will also benefit those communities by reducing GHG emissions and improving air quality.

If applicable, PLAN TO CONSULT WITH DISADVANTAGED OR LOW-INCOME STAKEHOLDERS AS PART OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	SUB TASKS	BUDGET
N/A		

EXPLANATION OF EXPECTED RIDERSHIP BENEFITS, INCLUDING INTEGRATION WITH REGIONAL MODES & PROVIDERS

The project's transition to a ZEB fleet will benefit ridership by providing vehicles that are quieter and cleaner and make transit a more attractive mode, which also benefits riders by increasing overall safety by removing vehicles from the roadway. The project's zero-emission bus fleet will also benefit ridership by reducing GHG emissions and improving air quality and public health. El Dorado Transit's service is currently integrated with regional modes and providers, especially through their Sacramento commuter service and daily Lake Tahoe service, but the increased reliability and quieter, cleaner ride offered by the project's zero-emission bus fleet will only enhance that existing integration.



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Councilmembers Representing City of Placerville: John Clerici, Jackie Neau, Michael Saragosa

Supervisors Representing El Dorado County: John Hidahl, Lori Parlin, Wendy Thomas, George Turnbo

RESOLUTION 23/24.09

RESOLUTION OF THE EL DORADO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ALLOCATING FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 TRANSIT AND INTERCITY RAIL CAPITAL PROGRAM AND ZERO EMISSION TRANSIT CAPITAL PROGRAM FUNDING TO THE EL DORADO COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code, Title 7.95, Section 67950, the El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) was created as a local planning agency to provide regional transportation planning for the area of El Dorado County, exclusive of the Lake Tahoe Basin; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 29532.1(g) identifies EDCTC as the designated regional transportation planning agency for El Dorado County, exclusive of the Lake Tahoe Basin; and is responsible for the planning, allocating and/or programming of funds; and

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2023, the California State Transportation Agency approved the Budget Act of 2023 SB 125 Formula-Based Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP) Final Guidelines and allocation amounts for the 2023/24 fiscal year (FY); and

WHEREAS, EDCTC is responsible for allocating TIRCP and ZETCP funds to each project sponsor under the authority of EDCTC; and

WHEREAS, EDCTC has determined that a total of \$9,085,857 in TIRCP FY 2023/24 funds and \$971,781 in ZETCP FY 2023/24 funds are available for transit purposes, subject to consistency with the California State Transportation Agency's SB 125 TIRCP and ZETCP Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the El Dorado County Transit Authority (EDCTA) is an eligible project sponsor and may receive state funding from the TIRCP and ZETCP for transit projects; and

WHEREAS, EDCTA has determined two appropriate TIRCP and ZETCP projects consistent with the 2019 Western El Dorado County Short- and Long-Range Transit Plan and 2021 Zero Emission Bus Fleet Conversion Plan and TIRCP and ZETCP Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the two appropriate TIRCP and ZETCP projects are: 1) The purchase of zero-emission buses, including installation of the equipment and infrastructure necessary to operate and support zero-emission buses, and 2) A demonstration project; and

WHEREAS, EDCTA, as the sole transit operator in the EDCTC region, is designated the project sponsor; and

WHEREAS, the EDCTC wishes to delegate authorization to execute documents and any amendments thereto to the EDCTA Executive Director.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the El Dorado County Transportation Commission that the fund recipient, EDCTC, and the fund sub-recipient, EDCTA, agree to comply with all conditions and requirements set forth in the Budget Act of 2023 SB 125 Formula-Based Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) & Zero Emission Transit Capital

Program (ZETCP) Final Guidelines and applicable statutes, regulations, and guidelines for all TIRCP and ZETCP funded transit projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the EDCTC Executive Director and the EDCTA Executive Director be authorized to execute all required documents of the TIRCP and ZETCP and any Amendments thereto with the California State Transportation Agency.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the El Dorado County Transportation Commission's governing body at the regular meeting held on November 2, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Clerici, Neau, Parlin, Saragosa, Thomas, Turnboo

NOES: None

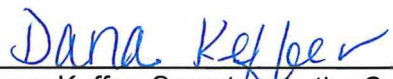
ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Hidahl



John Clerici, Chairperson

Attest:



Dana Keffer, Secretary to the Commission