From: Harvey Harold <hharold1954@gmail.com>
Sent: 9/25/2018 5:45:56 PM
To: Elias Mathes <emathes@ashevillenc.gov>
Cc: Bruce Emory <emory22@charter.net>,Kim Roney <mskimroney@gmail.com>,Calvin Allen <mraville73@gmail.com>,Thomas Lodwick <lodwick.t@gmail.com>,Gary Ray <gary.hubert.ray@gmail.com>,Dana Williams <oddreywilliams@gmail.com>,Edward Johnson <ejohnson1869@gr
Subject: Re: Transit 5339 Grant Not Awarded

Thanks for the update.Â

On Tue, Sep 25, 2018, 3:49 PM Elias Mathes <emathes@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:

Transit Committee,

More bad news for our bus funding efforts.Â Our grant applications for 5339 funds were not awarded; see the letter at the bottom of this email from FTA.Â I have included a table which shows our bus funding needs over the next five years, and the different sources of funding that we are going after.Â We have a 20% local match in place for purchases for all five years, so what we need to identify is the 80% federal match which would come from various potential federal grants.Â The first two years, FY19 and FY20 are covered by STBG (Surface Transportation Block Grant) funds which we have already been awarded.Â The next three years are still open and we applied for three different grants: Low No, 5339, and BUILD.Â As of today, both our Low No and 5339 applications were denied, so we are hoping that BUILD will come through for us.Â We should know the results of that grant process by December.Â The good news is, our first two years are fully funded and more grant opportunities should become available in the near future, so we have some time to keep applying and look for other alternative funding sources.

This is not an emergency and I am not asking Transit Committee to take any action.Â I just wanted to keep you all in the loop and to help you understand our strategy for funding future bus purchases so you have that information after I leave.Â If you have any questions, feel free to contact me directly.Â Remember, please do not respond to everyone on this email; if you have information you want to share with the group, please send it to me or the chair and we will distribute it.Â Thanks.

Elias Mathes

Transit Planning Manager
City of Asheville
828-232-4522
EMathes@Ashevillenc.gov

Fiscal Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bus Needs	5	5	5	5	5
Total	$3,595,000	$3,610,225	$4,364,500	$4,429,968	$4,496,417
Local Match (20%)	$719,000	$722,045	$872,900	$885,994	$899,283
Source	CIP	CIP	CIP	CIP	CIP
Federal Share (80%)	$2,876,000	$2,888,180	$3,491,600	$3,543,974	$3,597,134
Sources	STBG	STBG	Low No	BUILD	BUILD
			5339(b)	5339(b)	
Status	Approved		Pending / Uncertain		

FTA PRESS RELEASE 9/25/2018

U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. ChaoÂ announcedÂ today that FTA will award $366.2 million inÂ grantsÂ to improve the safety and reliability of Americaâ€™s bus systems and enhance mobility for transit riders. A total of 107 projects in 50 states and territories will receive funding from FTAâ€™sÂ Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program.Â A list of theÂ selected projectsÂ is available online.

The funding supports projects to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment, as well as projects to purchase, rehabilitate, and construct bus-related facilities.

InÂ FiscalÂ Year 2018, FTA has awarded more thanÂ $15 billionÂ in funding through both formula and competitive grant programs to support public transportation.

Links:
Press release
FY2018 Bus & Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program grants
Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program
Video: Supporting & Rebuilding the Nation's Bus Fleets