



# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

## ***Recommended Contracting Actions For Up To 217 Hybrid Electric & Clean Diesel Buses***



*Presented to the Board of Directors  
**Planning & Development Committee***

*by*

Planning • Development • Engineering • Construction  
April 7, 2005



## I. Purpose

---

To follow-up on previous direction from the Board on the acquisition of up to 217 replacement buses by recommending specific contracting actions.



## II. Background

---

Since the Board's approval of the June 17, 2004 resolution, staff has been working with the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) to develop a generic specification for hybrid electric buses. That effort has recently been completed and WMATA staff is prepared to proceed with contracting actions for hybrid electric and clean diesel buses.

The June 2004 Resolution's last "Resolved" states: "That the staff initiate and award a contract for the acquisition of a minimum of 100 hybrid buses and up to 117 clean diesel buses, depending upon remaining funds and purchase prices, **as soon as possible as funds become available** to do so...."



## II. Background (cont'd)

---

The discussion at the time of the passage of the resolution directed that 50 hybrids be purchased and tested prior to the ordering of the remaining 50 hybrids. The procurement of up to 117 clean diesel buses was to take place as funding became available.



## Funds Available for FY 2006-2008 Fleet Purchases (millions of \$)

Program	Fund Source	FY06	FY07	FY08	Total
IRP Replacement Buses	MM IRP	\$14	\$25	\$77	\$116
	TOTAL	\$14	\$25	\$77	\$116



## Projected FY 2006-2008 Bus Vehicle Procurement

Program	Type of Bus	FY06	FY07	FY08	Total
IRP Replacement Buses	Clean Diesel		16	101	117*
	Hybrid	22	28	50	100
	TOTAL	22	44	151	217

\*Up to 117 clean diesel buses, as funding permits



## III. Purchase Options

---

With the Board of Directors authorization to initiate and award a contract in April 2005, an award would likely be made in December 2005 and delivery of the first buses would take place approximately 15 months later or March 2007.

Staff has contacted other transit agencies with existing or pending contracts for hybrid and clean diesel buses. If there is a desire to improve the delivery of buses, a piggybacking opportunity is available to WMATA at this time to begin the delivery of hybrid buses.



### III. Purchase Options (cont'd)

---

Sound Transit (Seattle, Washington) has made piggybacking options for up to 22 hybrid electric buses available from New Flyer Industries. These buses are similar to the New Flyer CNG low floor buses we obtained through a piggybacking opportunity in 2000 and are equipped with the Cummins engine and Allison hybrid system that is the most proven technology and currently being operating in over 335 buses across North America. By contracting for these buses, delivery could begin before the end of 2005.



### III. Purchase Options (cont'd)

---

Other piggybacking opportunities for both clean diesel and hybrid electric buses are being explored that could benefit WMATA by providing quality buses at an earlier date than those purchased from our contracting efforts. Discussions with MUNI and the Chicago Transit Authority are underway and other systems' options are being explored.



## IV. Recommendation

Planning and Development Committee recommend to the Board of Directors:

1. Authorization for the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer to obtain the piggybacking options for 22 hybrid buses from Sound Transit and contract with New Flyer Industries for these buses.
  
2. If additional piggybacking options for hybrid buses (up to 28, which would provide the desired test size of 50 requested in the June resolution) are made available from the industry, that would allow similar buses to the 22 obtained from Sound Transit to be purchased, authorize the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer to obtain them and contract for these buses.



## IV. Recommendation (cont'd)

---

3. If piggybacking opportunities for up to 117 clean diesel buses arise prior to the finalization of the WMATA multi-year contract that would provide expedited deliveries at a competitive price, authorize the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer to obtain them and contract for these buses.
4. Authorize the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer to initiate and award any other necessary procurements to complete the purchase of up to 217 buses to complete the implementation of June 17, 2004 Board authorized action, subject to availability of funds.
5. Direct the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer to periodically report back to the Committee on the status of actions taken under this set of authorizations.