

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: October 4, 2010

SUBJECT: Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Transit Vehicle Procurement and Update

ATTACHMENTS: (1) CNG Transit Vehicle Funding Summary Table
(2) Vehicle Photo

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

In April 2009, the Board of Commissioners authorized staff to proceed with grants for a CNG station and CNG transit vehicles. Stimulus grants were later awarded in July 2009 for those projects. Staff prepared this request to update the Board on the project before the advertisements are issued.

Federal rules require Asheville to own the vehicles since they are the direct recipient of the grant funds. The City of Asheville will issue a formal bid request with assistance from the County staff, and will make a purchase of four CNG medium-duty transit buses and one paratransit van for Henderson County early next year. Staff secured \$585,841 in stimulus funding and \$291,159 in other Federal Transit Administration funds for this project. NCDOT is in the process of approving \$44,000 in ten percent match funds for two of the vehicles. The vehicles will be the first CNG buses in the western North Carolina region.

The procurement is expected to take approximately three months, after which time staff will return to the Board of Commissioners with a request for contract approval. A summary of anticipated expenses is included in Attachment 1. The vehicles likely will not be delivered until around September 2011. Expenses related to final payment and delivery will be included in the FY12 Henderson County budget in order to supply funds for the match, taxes, graphics and licensing fees.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize staff to solicit bids for the four medium-duty CNG buses and one CNG minivan. The bid results and contract would require Board approval at the appropriate time.

Suggested Motion:

I authorize staff to solicit bids for the four medium-duty CNG buses and one CNG minivan.

CNG Transit Vehicle Summary

Vehicle	Vehicle Description	Estimated Cost	*Required Local Costs (Estimated)	Requested NCDOT Match	Estimated FTA Match	Vehicle Numbers	Odometer Reading as of 9/9/10	Comments
1	29' Low Floor (23 Passenger) CNG (29 gge**)	\$228,942	\$30,941	\$22,000	\$176,000	41	119,521	90% grant funding on base price; Local costs include 10% match and costs of tax, title, and graphics.
2	29' Low Floor (23 Passenger) CNG (29 gge)	\$228,942	\$30,941	\$22,000	\$176,000	42	114,779	90% grant funding on base price; Local costs include 10% match and costs of tax, title, and graphics.
3	29' Low Floor (19 Passenger) CNG (42 gge)	\$234,091	\$9,091		\$225,000	21	307,995	100% stimulus funding on base price; Local costs include tax, title, and graphics.
4	29' Low Floor (19 Passenger) CNG (42 gge)	\$234,091	\$9,091		\$225,000	36	271,569	100% stimulus funding on base price; Local costs include tax, title, and graphics.
5	CNG Minivan (6 passenger) CNG (12 gge)	\$78,191	\$3,191		\$75,000	20	97,775	100% stimulus funding on base price; Local costs include tax, title, and graphics.
Total		\$1,004,257	\$83,255	\$44,000	\$877,000			

*Includes 3% Tax, Licensing, and Graphics not covered by Federal Funds

**gge = gasoline gallon equivalent

Attachment 2



**Example Photo – 29 ft CNG Bus
23 seats with wheelchair ramp**