



PRESS RELEASE

Kitsap Transit Statement on Federal Funding Award for Electric Buses

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BREMERTON, Wash. – Kitsap Transit was awarded \$10.4 million in funding today from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) to buy battery-electric buses and charging infrastructure.

Kitsap Transit Executive Director John Clauson said the funding award will help transition the aging diesel fleet to zero-emission vehicles, while improving the safety and reliability of transit service for residents of Kitsap County.

“We want to thank our outstanding Congressional delegation for supporting our grant request,” Clauson said. “We look forward to bringing more electric buses into our fleet.”

Kitsap Transit currently operates two electric buses in its fleet and anticipates delivery of six more by the end of this year. The agency recently placed an order for a dozen more electric buses that will be delivered next year.

Today’s grant award, along with \$2.6 million in local matching funds, allows Kitsap Transit to buy 10 additional battery-electric buses and related charging infrastructure. Once those buses are delivered sometime in 2024, Kitsap Transit will have a fleet of 30 battery-electric buses.

Charging infrastructure is critical to greening the fleet: Our Bremerton bus depot will have charging capacity for 18 electric buses, while our Poulsbo depot will have charging capacity for eight. The agency will work to match charging capacity with the needs of its fleet.

Kitsap Transit is one of three transit agencies in Washington state to receive an award under the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities program administered by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The other two recipients are Sound Transit and C-TRAN in Clark County.

“These grants will help people in communities large and small get to work, get to school, and access the services they need,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg in a [statement](#). “Everyone deserves access to safe, reliable, clean public transportation – and thanks to the President’s historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we are bringing modern buses to communities across America.”

FTA said it received 303 eligible project proposals totaling more than \$2.5 billion in funding requests, more than five times the amount of funding available under the previous federal law. Under President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, an additional \$5.1 billion in formula and competitive grant funding is authorized under the [Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program](#) over the next five years – meaning more projects can be funded.

“Transit agencies are replacing aging buses and facilities with newer, cleaner infrastructure that is more efficient to operate and maintain,” said FTA Administrator Nuria Fernandez. “Modern buses, especially those powered with electric batteries or fuel cells, improve air quality and help us address the climate crisis.”

About Kitsap Transit

Kitsap Transit has been operating friendly, convenient public transit since 1983. The transit agency for Kitsap County carried more than 3.8 million riders in 2018 across a multi-modal system of routed buses, passenger ferries, paratransit shuttles, vanpools, and worker/driver buses for the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

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