

RESOLUTION NO. 12-10-20

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE NEWPORT-MESA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE ALTERNATIVE FUEL SCHOOL BUS REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (SCAQMD) #PA2021-02 AB 923 LOWER-EMISSION SCHOOL BUS REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Newport-Mesa Unified School District of Orange County, State of California, has determined the District's Transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, the District is in need of replacing 5 Diesel School Buses under #PA2021-02 released by the SCAQMD at the October 2, 2020 SCAQMD Board Meeting, and said program to be administered by the SCAQMD when awards are announced at the SCAQMD Board Meeting on April 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, under this Program Announcement, SCAQMD will be providing its own AB 923 funds for the replacement of pre-2001 diesel school buses with alternative fuel new school buses. Only public school districts and joint power authorities are eligible to apply under this program.

South Coast AQMD is seeking applications from public school districts to replace older diesel school buses (Type A, C, or D) that are a minimum of 20 years old (including MY2000 or older), and with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of over 14,000 lbs. At a minimum, applicants will need to provide information identifying each of the school buses proposed for replacement, as well as documentation demonstrating current DMV registration and continuous CHP certification for the past three years. The school buses proposed for replacement must be crushed/dismantled as required by the LESBP Guidelines.

Given that funds may be limited, the program will prioritize funding awards to each school district with consideration for the older school buses and/or school buses with the highest accumulated mileages first. Applicants are encouraged to list their oldest diesel school buses first and/or buses with the highest cumulative mileages. Depending upon the number of applications received and availability of funding, all the requests may not be funded in their entirety. Be aware that there is a possibility that due to program priorities, cost effectiveness or funding limitations (i.e., caps), applicants may be offered only partial funding, and not all applications meeting the eligibility criteria may be funded. South Coast AQMD retains discretion to make full awards, partial awards, or no awards.

Table 1, below, provides a summary of the key eligibility requirements for the existing school buses proposed for replacement.

Table 1: Existing School Bus Requirements
1) Diesel Fueled
2) Type A, C, or D
3) Model Year that is a minimum of 20 years old (Pre-2001)
4) GVWR > 14,000 lbs
5) Currently registered with the DMV
5) Maintained continuous CHP Certificates for at least the past 3 years
6) Must be willing to crush/dismantle existing school bus once replaced

This action is to issue Program Announcement #PA2021-02 for replacement of pre-2001 model year diesel school buses owned by public school districts and joint power authorities with new alternative fuel or zero emission buses. The school buses will need to have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) over 14,000 lbs and have continuous CHP certification for the past three years. The PA will close on January 26, 2021, after a three-month application period. Funding will be provided from the Carl Moyer Program AB 923 Fund (80). Depending on the number of applications received, all the requests may not be funded in their entirety; final funding amounts will be recommended to the Board when they consider the proposed awards. Public school districts and joint power authorities will have the choice to purchase alternative fuel and zero emission school buses, including propane, compressed natural gas (CNG) and battery-electric. Both propane and CNG bus replacements must have engines certified at or below the optional low NOx standard of 0.02 g/bhp-hr.

SCAQMD will fund up to \$205,000 for Type D CNG buses and up to \$155,000 for Type C propane buses, including sales tax and the fire suppressant system. School districts will also have to pay for any additional discretionary options that they may choose to include on the bus. In case of commercial availability at the time of the awards, schools willing to purchase alternative fuel school buses certified below the 0.2-gram NOx standard will be prioritized. Schools may also apply for state's HVIP funds to help leverage and reduce their portion of match funding.

Furthermore, up to \$15,000 per CNG and \$5,000 per propane bus will be provided for fueling infrastructure. Funding provided for infrastructure cannot be used to reduce a school district's local match in cases where the infrastructure funds are not needed.

The Board of Trustees by this resolution is also showing that they are fully committed to obtaining these grants and following through with all of the requirements of this grant program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Newport-Mesa Unified School District does hereby authorize the School District's Representative, Timothy Holcomb, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Operating Officer, to apply for and secure all possible funding for the replacement of 6 school buses with a commitment by this Board through this resolution to pay all school match money required, and additional option costs, on any buses granted through the SCAQMD AB 923 program, #PA2021-02.

Passed and Adopted this 27th Day of October 2020, by the following called Vote:

Ayes: ____ Noes: ____ Absent: ____

Signed By: _____

Clerk of the Board of Education of the Newport-Mesa Unified School District