Winston-Salem City Council APPROVED March 4, 2024

Resolution #24-0061 2024 Resolution Book, Page 41

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SUPPORT LETTER FOR THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM AND WINSTON-SALEM TRANSIT AUTHORITY'S APPLICATION FOR THE FY24 BUS AND BUS FACILITIES COMPETITIVE PROGRAM AND LOW OR NO EMISSION GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) FY24 Bus and Bus Facilities Competitive Program (5339(b)) and Low or No Emission Grant Program (5339(c)) make funding available for the replacement, rehabilitation, and purchase of buses and related equipment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem and Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) are eligible direct recipients for funding through the 5339(b) and 5339(c) programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem and WSTA applied for \$4,000,000 in funding toward a total project cost of \$5,000,000 for the purchase of five diesel-electric hybrid buses to replace buses reaching the end of their useful life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem and WSTA application received a rating of "Highly Recommended" during the FTA's evaluation of FY23 Bus and Bus Facilities Competitive Program applications; and

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem and WSTA intend to once again submit an application for the purchase of five diesel-electric hybrid buses through the FY24 5339(b) and 5339(c) programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem identifies \$5,788,690 for the Winston-Salem Transit Authority Reserve Fund in the 2024-2029 Capital Plan to contribute toward local match requirements for federal transit programs like the Bus and Bus Facilities Competitive Program and Low or No Emission Program; and

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WHEREAS, the purchase of replacement buses will help the City of Winston-Salem and WSTA ensure a state of good repair for transit assets through the replacement of buses exceeding their useful life; and

WHEREAS, the replacement of aging buses will result in numerous benefits, including the enhancement of service reliability and the reduction of harmful emissions; and

WHEREAS, the replacement of aging buses will bolster transit services and the acquisition of new buses would afford WSTA the opportunity to accelerate improvements to its fixed route system, aligning with the City's strategic focus area of Quality Transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Winston-Salem that the City Council approve this resolution of support for the FY24 Bus and Bus Facilities Competitive Program and Low or No Emission Grant Program and authorize a support letter to be included with the application submission.