

San Joaquin One Voice® Project Request

San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) and United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) Bus Replacement Project

Project Summary:

The RTD & UCP Bus Replacement Project will replace up to 12 Cutaway vehicles that are currently utilized by UCP which are needed for daily operations within San Joaquin County. The cost of a Cutaway vehicle is \$110,000 with a total project cost of \$1,320,000 and is scalable. UCP transports 184 unduplicated people per week and serves 67 people per day (different people, different days). This is a large number of what would otherwise be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Paratransit trips and requires a minimum of 6-7 additional open runs on ADA paratransit. UCP also provides a higher level of service for individuals with disabilities that require certain accommodations.

Since 2009, RTD has provided UCP with transit buses to assist with essential trips and provide independence for clients who might otherwise be eligible to ride any ADA paratransit services operated by RTD. This project will make a significant impact on the quality of life for people with disabilities while supporting RTD's goal to support community relations with transit customers and partners. The projection of such impacts is by way of operational cost savings and the continuity of RTD's growing need to provide efficient, reliable, and fully accessible service.

The RTD & UCP Bus Replacement Project will save maintenance expense, provide higher quality service UCP clients, and continue to mitigate ADA Paratransit demand. The project supports RTD's goals and initiatives by assuring customer confidence and promoting community partnership. In addition, the replacement of these aged vehicles will assist in enhancing the quality of life for people with disabilities by providing services that enable them to realize their goals and achieve their highest level of independence.

In order for UCP to continue to provide reliable transportation services, the replacement of these aged vehicles will need to be a priority to ensure safety of its transit customers. RTD continues to take the lead in exploring innovative transit programs benefitting transit agencies and partners, throughout San Joaquin County.

RTD operates services primarily in and around the City of Stockton where most of the census tracts fall within the 75th percentile or higher, especially the central and southern areas of the city where nearly all census tracts are in the 75th percentile or higher.

The project is a good use of taxpayer funds since it will further develop RTD's capacity to reduce and manage its dependency on the electric grid, contribute toward grid resiliency and reduce energy costs.

Community Impact:

Stockton is a low-income community with a high percentage of minorities. This project will serve approximately 309,000 residents:

- 42.2% Hispanic or Latino
- 11.1% Black
- 21.2% Asian
- .2% American Indian

Percent of population with income below 150% of poverty level:

-36.0%

The areas surrounding the Stockton, CA Transit Center and areas served by RTD are considered a collection of environmental justice (EJ) neighborhoods due to a dense area of minority, immigrant, and low-income communities that are closely integrated with polluting ports, railroads, industries and some of the busiest goods-movement pathways in the nation. RTD has their domicile zero emission bus depots in EJ neighborhoods. Urban buses and trains are the workhorses of California's public transit systems. Disadvantaged communities make up the majority of RTD's service area as well as the broader region. The California Environmental Protection Agency's (CalEPA) Cal Enviro notes that 51% (71 of 139) of San Joaquin County's census tracts are defined as SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities.

More than 34% of children ages 1–17 in San Joaquin County have been reported as diagnosed with asthma compared to 7% nationwide. In addition, 20% of adults in the county have been diagnosed with asthma compared with 8% nationwide. San Joaquin County ranks 9th highest in the nation for particulate matter and is in non-attainment for federal air quality standards for particulate matter (PM 2.5) and ozone.

In many of the low-income areas of Stockton, Asthma rates are within the 90 to 100th percentile of the state of California. Outdoor pollution can trigger asthma attacks or make asthma worse and cause people to be more susceptible to pneumonia, flu and other illnesses. The project will reduce the emission of particulates that create local air pollution, which leads to local environmental health concerns, smog and unhealthy ozone concentrations.

San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) Transit Vehicle Public Display Monitor System Project

RTD recognizes the need to provide exceptional passenger experiences while riding in their vehicles. Passengers no longer expect their public transit commute to be a matter of simply:

- Getting on board at the bus stop
- Traveling to their destination
- Getting on the bus

Passengers are seeking sophisticated, on-board, user-friendly methods for serving up data to:

- Enhance their transit experiences and provide additional value during commutes
- Stay abreast of current information as it pertains to them in-the-moment
- Maximize their time and make correct/best connections
- **Project will install Transit Vehicle Public Display Monitor Systems on 130 transit vehicles**
- **Project Cost**
 - \$1,320,000
 - \$198,000 (Local Match)

