

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Capital Projects Update  
FROM: Christy Wegener, Executive Director  
Nate Barreras, Capital Projects Manager  
DATE: April 3, 2023

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**Action Requested**

This is an informational update and no action is requested at this time.

**Background**

LAVTA staff are working on a variety of capital projects and will provide a status update to the Board at the April meeting.

**Discussion**

Zero-Emissions Fleet Conversion: In 2018, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted the Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) regulation, which requires all public transit agencies to transition to a 100% zero-emissions bus fleet by 2040, and required all agencies to develop and approve an ICT plan by January 2023. In 2022, the LAVTA Board approved the ICT plan for the Wheels fixed route fleet, which lays the path to fully convert the fixed route bus fleet to zero-emissions (hydrogen fuel cell) by 2034. The plan directs the purchase of 100% fuel-cell buses at every fleet replacement point, beginning in year 2025. Given that LAVTA purchases on a 12-year rolling basis, once each bus fleet reaches its useful life, those buses will be retired and new fuel cell buses will be purchased as replacement. Staff will be looking into procurement options in 2024 to secure a bus manufacturer in time for the bus purchase order in 2025.

Atlantis Facility: In 2006, LAVTA purchased land for the the Atlantis Transit Facility located in the Oaks Business Park in Livermore. The purchase was intended for a new LAVTA Operations, Maintenance and Administration facility to replace the aging facility at Rutan Court, as well as to support a larger fleet and increased level of service. Conceptual design was initiated in 2008 but due to the recession, the project was put on hold. Given the ICT and zero-emissions mandate from CARB, in 2021 LAVTA staff engaged a firm to complete 65% design of the Atlantis facility, including the design necessary to fuel and maintain the new fleet of fuel cell buses.

The 65% design and preliminary construction cost estimates have been received, and the planning application to the City of Livermore has been submitted/accepted. Staff and our design contractor Kimley Horn are waiting on comments from the City. Staff are including the costs for the Atlantis Maintenance Facility in the State of California Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) Cycle 6 application, as well as in the 2023 FTA Bus and Bus Facilities

program. If funding is received, staff will initiate the next phase of the project which includes completing 100% design and developing the construction contract documents.

Hydrogen Fueling Station: In 2022, LAVTA received a \$6.7M TIRCP Cycle 5 award to construct a hydrogen fueling station, including a hydrogen dispenser and 15,000-gallon underground storage tank, on the Atlantis campus. This station will be used to fuel the Agency’s future hydrogen bus fleet and is a critical piece of infrastructure to support the transition to zero-emissions vehicles. The design for the fueling station is incorporated in the full Atlantis campus design.

Additionally, staff submitted a FY24 Community Project Funding request to both Congressman Swalwell and Congressman DeSaulnier’s offices to expand the existing fueling station project and fund a secondary hydrogen tank. If funding is received, the scope of the project will be expanded to include the construction of two hydrogen tanks.

Rutan Facility Maintenance Bay Hydrogen Retrofit: Retrofitting 1-2 maintenance bays at the existing Rutan Facility is the contingency plan should funding not be identified for construction of the Atlantis Maintenance building in time for the delivery of the Agency’s first fuel cell buses. The scope of work for the design of the maintenance bay retrofit is in development and will be issued to the on-call consultant bench in spring 2023.

**Fiscal Impact**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

**Recommendation**

No specific action is proposed for this Board meeting.

*Approved:* \_\_\_\_\_