



CITY OF
GEARHART

Staff Report

For City Council Meeting 4/3/2019

Subject - Visitor - Jeff Hazen - Sunset Empire Transportation District - eBus

Synopsis -

SEPD is seeking a letter of support as they pursue a grant from the FTA's Low No Program to purchase an electric bus along with the charging infrastructure. Astoria has already provided a letter. With the expansion of service they will be embarking on beginning in October, SETD has high hopes to operate the bus in the other cities as well. Jeff will provide further details regarding their expansion plans to aid the Council in weighing the decision to support the project.

Recommendation: The Council listen to the presentation and then sign the drafted letter in support of SETD seeking grant funds for admission of the first electric bus to its fleet.

Legal Analysis: N/A

Financial Analysis: N/A

Respectfully Submitted,

Chad



March 29, 2019

Ms. Tara Clark
Program Manager
Federal Transit Administration
Office of Program Management
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Sunset Empire Transportation District's Submission to FTA's Low No Emission Vehicle Program

Dear Ms. Clark:

We are writing to voice our support for the Sunset Empire Zero Emission Bus Project proposal submitted in response to FTA's Low or No Emission Vehicle Program.

We appreciate that the Sunset Empire Transportation District (SETD) has chosen to operate the electric bus along a route that serves a very diverse population including both the Clatsop Community College campus, low income housing, and multiple commercial vendors.

Any provider of transportation has an obligation to explore fuel-efficient fleet options that achieve the greatest reduction in energy consumption. Traveling via eBus has been identified as a key way to reduce local emissions. Trimet states, "By 2040, we're committed to having a 100 percent alternative-fuel fleet." Why not do what you can on a smaller scale? We praise SETD for taking that first step in the right direction with introducing zero emission battery electric buses to their fleet. It sets a precedent that other rural communities could do the same.

In closing, we fully support Sunset Empire Transportation Districts efforts and look forward to an announcement for Astoria's "zero-emission bus maiden voyage". Thank you for your time.

All the best,

Matt J. Brown
Mayor of Gearhart

Chad Sweet
Gearhart City Administrator