



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: OCTOBER 6, 2020

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: CLEAN MOBILITY OPTIONS VOUCHER PILOT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

ISSUE:

Authorize the submittal of a \$1,000,000 grant application to the CALSTART “Clean Mobility Voucher Pilot Program.”

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council authorize the submittal of a \$1,000,000 grant application through the CALSTART “Clean Mobility Voucher Pilot Program” to establish a network of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles with free usage for qualifying low-income residents in partnership with StratosShare and the University of California Riverside’s Center for Environmental Research and Technology.

BACKGROUND:

The Clean Mobility Options Voucher Pilot Program is funded through the California Climate Investments (CCI) program. The CCI program uses Cap-and-Trade dollars on initiatives intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve public health, and strengthen the economy in underserved communities. The Clean Mobility Options program has \$20 million in available funds in 2020 to establish zero-emission mobility programs; local government agencies are eligible applicants for these funds.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Riverside was approached by StratosShare, a mobility service provider that operates vehicle rental stations in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, to partner in a joint grant application for Clean Mobility Options Voucher funds (www.stratosshare.com). StratosShare is unique in that their vehicles are exclusively hydrogen fuel cell based; vehicles rented through StratosShare may be driven within a 100-mile radius of the rental station. StratosShare is an established local company with strong industry partnerships that currently has rental facilities in the City of Riverside at the Riverside Municipal Airport and the University of California, Riverside.

By partnering with StratosShare, the City of Riverside is eligible to receive up to \$1 million in program funds to administer to StratosShare for the operation of an additional seven stations in

the City of Riverside. The City has also required that should grant funds be received, that qualifying low-income residents be provided with up to 2 hours of rental service per day at no charge. The qualification and administration of the program will be managed by StratosShare. In turn, the City would provide on-street parking locations within SB 535 qualifying disadvantaged communities to locate vehicle rental stations (which would be a signed section of on-street parking). StratosShare would receive funding for vehicle purchasing, telemetry hardware, software licensing, program marketing, voucher administration, and operations & maintenance. All grant leveraging funds would be provided / demonstrated by StratosShare's existing funding sources and assets, no matching funds are required of the local agency through the grant program.

The University of California Riverside's Center for Environmental Technology and Research (UCR CE-CERT) has also joined in the grant partnership and is assisting in preparation of the grant application and would conduct analysis of vehicle usage throughout program operations.

These locations would be augmented by StratosShare's in-progress agreement to locate stations at Riverside County Transportation Commission managed Metrolink Stations. A list of locations for the 30-vehicle fleet to be established through the grant is below and in Attachment 1:

1. Downtown Riverside near Food Lab
2. UCR Extension
3. UCR Lot 1
4. Cesar Chavez Community Center
5. Casa Blanca Library
6. Arlanza Neighborhood
7. La Sierra Neighborhood near the Tyler Galleria

Grant funding will provide for a one-year planning phase, and four years of program operation. In the event that StratosShare goes out of business during the grant delivery window, UCR CE-CERT would take over management of the program. UCR CE-CERT has prior experience operating zero-emission rental vehicle fleets.

Letters of commitment from both grant partners will be included alongside the grant application. Should grant funding be received, the City would enter into agreements with both StratosShare and UCR CE-CERT to cement partner obligations for the grant term.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Should grant funding be awarded, City staff will return to council to appropriate \$1,000,000 in funds to allow for administration of the reimbursement grant program. No matching funds will be provided by the City.

Prepared by:	Kris Martinez, Public Works Director
Certified as to	
availability of funds:	Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment: Proposed Station Map