



City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

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TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: JULY 6, 2021

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

**SUBJECT: CLEAN MOBILITY OPTIONS VOUCHER PROGRAM FUNDING FOR RIVERSIDE
CLEAN AIR CAR SHARE – ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION**

ISSUE:

Accept grant funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 under the CALSTART Clean Mobility Options Voucher Pilot Program to establish the Riverside Clean Air Car Share, 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 (UCR CE-CERT), and adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary contracts.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the acceptance of a grant award in the amount of \$1,000,000 under the CALSTART Clean Mobility Options 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 (UCR CE-CERT);
2. With at least five affirmative votes of the members of the City Council, authorize the Chief Financial Officer, or his designee, to record an increase in revenues and appropriate expenditures in an equal amount, in the Grants and Restricted Programs Fund, Clean Mobility Options Voucher Program accounts, and;
3. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute all necessary documents in the process of applying for and securing funds under the CALSTART Clean Mobility Options Voucher Pilot Program, including making minor and non-substantive changes and executing agreement amendments and extensions, subject to the availability of budgeted funds.

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

to establish zero-emission mobility programs; local government agencies are eligible applicants for these funds.

On October 6, 2020 Council authorized a 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.

In partnership with StratosShare and UCR CE-CERT, the Public Works Department prepared and submitted a grant application for funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 through the CALSTART Clean Mobility Options Voucher Pilot Program to establish a network of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles with free usage for qualifying low-income residents. The application has now been selected for award.

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 because its 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 has been selected to receive \$1 million in program funds to administer to StratosShare for the operation of an additional 7 stations in the City of Riverside. The City has also required 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 will 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 will 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 has also joined the grant partnership. They have assisted in preparing the grant application and will analyze vehicle usage throughout program operations.

The Riverside Clean Air Car Share 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 is shown in Attachment 2:

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 will take over the management of the program. UCR CE-CERT has prior experience operating zero-emission rental vehicle fleets.

Letters of commitment from both grant partners were included alongside the grant application. When an agreement with CALSTART has been established, the City will enter into agreements with both StratosShare and UCR CE-CERT to cement partner obligations for the grant term.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact of this recommendation is \$1,000,000. Upon receipt of the grant award, with at least five affirmative votes of the members of the City Council, an increase will be recorded in the Grants and Restricted Programs Fund, Clean Mobility Options Voucher Program revenue account 9409600-334300 and expenditures in the same amount will be appropriated in the Grants and Restricted Programs Fund, Clean Mobility Options Voucher Program expenditure account 9409600-440220.

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: Kristi J. Smith, Interim City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. Proposed station map
3. Presentation