



Date of Memo: April 06, 2024
Current Meeting: April 18, 2024
Board Meeting: April 25, 2024

BOARD MEMORANDUM

TO: Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation (IPTC) Board of Directors
THROUGH: Interim President/CEO Jennifer Pyrz
FROM: Manager of Special Projects and Regional Mobility Integration Ryan Wilhite
SUBJECT: Consideration and acceptance of the Zero Emission Vehicle Transition Plan update (ZEVTP)

ACTION ITEM A – 2

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board of Directors accepts the updated Zero Emission Vehicle Transition Plan (ZEVTP).

BACKGROUND:

The ZEVTP is an update to a plan completed in 2022. The ZEVTP fulfills a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirement for agencies seeking discretionary grants from the Section 5339 discretionary program, Bus and Bus Facilities and Low/No Emissions. There are defined components of a plan to meet FTA requirements; those components are included in the updated ZEVTP.

The planning process for the ZEVTP began in late 2022 and continued with project team meetings in 2023. The project team meetings included members of the consultant team (Sam Schwartz and its subconsultants) and Operations staff. The scope of the project included understanding IPTC’s existing conditions, goals and objectives for the ZEVTP, potential facility needs, workforce development, and scheduling compatibility.

DISCUSSION:

The ZEVTP provides guidance to staff and IPTC Board of Directors about the direction of the agency regarding zero emission vehicles; the plan is used in conjunction with other plans (service plan, capital plan, and the fleet management plan).

Following on the presentation made at the February 2024 IPTC Board of Directors meeting, the items presented include a discussion of the scenarios, lifecycle cost analysis, lifecycle emissions, and recommended scenario. Based on our second workshop in February 2024 and our analysis of the lifecycle costs, the staff is recommending an All Battery Electric Bus scenario. The commitment to this scenario will allow IPTC staff to focus on one zero emission technology. The scenario selection does not commit IPTC to a specific timeframe but does outline key decision points based on transitioning to a zero emission future by 2040. IPTC staff and board members were clear in the guardrails for adoption of any zero emission vehicles – minimal operational impact and minimal to net zero lifecycle cost impact. The playbook for implementing the ZEVTP should allow IPTC the flexibility to continue transitioning to zero emission vehicles without ignoring the fiscal and operational realities of the current ZEV.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board of Directors could choose to recommend another alternative or not accept the ZEVTP. There is no mandate that the ZEVTP be approved by the IPTC Board of Directors but acceptance lends additional credence to the agency

objectives for the fleet. Either direction may continue to provide an unclear future for the agency, as it regards zero emission vehicles.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The acceptance of the ZEVTP has no fiscal impact. However, the outlined actions within the ZEVTP may have a fiscal impact; those projects and programs would need board approval as is the normal course of business for IPTC.

DBE/XBE DECLARATION:

There is no DBE impact.

STANDING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION:

This action will be reviewed by the Service Committee on April 18, 2024 and will be recommended to the Consent Agenda.