

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	April 27, 2023
SUBJECT:	Receive Update on Development of SRTA's Zero-Emission Fleet Transition Rollout Plan
AGENDA ITEM:	9
STAFF CONTACT:	Mehdi Moeinaddini, Associate Transportation Planner

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors receive a status update on the development of SRTA's Zero-Emission Fleet Transition Rollout Plan for ShastaConnect services.

DISCUSSION:

SRTA contracts with Dignity Health Connected Living (DHCL) for specialized public transit services under the ShastaConnect brand. A state-required, zero-emission bus transition plan must be prepared and adopted by June 30, 2023. In addition, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) now requires a transit agency to have a zero-emission fleet transition plan, with several elements for zero-emission projects, to be eligible for related federal program funds. For example, the transition plan must include how relevant technologies impact agency policies or legislation, describe the agencies relationship with utilities and alternative fuel providers, and consider workforce development needs to retain existing workers and train new workers.

SRTA contracted with Energetics to address both state and federal requirements in one Zero-Emission Fleet Transition Rollout Plan. To date, the project team examined ShastaConnect's current fleet makeup, the availability of current vehicle technologies, evaluated existing conditions and planned projects at DHCL's facility, toured the Redding Area Bus Authority's (RABA) facilities to determine possible opportunities for future partnerships, and reviewed currently available or planned alternative fuel sources in or near the region. The Energetics team will present the existing conditions, findings, and next steps.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

SRTA coordinated project activities with DHCL, RABA, local utility districts, and other partners.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Consultant services and staff time needed to prepare the plan are budgeted using Fiscal Year (FY) 2020/21 Senate Bill 1 (SB1) planning formula funds in the FY 2022/23 Overall Work Program. Completion of the plan will allow SRTA to apply for federal and state funding to offset additional costs associated with transitioning the ShastaConnect fleet to zero-emission technologies.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sean Tiedgen", is written over a horizontal line.

Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director