



Blue Sky Grant

Public Workshop

Feather River  
Air Quality  
Management District

September 20, 2022

# Blue Sky Grant Basic Information

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**Funding source is locally generated DMV renewal fees**

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**Authorized by Assembly Bills 2766 and 923**

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**FRAQMD holds annual request for proposals (RFP)**

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**Must be approved by Board of Directors**

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**Projects are typically one year**

# Blue Sky Funds Available FY21/22

**AB 2766**  
**approx. \$100,000**

**AB 923**  
**approx. \$276,000**

# AB 2766—Project Eligibility

- ▶ **Projects that reduce air pollution from motor vehicles, or**
- ▶ **Projects that support the District's planning, monitoring, or enforcement programs, and technical studies necessary to implement the California Clean Air Act**

# AB 923—Project Eligibility

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**Replacing older school buses with new, cleaner buses in accordance with the Lower Emission School Bus Program (LESBP) or Carl Moyer Program**

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**School bus retrofits (AB 470 Halderman)**

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**New purchases of electric school bus**

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**Natural gas fuel tank replacement and refueling infrastructure maintenance for school buses**

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**Other categories as defined in the statute**

# General Information

- ▶ **Blue Sky Program Proposal Application Form**
  - ▶ **Must be signed by authorized representative**
- ▶ **Two complete copies for AB 2766 and one copy for AB 923**
- ▶ **Due by 5:00 pm on Tuesday October 11, 2022 to:**  
**Feather River Air Quality Management District**  
**541 Washington Avenue**  
**Yuba City, CA 95991**

# Application Form — AB 2766

- ▶ **Project Applicant Information**
- ▶ **Funding Requested**
- ▶ **Project Type**
- ▶ **Signature of Authorized Representative (also who will sign the Grant Agreement)**
- ▶ **Funding Disclosure & Statement**
- ▶ **Statement of Objectives**
  - ▶ **Description, need for project, emission reductions and/or VMT reductions, trip reductions, regional benefit, number of years, and persons served**
- ▶ **Funding Request**
  - ▶ **Total project costs, by task/phase, funding sources, portion of funding for equipment/admin**

- ▶ **Project Organization-Management structure, tax status, monitoring, organization, facilities (for non-government)**
- ▶ **Work Statement-Describe each phase, start and end dates, technology and parties involved**
  - ▶ **Attach additional pages as needed**
- ▶ **Additional Information on Specific Project Types**
  - ▶ **Alt fuel infrastructure**
  - ▶ **Employer Rideshare Incentive Projects**
  - ▶ **Bicycle/Ped Facilities/Improvements**
  - ▶ **Expansion of Transit Services**
  - ▶ **Public Education/Outreach/Information**
  - ▶ **Vanpool/Shuttles**
  - ▶ **Transit Fare Reduction**
  - ▶ **Clean Fuel Vehicle Projects**
- ▶ **Letters of support from other agencies are not needed unless they are co-sponsors**
- ▶ **Submit two originals**
  - ▶ **Will be attached to Grant Agreement**



# Clean Fuel Vehicles/Infrastructure

- ▶ **Example project types:**
  - ▶ Purchase of new low-emission on-road cars, trucks and buses (not school buses)
  - ▶ Repowering or retrofitting existing on-road vehicles with cleaner engines or other low-emission technology
  - ▶ Alternative fuel infrastructure (CNG, LNG, electric vehicle charging stations)
  - ▶ Electric vehicles
- ▶ Apply for the incremental cost (cost difference between new vehicle and new clean fuel vehicle)
- ▶ Include the cost-effectiveness of the project using tools here: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/tsaq/eval/eval.htm>
- ▶ Submit quotes and specs from manufacturer

# Application Form - AB923

- ▶ Applicant information
- ▶ Funding Requested
- ▶ Applicant Disclosure & Statement
- ▶ Information on bus to be replaced/repowered/retrofit
- ▶ Information on new bus/engine/retrofit
- ▶ Attachments:
  - ▶ Existing bus registration
  - ▶ Proof of insurance coverage previous 24 months
  - ▶ Copy of current CHP form 292 previous 24 months
  - ▶ Existing engine executive order
  - ▶ Quote from dealer for new bus/engine/retrofit
  - ▶ Emissions certification for new bus engine/retrofit (executive order)

# Bus Replacement Requirements

- ▶ **School bus replacements funded under Carl Moyer or LESBP Guidelines**
  - ▶ Matching funds required
  - ▶ Scrap options
  - ▶ Reporting
  - ▶ Current compliance status of bus (DPF)
  - ▶ Annual usage
- ▶ **New diesel bus must meet emission standard of 0.20 g/bhp-hr for NOx 0.01 g/bhp-hr PM**
- ▶ **Bus must be in use and have CHP certification**
- ▶ **Replaced bus must be scrapped within 60 days**
- ▶ **LESBP Guidelines available online at:**  
<http://arb.ca.gov/bonds/schoolbus/guidelines/2008lesbp.pdf>
- ▶ **Carl Moyer Guidelines available online at:**  
<https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/moyer/guidelines/current.htm>

# AB 923 Cost Caps

Project Type	Maximum AB 923 Funds
Diesel-Fueled Bus Replacement	\$165,000
Low NOx Engine in Replacement	\$220,000
Hybrid School Bus	\$220,000
Electric School Bus	\$400,000
Electric Conversion (using an existing bus)	\$400,000
Repowers	\$70,000
Diesel Retrofit Project per Bus	\$20,000
Diesel Retrofit Maintenance	\$2,500 within \$20,000 retrofit cap
Alternative Fuel Infrastructure for alt-fuel bus replacements	\$16,500
On-board Natural Gas Tank Replacements	No cap

# Cost Caps, Continued

Project Type	Maximum AB 923 Funds
Enhancement of Deteriorating Natural Gas Fueling Dispensers	No cap
Infrastructure for Powering Electric School Bus Replacements	\$20,000 per school bus
Diesel Retrofit Infrastructure	No cap on infrastructure, but must be within the \$20,000 retrofit cap
Alternative Fuel Infrastructure for Alt-Fuel Bus Replacements	\$16,500 per bus
Infrastructure for Electric School Bus Replacements Vehicle to Grid	No cap

*Updated per #MSC 20-03 (February 20, 2020)*

# How AB 2766 Projects Are Ranked

- ▶ Project Benefit
  - ▶ Cost-effectiveness based on ton of pollutants reduced
  - ▶ Health impact will also be considered if quantifiable reductions are not easily derived
- ▶ Dev/Imp of Clean Air Plans
  - ▶ Federal plans (PM2.5, ozone) and State ozone plan
- ▶ Leveraging Funds
- ▶ Demo/Intro New Technology
- ▶ Broad Application
- ▶ Provides a Public Benefit
- ▶ Other Desirable Factors
  - ▶ Rapid results, low administrative costs, increased public awareness, reduction of other pollutants (toxics/ghg)

# How AB 923 Projects Are Ranked

- ▶ Age of existing school bus
- ▶ Geographic distribution of funding
- ▶ Previous grant awards
- ▶ Cost-effectiveness
- ▶ Other factors as determined by the District Board

# How Projects Are Selected

- ▶ District staff review the proposals and prepare funding recommendation
- ▶ Policy/Finance Committee (three members of FRAQMD Board of Directors) meet to consider staff's recommendation
  - ▶ Applicants are invited to attend meeting
- ▶ Policy/Finance Committee makes a funding recommendation
- ▶ Board of Directors considers Policy/Finance Committee recommendation, gives final approval at public meeting



# Estimated Timeline

Dates	Events
August 26, 2022	RFP issued
September 20, 2022	Public Workshop
October 11, 2022	<b><u>Application Submittal Deadline</u></b>
October 2022	Staff Review
November 2022	Policy/Finance Committee Meeting
December 5, 2022	Board Approval
January 2023	Contracts Circulated
January 2023	AB 2766 Projects begin
December 2023	AB 2766 Projects Completed
March 2024	AB 2766 Final reports & disbursements
December 2024	AB 923 projects completed

# Mini-Grant Program

- ▶ The FRAQMD Board of Directors authorized a Mini-Grant Program for FY22/23.
- ▶ Mini-Grants may be awarded for bicycle racks, MIBM energizer stations, grants for teachers, school flag program, etc.
- ▶ Maximum of \$2,000 each, total funding \$16,000 for FY22/23.
- ▶ Applications awarded first come first served
- ▶ Many projects eligible for both Blue Sky Grant or Mini-Grant
- ▶ Will begin shortly after Blue Sky Program

# Community Air Protection Program

- ▶ California Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds allocated to reduce exposure in communities most impacted by air pollution
- ▶ The District Program provides grants for backup diesel generator engine replacement, Carl Moyer eligible projects, and projects at schools
- ▶ Majority of funding to be spent in and benefitting Disadvantaged and Low-income Communities supporting the goals of AB 617 (Garcia, 2017)
- ▶ Tentative Year 4 solicitation Spring 2023

# Where to go for more info...

Blue Sky Program website: <https://www.fraqmd.org/blue-sky-grant-program>

CAPP: <https://www.fraqmd.org/community-air-protection-program>

Mini Grant Program: <https://www.fraqmd.org/mini-grant-program>

Carl Moyer Program:  
<https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/moyer/guidelines/current.htm>

LESBP: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/schoolbus/schoolbus.htm>

FRAQMD's office: 541 Washington Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991

FRAQMD's staff: Peter Angelonides, Planner  
Pangelonides@fracmd.org (530) 634-7659 ext 209