

Blue Sky Grant

Public Workshop

**Feather River
Air Quality Management District**

September 25, 2020

Blue Sky Grant Basic Information

- Funding source is locally generated DMV renewal fees
- Authorized by Assembly Bills 2766 and 923
- FRAQMD Holds Annual Request For Proposals
- Must be approved by Board of Directors
- Projects are typically one year

Blue Sky Funds Available FY19/20

AB 2766

approx. \$150,000

AB 923

approx. \$350,000

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

- Replacing older school buses with new, cleaner buses in accordance with the Lower Emission School Bus Program (LESBP) or Carl Moyer Program
- School bus retrofits (AB 470 Halderman)
- New purchases of electric school bus
- Natural gas fuel tank replacement and refueling infrastructure maintenance for school buses
- Other categories as defined in the statute

General Information

- New 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 Monday October 19, 2020 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, Cont'd

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 15-30 (December 18, 2015)

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

- September 2, 2020 —RFP issued
- Sept 25, 2020 —Public Workshop
- Oct 19, 2020 —Deadline to Submit Applications
- October 2020 —Staff Review
- November 2020 —Policy/Finance Committee Mtg.
- December 7, 2020 —Board Approval
- Dec/Jan 2021 —Contracts circulated
- Mar 1, 2021 —AB 2766 projects begin
- Feb 28, 2022 —AB 2766 projects completed
- May 31, 2022 —AB 2766 final reports & disbursements
- December 2022 —AB 923 projects completed

Mini-Grant Program

- The FRAQMD Board of Directors authorized a Mini-Grant Program for FY20/21.
- 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 \$15,000 for FY20/21
- 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

- GGRF to reduce exposure in communities most impacted by air pollution
- Targeting engine replacement, repower, and infrastructure projects in Disadvantaged and Low-income Communities supporting the goals of AB 617 (Garcia, 2017)
- Projects through Carl Moyer Program
- Tentative Year 3 solicitation in early 2021

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: Sondra Spaethe, Planning & Engineering Manager
sspae@fracmd.org (530) 634-7659 ext 210 (working remotely due to
COVID-19)