



Blue Sky Grant

Public Workshop

Feather River
Air Quality Management
District

September 22, 2023

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 (RFP)**

Must be approved by Board of Directors

Projects are typically one year

Blue Sky Funds Available FY23/24

AB 2766
approx. \$120,000

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

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

- **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 16, 2023, 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**

Application Form — AB 2766

- **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, 2023	RFP issued
September 22, 2023	Public Workshop
October 16, 2023	<u>Application Submittal Deadline</u>
October 2023	Staff Review
November 2023	Policy/Finance Committee Meeting
December 4, 2023	Board Approval
January 2024	Contracts Circulated
January 2024	AB 2766 Projects begin
December 2024	AB 2766 Projects Completed
March 2025	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 FY23/24.
- 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 FY23/24.
- 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)
- **Year 6 solicitation will occur in 2024**

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

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