



# CMAQ/Article 3 Project Application

## Project Applicant Information

<b>Lead Agency or Organization:</b> VCTC		
<b>Mailing Address:</b> 950 County Square Drive, Suite 207, Ventura, CA 93003		
<b>City:</b> Ventura	<b>State:</b> CA	<b>Zip:</b> 93003
<b>Contact Person Name:</b> Aaron Bonfilio		<b>Phone:</b> (805) 642-1591 x 121
<b>Title:</b> Program Manager – Transit Services	<b>E-mail:</b> abonfilio@goventura.org	

## Project Information

<p>1. <b><u>Project Name:</u></b> Replacement and Expansion Buses</p>
<p>2. <b><u>Project Type:</u></b> (Check all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transit</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle Facility</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian Facility</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ul>
<p>3. <b><u>Project Description:</u></b> <i>(e.g. number of replacement or expansion vehicles including type, size, and purpose, for capital improvements include location, length, limits of work, size, etc.. If bike lane, include length and class.)</i></p> <p>The Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC) is applying for funds to begin the procurement and acquisition of two new 45-foot replacement buses and one new 45-foot expansion bus for the VCTC Intercity bus service. Each bus will have capacity for about 56 seated passengers.</p> <p>In 2018, VCTC plans to replace one bus that is in line for retirement. The vehicle currently has over 500,000 miles accumulated and is over 10 years old. Further, pursuant to a negotiated settlement agreement between VCTC and its service contractor Roadrunner Management Services (RMS), VCTC will likely require 2 buses as part of the terms of the settlement agreement. In the settlement agreement RMS has the option of selling its company and requesting assignment of the VCTC services contract to the acquiring company to continue the contract, or if unable to sell, the services contract will be terminated following the procurement of a new transit operator. RMS currently provides 16 buses to VCTC for the service. However, the settlement agreement stipulates that only 14 of those 16 RMS buses shall be transferred to VCTC, if RMS does not sell the company. This scenario leaves VCTC with a shortfall of 2 buses. One of these two buses—irrespective of the outcome of the settlement agreement—is the vehicle due for replacement.</p> <p>In addition to VCTC’s replacement needs, VCTC is requesting an expansion bus to improve the fleet spare ratio. Currently VCTC has 5 spare buses in its fleet of 33 vehicles. However, beginning</p>



October 2017 VCTC is scheduled to implement a CMAQ funded route which requires the use of two vehicles, reducing the spare vehicle count to 3. In light of the pending reduction in spare vehicles VCTC is requesting 1 spare bus to offset future decreases in the spare ratio. Although two buses are to be used for the new route, given the structure of service delivery, VCTC is only requesting one additional vehicle at this time.

- 4. Project Location:**
- Vicinity Map Attached
  - Project Site Map or Site Plan Attached
  - Photos Attached
  - N/A

- 5.**
- Check Box if project is a stand-alone project
  - Check Box if project is part of a larger project.
- If project is part of a larger project, please describe:

**6. Financial Information:**

	<b>CMAQ</b>	<b>Article 3</b>	<b>Required 11.47% Matching Funds</b> (check box below)	<b>Additional Local Funds</b>	<b>Total Project Cost</b>
<b>PE</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>R/W</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>CON</b>	\$ 1,892,859	\$	\$245,241	\$	\$ 2,138,100
<b>Total</b>	\$ 1,892,859	\$	\$ 245,241	\$	\$ 2,138,100

**Additional Financial Information**

- Check Box if Requesting Toll Credits for CMAQ Local Match Requirements

**7. Project Schedule:**

<b>SCHEDULE</b> (month/year)			
	<b>Funds Obligated</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
<b>Preliminary Engineering</b>			
<b>Environmental</b>	n/a		
<b>Right-of-Way</b>			
<b>Construction</b>	January 2018	February 2018	August 2018



## Project Screening Information

### **8. Project Readiness: Briefly describe (no more than 100 words) the project work plan and timeline:**

VCTC has an existing contract with bus manufacturer, MCI, which includes the options for purchase of three buses requested in this application. The term of the agreement ends March 2019.

Once pre-award authority is approved, VCTC will issue a notice to proceed and purchase order to its contractor for the vehicles. The estimated build and delivery lead time is five to six months.

#### **Check boxes for all items that have already been completed:**

##### **Preliminary Design**

- Project Feasibility Study Completed
- Right-of-way needs and utility conflicts identified
- Vehicle specifications identified
- Planning Level Cost Estimates

##### **30% Design**

- Dimensioned drawings showing existing and proposed improvements, topography, utilities and row etc..
- Revised Cost Estimates and Schedule

##### **Environmental Clearance**

- CE or Checklist Complete
- Draft Environmental Document Completed
- Final Environmental Document Completed

##### **Final Construction Plans, Specifications, and Estimates or Vehicle Specifications**

- Construction Plans, Specifications Completed
- Final Vehicle Specifications and Bid Packet Completed
- Ready to Advertise
  
- No Right of way needed or Right-of-Way Acquired
- No need to relocate utilities or Utilities Relocated

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Community Meetings Held (not including meetings to adopt community-wide master plans)

### **9. Safety and Security: Will the project improve safety and security at existing facilities or improve safety by building new facilities? Please list the specific improvements proposed and how they will improve safety.**

Yes, as this project will ensure improved on-time performance which increases schedule accuracy and reduces unplanned waiting by riders at bus stops (facilities).

### **10. Air Quality Improvement: Briefly describe how the project will improve air quality.**

- For bicycle and/or pedestrian projects please provide estimated new average daily trips.
- For bicycle and/or pedestrian projects please provide average daily traffic volumes on adjacent or nearest parallel roadway.
- For transit, bicycle and/or pedestrian projects provide estimated annual VMT reduced.
- Average projected ridership.
- Will the project improve the level of service of a transit system?
- For transit vehicle purchases, please provide vehicle type, fuel type.





Based on the average passenger miles travelled (PMT), as defined by the FTA, two replacement vehicles will provide for the continued reduction of approximately 608,962 VMT per year. Assuming no increases to service or ridership increases, a single expansion vehicle will reduce VMTs by approximately 294,660.

Additionally in the case of VCTC, 1 expansion vehicle will improve service reliability (i.e. on-time performance) as more buses will be available during times of peak congestion. During the year VCTC has experienced increased congestion and which has decreased on-time performance considerably – as one trip gets behind the next trip is behind schedule as well. Although VCTC can address congestion by periodically adjusting schedules, this has a converse effect by reducing available fleet resources (i.e. capacity) and thus potentially decreasing available service and therefore impacting ridership. An additional bus to offset peak congestion delays allows for more trips to start on time and reduces the impact of delayed vehicles.

The vehicles VCTC seeks to purchase are MCI clean-diesel commuter coaches. The fuel type is Ultra-low sulfur diesel.

**11. Project’s Potential to Increase Transit System Capacity and/or Ridership, Attract Active Transportation Users, Reduce Motor Vehicle Trips and Serve Destinations: Describe the project’s direct relationship to streets, bicycle facilities, pedestrian facilities, transit systems, employment centers, and activity centers.**

As mentioned above, the requested replacement vehicles and one expansion vehicle will assist the agency in preserving the scheduled service and improve service by supporting service reliability. This is critical to the riders of VCTC whom rely on VCTC to get to and from work. In addition reliable bus service is critical to timed-transfers often necessary for our riders, which has a direct impact to usability of other transit systems.

Moreover, the vehicles VCTC is seeking can accommodate 7-8 bicycles. This increases capacity by 3-4 bicycles per bus. Bicycles are well-utilized on the VCTC Intercity routes.

**12. Network Connectivity and Local or Regional Significance: Does the project serve more than one mode of transportation?  Yes  No**

**If yes, please explain how:**

The VCTC Intercity bus system facilitates transfers and utilization of multiple modes of travel: including local bus transit, intercity rail, commuter rail, pedestrian and bicycle.

**13. Local or Regional Significance: Is the project consistent with the local, regional or statewide plans, the District Air Quality Management Plan, or the Short Range Transit Plan?  Yes  No**

**14. Local or Regional Significance: Is the Project identified in an adopted Local or Regional Transportation Plan (Short Range Transit Plan, Bicycle, Pedestrian, Active Transportation, Strategic Plan, CMP, ITS plan, Signal Plan, SRTS Plan, Corridor Plan) or Capital Improvement Plan?  Yes and  No**

**If yes, please provide the name(s) of the document(s):**

The VCTC Short Range Transit Plan specifies the replacement schedule of buses for Ventura County. While the planned replacement of the buses requested herein is projected for a later date, due to the increased mileages of one of the vehicles and the needed replacement prompted by the settlement agreement, VCTC intercity would otherwise see a service reduction. The SRTP VCTC Intercity 5-year Service Plan identified



expansion. Non-replacement of the requested replacement vehicles would require service reductions. Potential expansion of service described in the Plan is not feasible without the expansion vehicle.

**15. Bicycle Wayfinding Study: Is the Project Identified as a missing gap in the Bicycle Wayfinding Study?**  
\_\_\_\_ Yes     No

If yes, please provide the route number from the Study <https://www.goventura.org/vctc-bicycle-wayfinding-plan>:

**16. Local or Regional Significance: Briefly describe the public participation process (e.g. public meetings, public notices, project website, mailings, newspaper articles, etc...). How did the agency consider comments and responses from meetings when designing the project?**

Both the SRTP County-wide Transit Plan as well as the VCTC 5-Year Service Plan were reviewed and presented at multiple public meetings and workshops. Additionally, public feedback was solicited by passenger survey on multiple bus systems.

**17. Transit Project Necessity: For Transit Projects, describe the Project's necessity in relation to the Continued Operation of the Existing Transit System with Reliable Equipment.**

As mentioned previously, the replacement vehicles and expansion vehicle are required for the continued operation of the existing VCTC Intercity transit system.

**(CONTINUED)**



## CEO CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the applications included in this submittal package represent this agency's complete proposal for projects recommended for funding at this time. Should the projects be approved for funding by the Ventura County Transportation Commission, this agency will commit the local match as specified in the applications, and will make a priority of meeting the stated project delivery deadlines.

This agency is willing and able to maintain and operate the projects contained in the applications, and hereby assures that it will do so, with the proviso that the agency is permitted to transfer this responsibility to another qualified agency that is willing to do so.

Darren M. Kettle

Signature

Darren M. Kettle

Printed Name

8-21-2017

Date

Executive Director

Title\*

VCTC

Agency

\*Must be signed by City Manager, County Executive Officer, County Transportation Agency Director, or other organizational CEO.