

Barbers Hill Independent School District
Alternative Fuel School Bus Replacement
SEP No. 2012-02 – as Amended on 8/16/2022

Project Description:

Older school bus engines emit large amounts of nitrogen oxides (“NO_x”) and particulate matter (“PM”), as well as other harmful pollutants such as volatile organic compounds (“VOCs”) and carbon monoxide (“CO”). These pollutants contribute to serious public health problems. The Project will reduce CO, NO_x, PM, and VOC emissions by replacing older school buses with new propane-fueled buses.

Barbers Hill Independent School District (“BHISD”) operates a fleet of school buses. These buses were acquired over a period of years, and the older buses emit harmful air pollution. BHISD shall use SEP Funds to purchase lower-emission, propane-fueled school buses that are model year 2010 or newer (“Replacement Buses”) to replace buses that are model year 2009 or older (“Older Buses”), thus removing the Older Buses from the roads. BHISD shall ensure that each Replacement Bus purchased has an engine that meets 2010 EPA Standards. BHISD has invested in propane fueling infrastructure to support the operation of new propane fueled buses.

All Older Buses that are replaced shall be fully decommissioned as required in the SEP Vehicle Disposition Form. All funds received for the scrap value of the Older Bus shall become part of the SEP Funds and be reported on the SEP Quarterly Report.

BHISD shall give preference to replacing the oldest, most polluting buses that are currently in use. Only Older Buses that are currently in regular use, driven on a regular route on a weekly basis for at least the past two years, are eligible for replacement.

SEP Funds will only be used for the purchase of a base model or special needs propane fueled Replacement Bus. BHISD shall own and operate each Replacement Bus for at least five years following the date of purchase.

Any additional funding received by BHISD, before or after the purchase of a Replacement Bus, such as grants, fuel credits, or tax credits, shall be reported as set forth in the Special Conditions of this Agreement and subtracted from the total cost of the Replacement Bus. If the total SEP Funds spent on a Replacement Bus exceeds the final cost after other funding is applied, the SEP Account must be reimbursed for the difference.

Environmental Benefit:

This SEP will directly benefit air quality by reducing harmful exhaust emissions that contribute to the formation of ozone and may cause or exacerbate a number of respiratory diseases, including asthma. For example, by replacing a 1989 diesel bus with a new 2010 ultra-low emission model, passengers’ exposures to NO_x may be reduced by 98 percent; VOCs by 93 percent; CO by 83 percent; and PM by 99 percent.

Eligible Areas and Counties:

This project may receive contributions from the following:

Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, San Jacinto, Walker, Waller, and Wharton Counties

Minimum Contribution:

\$500

Total Project Budget

\$1,590,000