

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



<b>Agenda Date:</b>	July 17, 2023
<b>Action Required:</b>	No action required as this is a report of the findings achieved during the study of alternative fuels in the operations of Charlottesville Area Transit.
<b>Presenter:</b>	Garland Williams, Director of Transit, Ben Chambers, Transportation Planning Manager, Mike Shindledecker (Kimley-Horn)
<b>Staff Contacts:</b>	Garland Williams, Director of Transit Ben Chambers, Transportation Planning Manager
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Presentation of Results of Alternative Fuels Study for Charlottesville Area Transit</b>

**Background**

Charlottesville Area Transit is evaluating the feasibility of switching the type of fuel it relies on from diesel to a zero-emission (or low-emission) fuel. The transition to a new fuel type would support the City's goal of reaching carbon neutrality by 2050. However, to make this transition successfully, CAT will need to ensure that its vehicles are able to serve the work requirements of its routes in a reliable fashion. This study reviews the technical viability and risks related with switching fuel types and demonstrates the level of investment and timeline required for the transition to a zero-emission bus fleet.

**Discussion**

A presentation will be provided to council on the current state of the Alternative Fuel Feasibility Study. This presentation will review the technical analysis portion of the study and serves as an interim milestone for the study, which will be followed by additional engagement with external stakeholders and internal City staff.

**Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan**

The Alternative Fuels Feasibility Study is intended to support the adopted climate goals of the City, which seeks to reduce carbon emissions by 45% by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

The study also supports the Comprehensive Plan Transportation Strategy 7.4: "Reduce vehicle-related emissions through reduced vehicle miles traveled citywide, anti-idling efforts, increased use of electric and other alternative fuel vehicles, and increased fuel efficiency through fleet updates."

**Community Engagement**

Initial findings have been shared with the Regional Transit Partnership and across City departments. Following the update to City Council, an external stakeholder group, including regional partners in the

public sector and local advocacy groups, will be convened to evaluate the fuel option types and develop draft recommendations.

**Budgetary Impact**

There is no impact to the General Fund.

**Recommendation**

None at this time.

**Alternatives**

None at this time.

**Attachments**

1. CAT Alt Fuel Feasibility Study\_20230712
2. CAT ZEB July City Council Presentation