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Expect More. Experience Better.

Charlottesville Area Transit Facility Design and Zero Emissions Vehicles

City Council Update

July 2023





Today's Purpose

- Update Council at the current project milestone
- Provide an opportunity for Council to ask questions
- Solicit perspective from Council members



Schedule

- Feasibility Study and Environmental Assessment
 - May 2023 for Staff
 - July 2023 for City Council
- Space Program
 - Summer 2023
 - On-site visit: August 2023
- Site Master Plan
 - Fall 2023
- Zero Emissions Bus Transition Plan
 - Fall 2023





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Background Information



**Charlottesville Area Transit Facility Design and Zero Emissions Vehicles
Feasibility Study**

Going Low- or Zero-Emission

- Charlottesville and Albemarle County implemented a climate action plan
 - Decrease GHG emissions 45% by 2030
 - Reach carbon neutrality by 2050
- There's substantial funding available for transit agencies in transitioning to ZEBs from Federal Sources
- Market and industry trends are moving towards low- and zero-emission vehicles

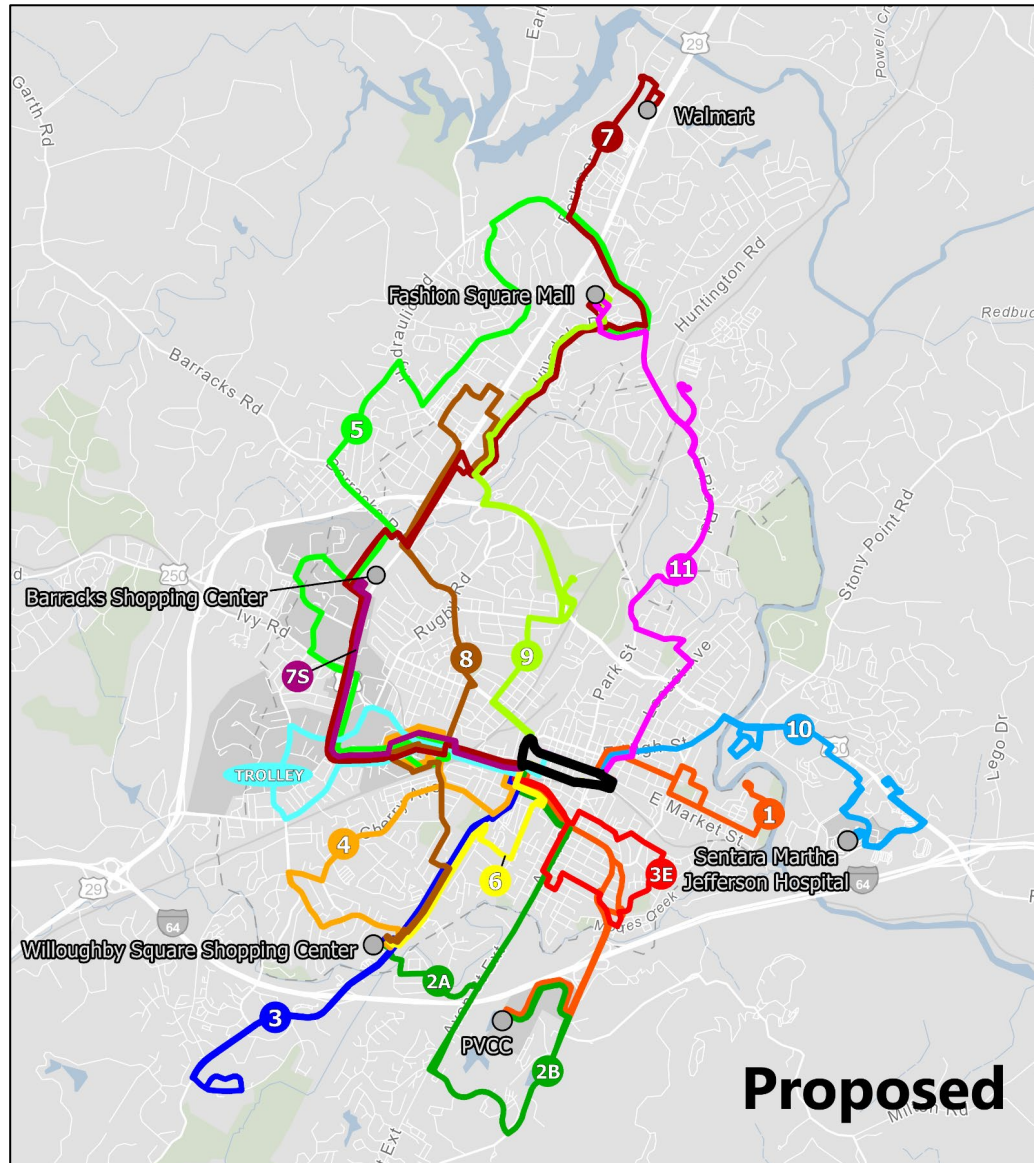




CAT's System Optimization

- 15 Routes
 - 26 operating blocks*
- Serves Charlottesville and urban areas in Albemarle County
- Operating hours typically 6:30am – 11:00pm

* *Blocks are equivalent to a vehicle's work cycle*



Factors for Consideration

A black icon of a cube or box, representing resources.

Resources

- Fuel Sourcing
- Vehicle Costs
- Training
- Funding

A black icon of a person wearing a hard hat and holding a plug, representing operations.

Operations

- Ease and Reliability
- Infrastructure Requirements
- Risks
- Flexibility and Scalability
- Administration
- Maintenance

A black icon of a leaf, representing sustainability.

Sustainability

- Environmental Impact (Local)
- Environmental Impact (Global)
- Resiliency
- Alignment with Local/Regional Policy





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Technology Feasibility

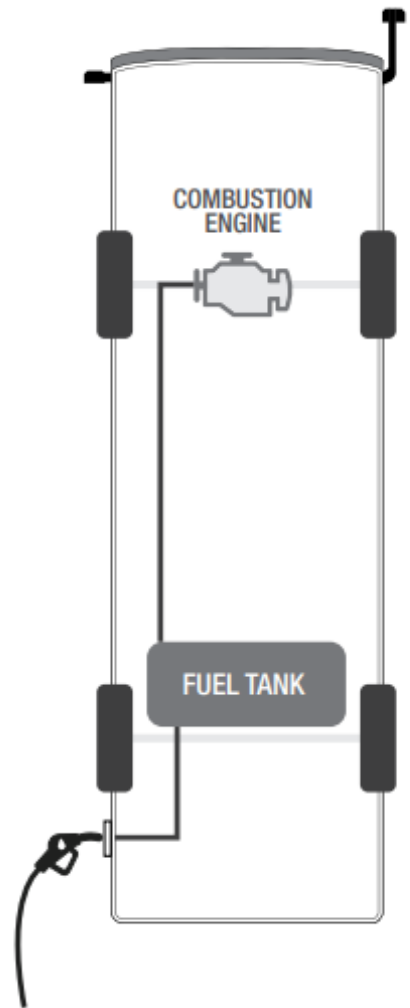


Charlottesville Area Transit Facility Design and Zero Emissions Vehicles
Feasibility Study

Produces Emissions

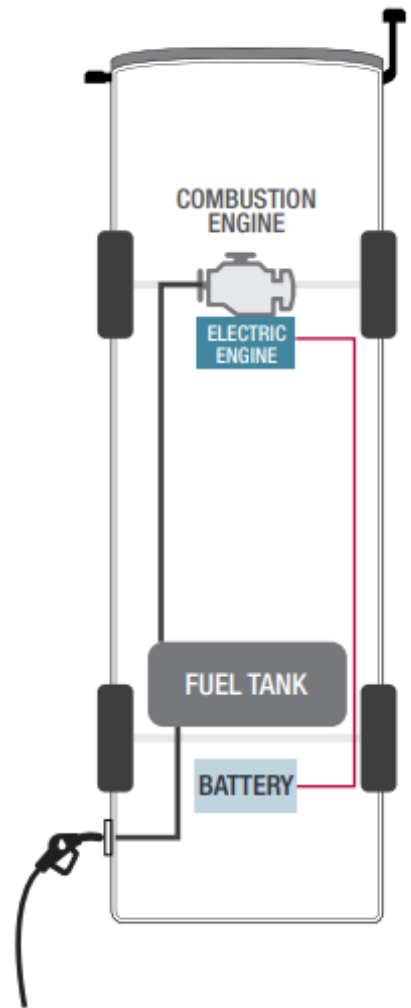
ICE

Internal Combustion Engine



HEV

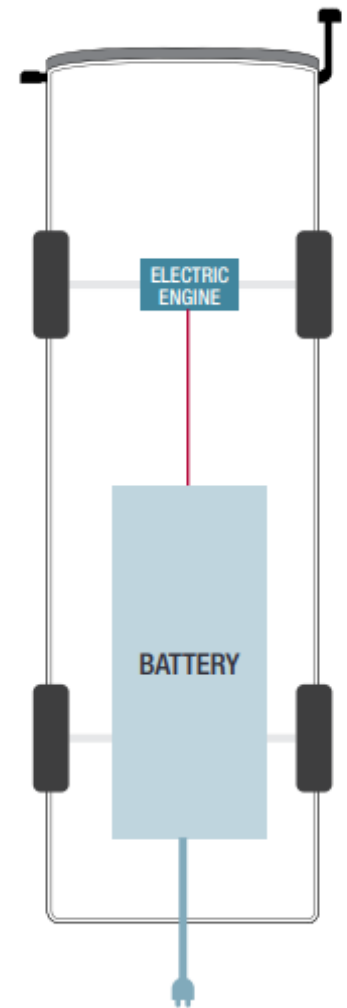
Hybrid Electric Vehicle



Zero Emissions

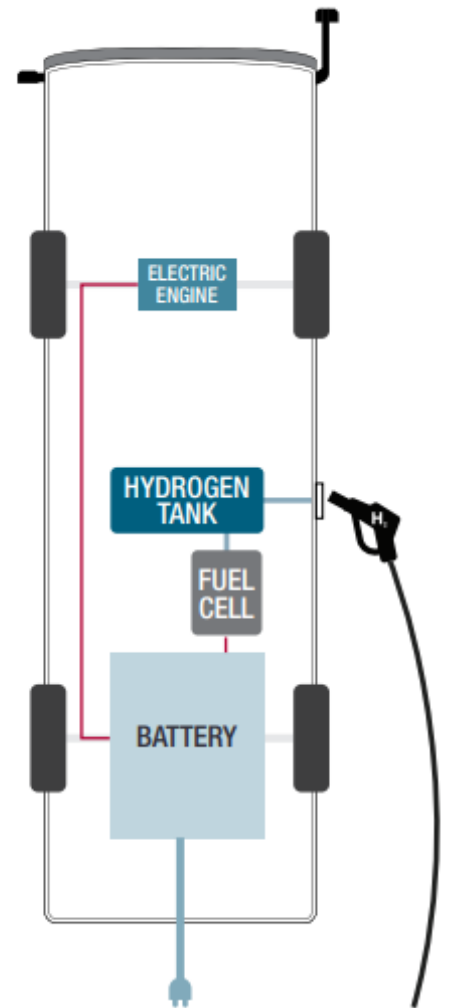
BEV

(Battery) Electric Vehicle



FCEV

Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle

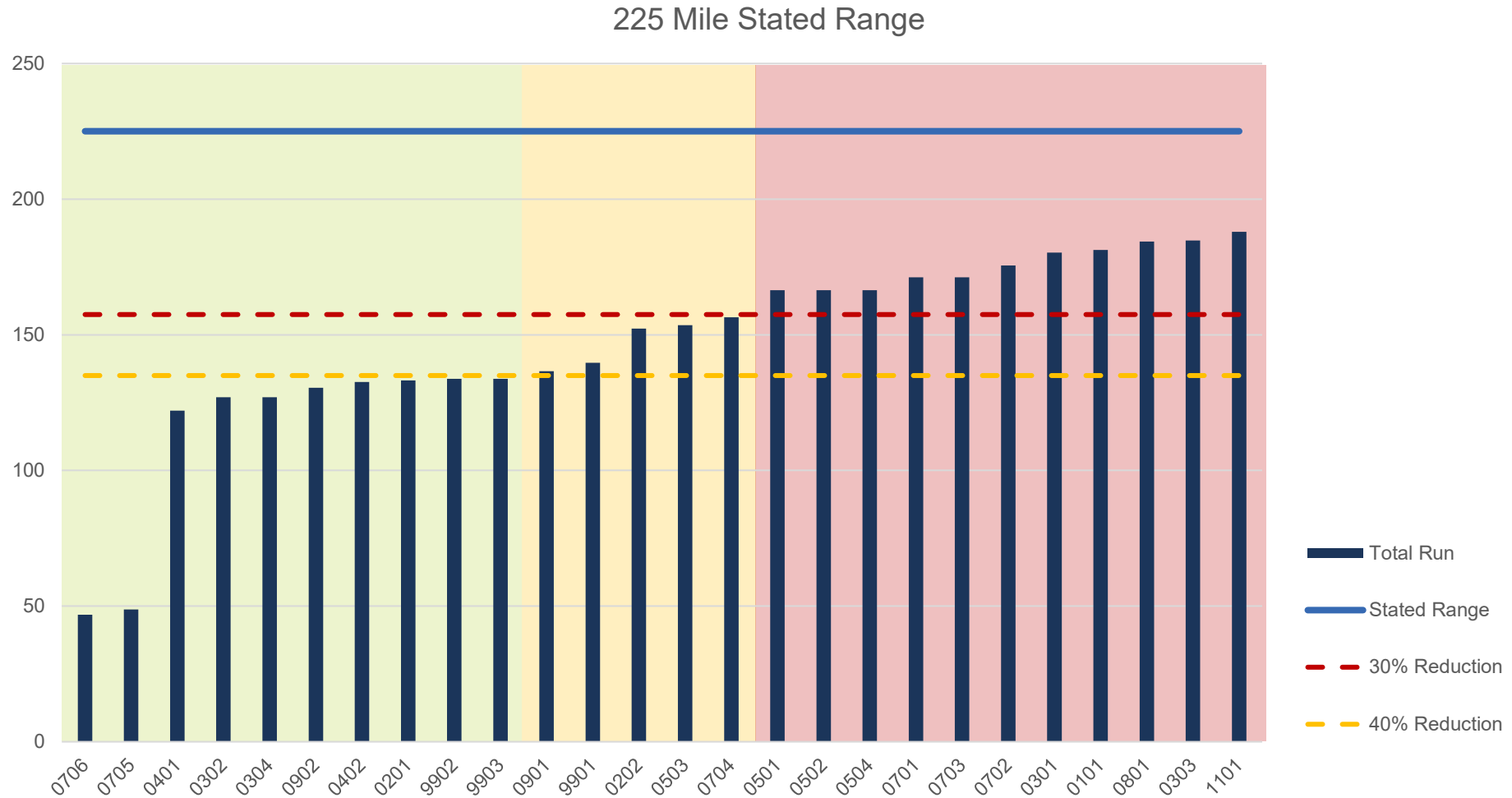


Scenarios

- Current: Diesel-only fleet (hybrid transitioning to clean diesel)
- Battery Electric:
 - 1.62:1 replacement ratio, assuming 40% reduction on range
 - Fast Charging, assuming 1 location with multiple bays at Downtown Transit Hub
 - 1:1 replacement ratio, assuming future technology advancements
- Hydrogen
 - Assumes construction of new cryogenic storage and fueling facility
- CNG/RNG
 - Assumes construction of new fueling facility

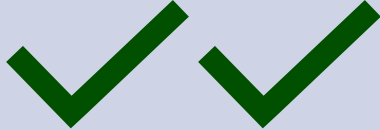





BEB Range Analysis



BEB Transition Potential



Routes	BEB Transition Potential	Description
7s		Has the greatest potential of successful operations under a BEB transition
2A, 3E, 4, 6, 9		Routes can be completed under strenuous conditions
2B, 3, 10, Trolley		Not all operation blocks could be transitioned OR routes could not be completed under strenuous conditions
1, 5, 7, 8, 11		Cannot be transitioned to BEBs with current technology and blocking





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Transition Plan Scenarios

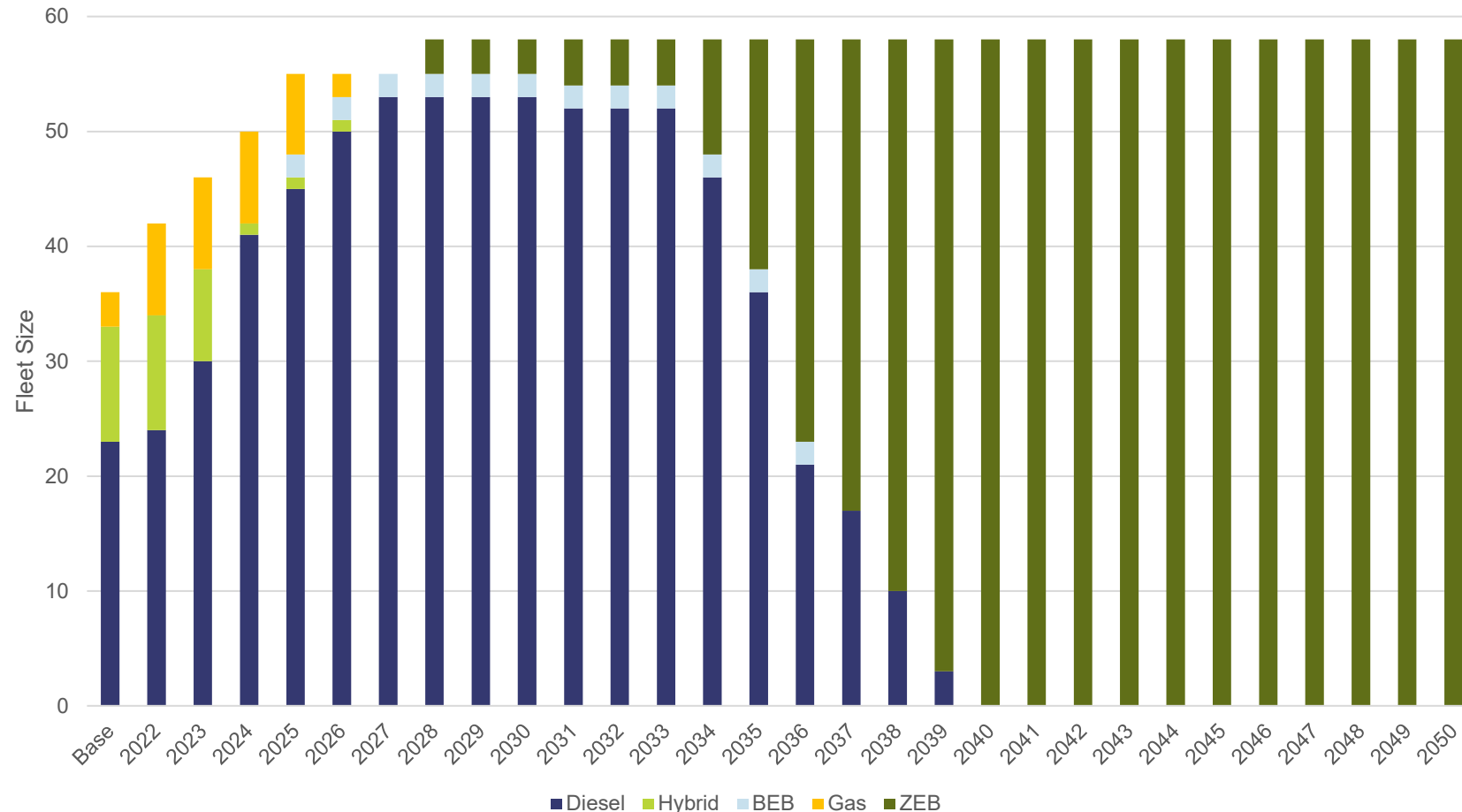


Charlottesville Area Transit Facility Design and Zero Emissions Vehicles
Feasibility Study

Transition Plan Scenarios: Hydrogen, CNG, BEB (*with* fast charging)



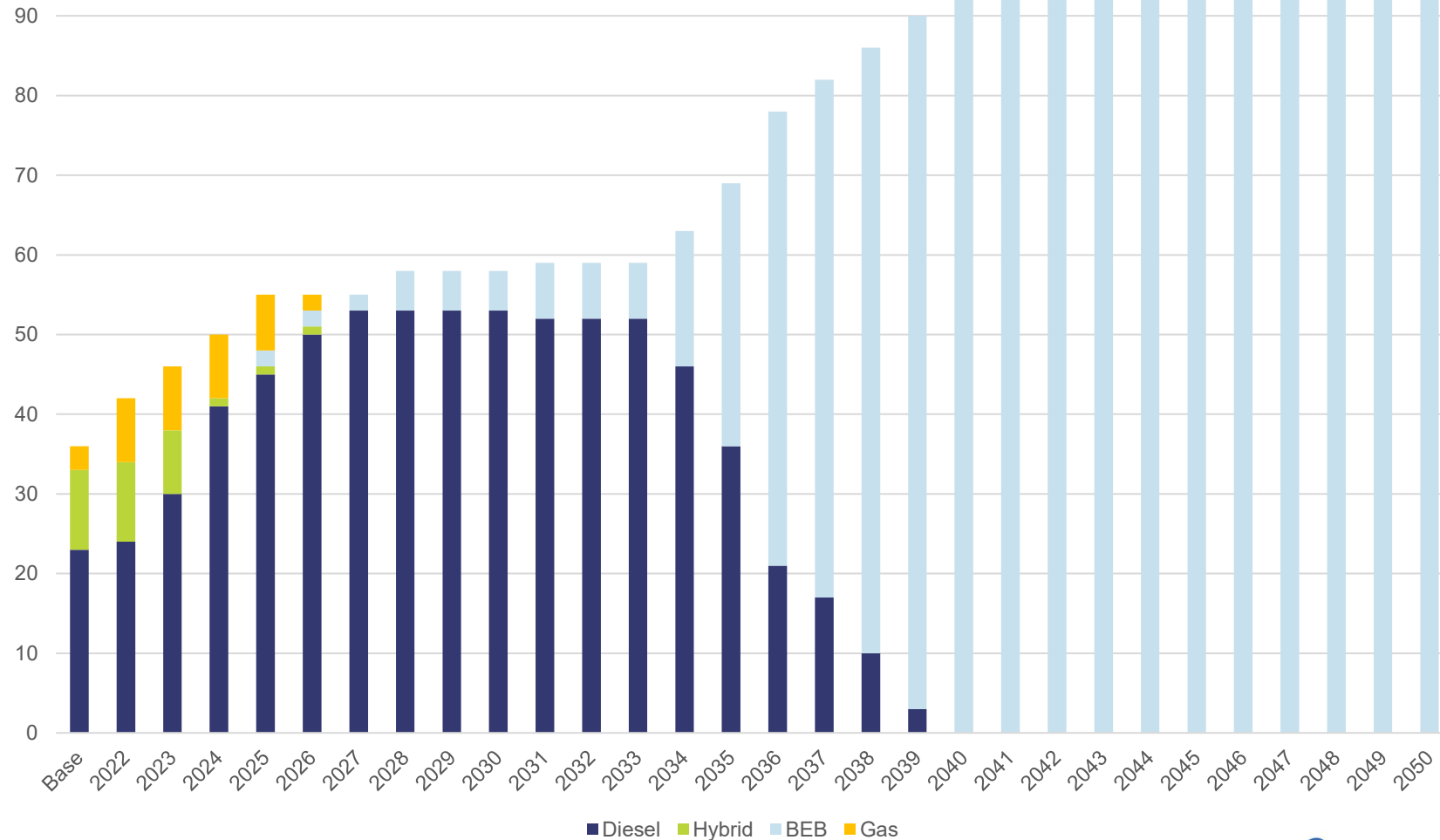
- “ZEB” generic term
- 2025 – Two BEBs added to the fleet as expansion vehicles
 - 2028 – Dependent on BEB performance, three planned diesel expansion buses could be swapped for ZEBs
- 2040 – First year for a potential 100% ZEB fleet
 - Assumes 12-year lifespan for buses



Transition Plan Scenarios (continued): BEB (*without* fast charging)



- Total fleet size of 94 vehicles
 - 1:1.62 Diesel to BEB replacement ratio
 - Replacement ratio based on current block completion analysis
- Total fleet size is dependent on future range improvements for BEBs





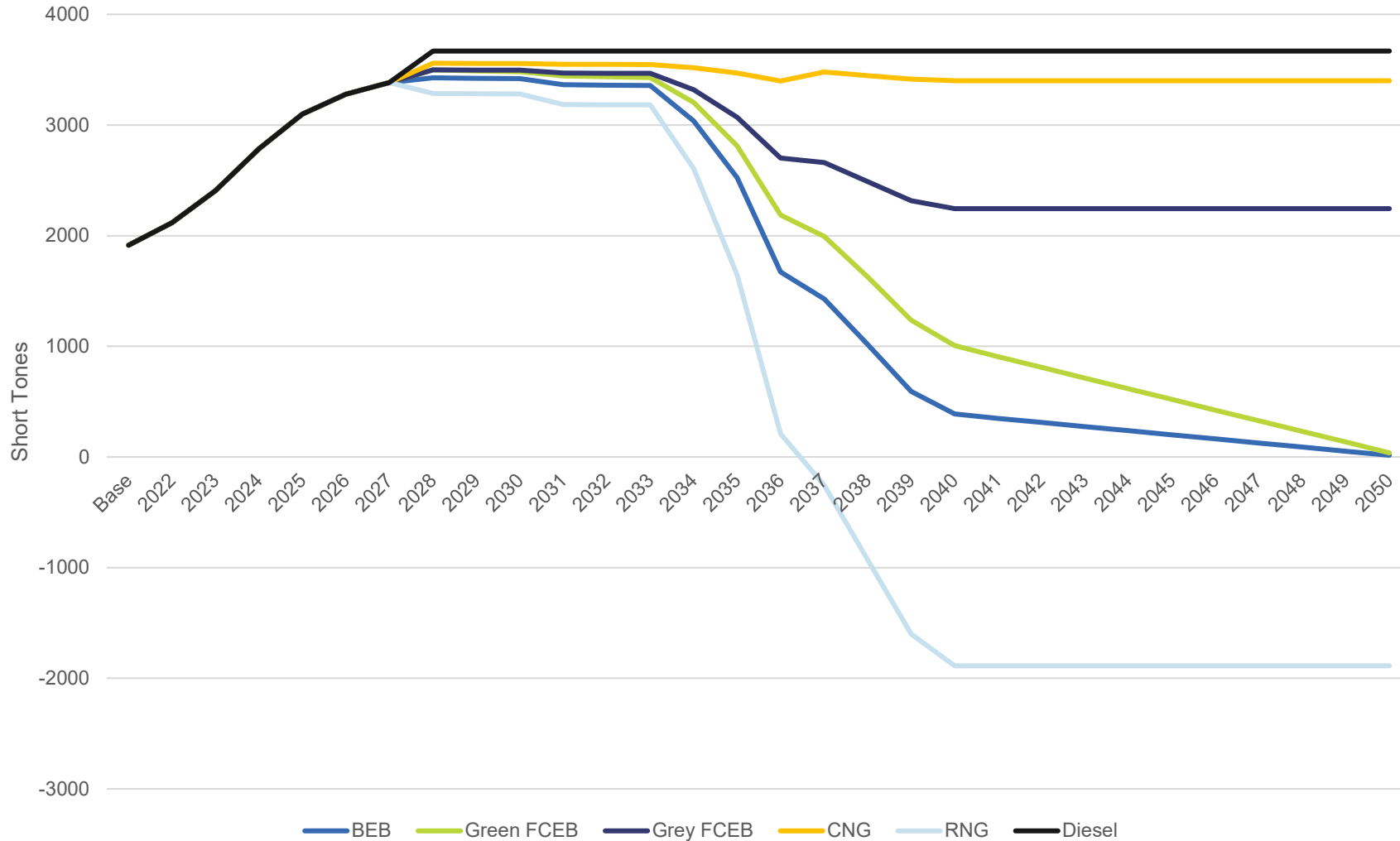
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Climate and Health Assessment



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Feasibility Study

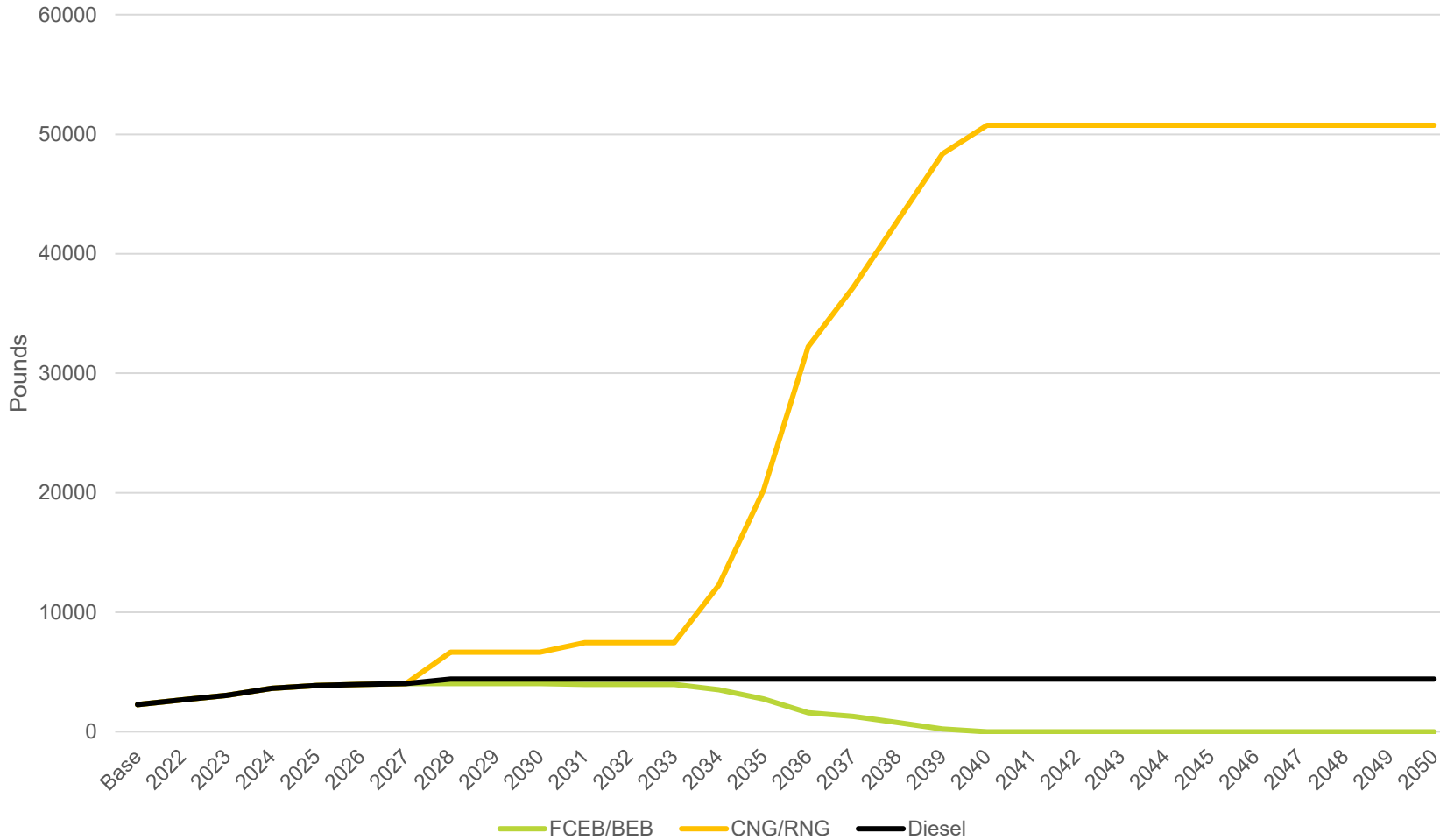
GHG Emissions



- The initial rise in emissions is due to fleet expansion
 - Peak fleet (58) is achieved in 2028
- 2050 reduction in GHG emissions compared to diesel fleet
 - RNG: 151.4%*
 - BEB: 99.4%
 - Green FCEB: 99.0%
 - Grey FCEB: 38.9%
 - CNG: 7.3%



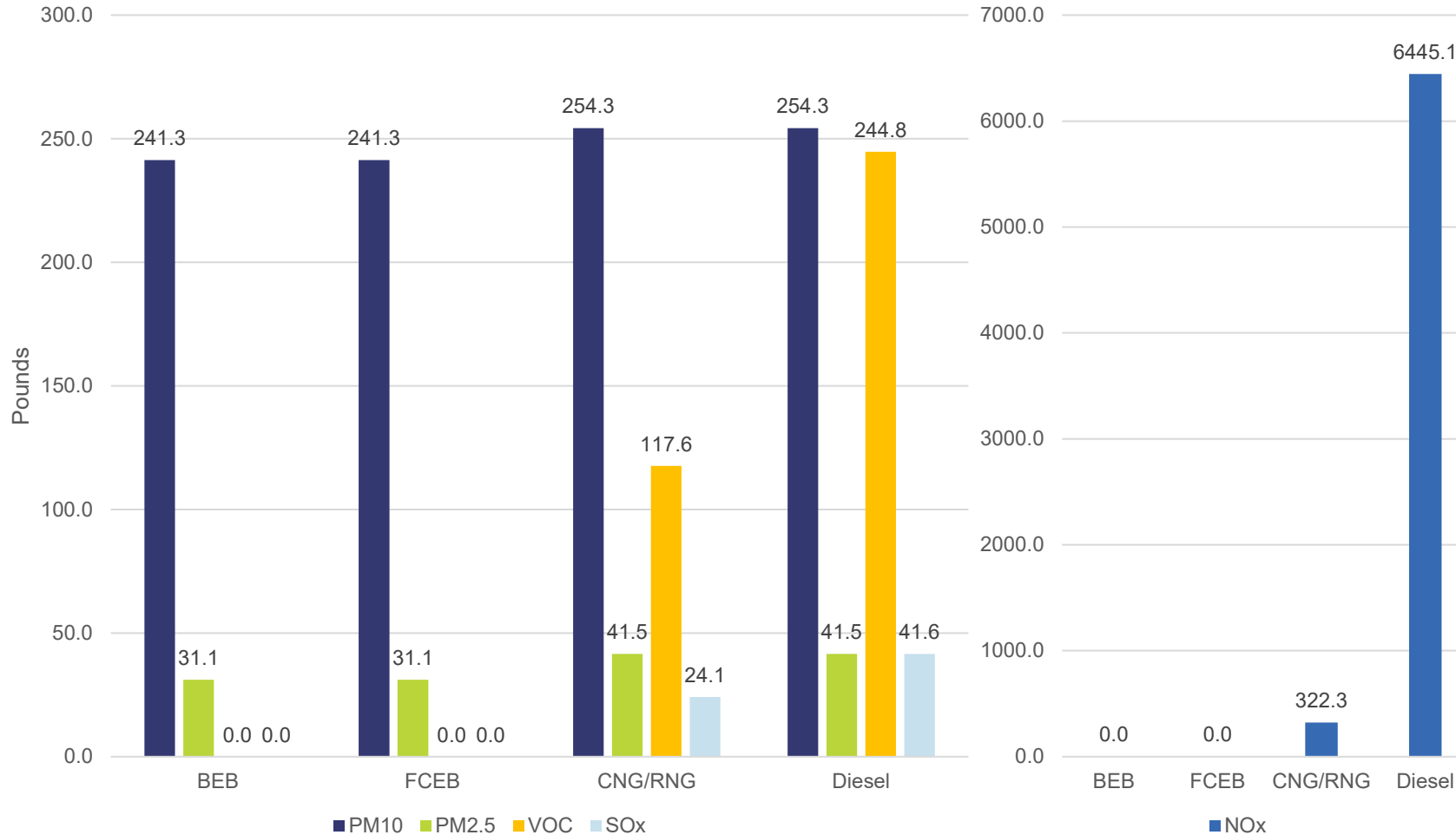
Carbon Monoxide Emissions



- BEB and FCEB transitions eliminate carbon monoxide emissions
- CNG and RNG transitions increase carbon monoxide emissions by 1050% from diesel fleet



Other Emissions (2050)



- Emissions based on complete transition and 2050 electrical grid
- FCEB and BEB transitions eliminate local NOx, VOC, and SOx emissions
- CNG and RNG transitions produce the same levels of local pollutants





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Comparison of Scenarios



Charlottesville Area Transit Facility Design and Zero Emissions Vehicles
Feasibility Study

Scenario	Number of Vehicles	Emissions Reductions		Vehicle Costs	Facility Costs	Operational Costs (Fuel + Maintenance)
		Long-Term	Near-Term			
Current	58 (36 Current)	-		\$29 M	N/A	\$2.2 M
Battery Electric	94	99.4%	6.8%	\$83.5 M	\$6.3 M	\$1.1 M
Battery Electric w/ Fast Charging	63	99.6%	6.8%	\$56 M	\$6.3 M	\$1.2 M
Battery Electric (Low-Estimate)	58	99.6%	6.8%	\$49 M	\$3.7 M	\$1.1 M
Hydrogen	58	99.0%	5.1%	\$64 M	\$5.7 M	\$1.9 M
CNG (RNG)	58	7.3% (151.4%)	3.1% (10.6%)	\$32 M	\$2.3 M	\$1.2 M





Next Steps

- The project will consolidate this discussion into a draft staff-recommended action
- We will document this in our feasibility study for your review and comment
- The project team will present the final revised action to City Council for approval
- The project team will proceed on to conceptual facility design





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Questions



Charlottesville Area Transit Facility Design and Zero Emissions Vehicles
Feasibility Study

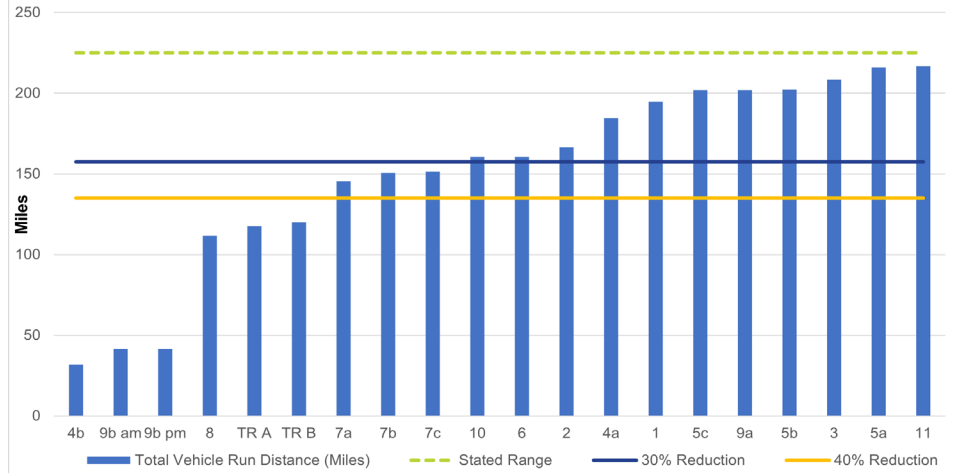


Data Backup

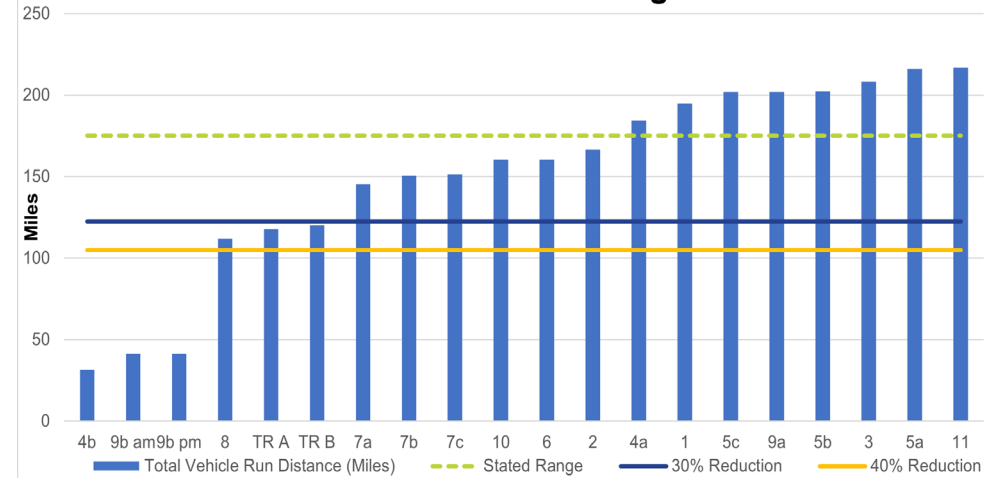




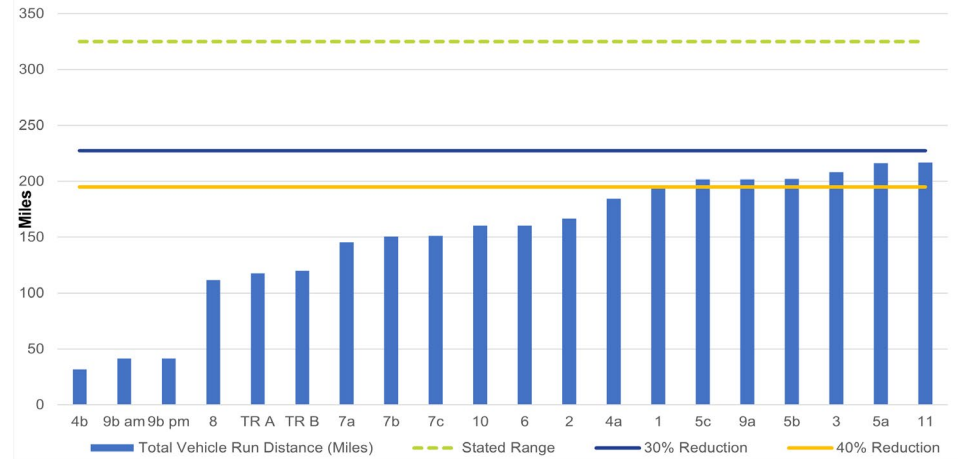
225 Mile Stated Range



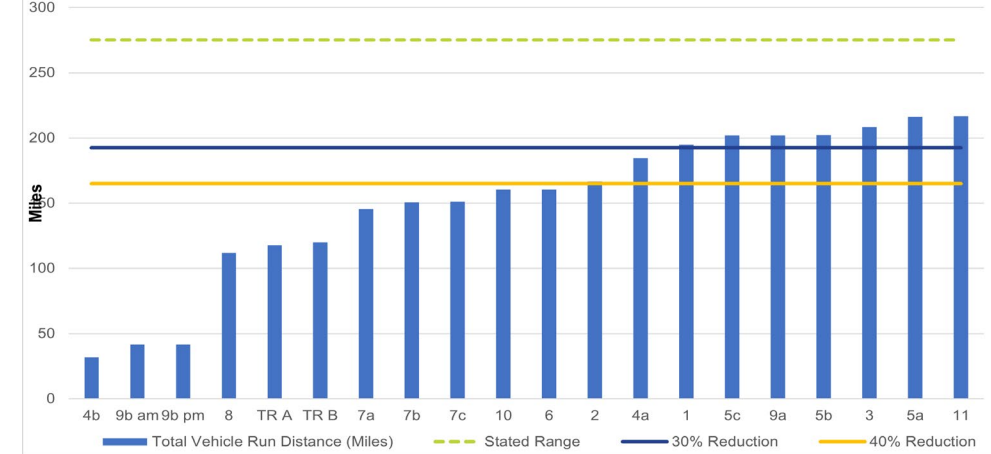
175 Mile Stated Range



325 Mile Stated Range



275 Mile Stated Range





Natural Gas Buses

- Range of 400 miles
 - Would complete all of CAT's current blocks
- CAT could perform a 1:1 transition
- Comparable purchase price to diesel buses
 - Average purchase price is \$500,000
- Cheaper to operate and maintain than diesel buses
- No public fueling stations in the area
 - CAT would have to construct an on-site facility
- Natural gas buses are considered low emission



Battery Electric Buses



- Range of 150-350 miles
 - Range significantly affected by external factors - weather, elevation gain, battery degradation, driver aggression, and bus occupancy can all decrease bus range
- Higher purchase price than diesel and natural gas buses
 - Average purchase price of a BEB is \$860,000*
 - Costs are likely to increase significantly in 2022 and beyond
- Options include depot charging, on-route charging, or a hybrid
 - Depot charging typically takes 5-8 hours for a full charge
 - One charger can service 1 to 4 vehicles
 - On-route charging can extend vehicle range indefinitely



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Hydrogen – Fuel Cell Buses

- Range of 260-350 miles
 - Less susceptible to range decreases than BEBs
 - Some models may experience weather related degradation
- Refueling takes around 10 minutes
- CAT would likely be able to perform a 1:1 transition
- Higher purchase price compared to BEBs, natural gas, and diesel buses
 - Average cost for a FCEB is \$1,150,000
- Closest commercial providers are 300 miles away
 - New Kent DE, Kingsport TN, and Charleston WV
 - On-site hydrogen generation and constructing a hydrogen fueling station is a significant capital expenditure
- FCEBs are still in their infancy, especially for buses under 40'

