

SCOTTSDALE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION REPORT

To: Transportation Commission
From: John Kelley, Transportation Planner
Meeting Date: August 16, 2012



ITEM IN BRIEF TROLLEY VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Background

The City of Scottsdale owns and operates a fleet of twenty one (21) trolley vehicles and is in the process of procuring replacements, as many of the vehicles have reached the end of their service life. The fleet includes two vehicle types: 15 Supreme trolley vehicles purchased new between 2003 and 2007; and, six (6) Eldorado buses that were acquired as used vehicles from RPTA in 2010.

Three Year Phased Vehicle Replacement Plan

Replacing the entire fleet with more modern mechanically fit vehicles will take approximately three years. During that time, in order to preserve the spare ratio and have enough vehicles available for the FY 2013 winter/spring tourist season (Hospitality Route and spring training) temporary measures will need to be implemented, in addition to acquiring new vehicles.

FY 2013: Replacing Older Buses with Newer Used Buses

Beginning in September 2012, several El Dorado buses will be replaced with 2001 North American Bus Industries (NABI) 40-foot buses. While the NABI vehicles are also used vehicles, they are in substantially better condition mechanically than the El Dorado vehicles. NABI buses have low floor/ramp equipment, improved air conditioning, and padded seats. These vehicles will be used on the Miller Road and Neighborhood Trolley routes. Due to their slightly longer length, they will provide additional seating and standee capacity to help alleviate the crush loads encountered on those routes. The NABI vehicle appearance will be changed by removing all Valley Metro decals and installing a vinyl wrap along the waist of the bus with blue and white trolley colors.

FY 2014: Replacing Existing Buses with New Buses

In the second year of our replacement plan, the first fourteen (14) new vehicles will be received, with delivery starting in late summer/fall of 2013. As they are placed into service, the NABI buses and older trolleys will be removed from the fleet inventory.

FY 2015: Replacing the remainder of the Vehicle Fleet

The third and final phase of the vehicle replacement plan is the receipt of the remaining seven (7) new vehicles in 2015.

Update on New Vehicle Acquisition

The RPTA will purchase the new vehicles for Scottsdale through a national co-op in Florida. Using this approach allows the acquisition process for Scottsdale to be streamlined, since RPTA has an ongoing vehicle purchase program and has met the federal requirements to purchase from the co-op. Specifications for the new vehicles have been submitted to, and approved by, the RPTA. Transportation staff is now working with Phoenix FTA to ensure all requirements regarding vehicle depreciation, replacement, and federal funding are met.



Vehicle Plan Update

Transportation Commission

August 16, 2012

John B. Kelley

Transit Planner

Trolley Replacements

- Three Year Fleet Replacement Strategy
- Scottsdale currently operates twenty-one (21) vehicles within the Trolley System.
 - Fifteen (15) 2003/2005/2007 Supreme Trolley's
 - Six (6) 1999 model El Dorado National buses

Phase One Replace El Dorado's

- The mechanical condition of the six (6) El Dorado National buses will prohibit their operation in the December – March peak season (four are no longer operational).
- Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) is transferring six (6) 2001 NABI buses to the City to use temporarily until new vehicles are acquired.

Phase 2 Vehicle Procurement

- New vehicles will be purchased through a Florida co-operative government contract for the initial fourteen (14) vehicles.
- This process ensures our vehicles will meet all Federal and local guidelines, and the vehicles and will meet our delivery schedule.

Phase 3 Vehicle Procurement

- The remaining seven (7) vehicles will be purchased using the same contract, completing the trolley fleet replacement process.

Timeline

- September 2012 Place order for first replacement vehicles.
- Late summer/fall 2013: Fourteen (14) new replacement vehicles arrive.
- September 2012: FY 2013 Replacement of El Dorado buses with 2001 NABI's
- May 2014 Place order for second group of replacement vehicles.
- Spring/summer 2015: Final seven (7) replacement vehicles arrive.

Conclusion

- Three year process FY 2012 – FY 2015,
- Three phases of vehicle acquisition
- Completion of fleet replacement estimated by Fall 2015