

Lift Line Paratransit Dial-a-Ride Electric Vehicle Transition Program

The Lift Line Paratransit Dial-A-Ride Program, operated by Community Bridges, replaces two existing gas-powered shuttles with two 16-seat electric vehicle (EV) shuttles equipped with wheelchair lifts thanks to funding from California Climate Investments. These EVs, the first all-electric paratransit vehicles to be deployed in Santa Cruz County, are recharged by two Level 2 charging stations installed at the Lift Line fleet facility in Watsonville, CA. The chargers are accessible to the public.

LIFT LINE

COMMUNITY BRIDGES
PUENTES DE LA COMUNIDAD



The Lift Line Paratransit Dial-a-Ride Electric Vehicle Transition Project is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of cap-and-trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy and improving public health and the environment – particularly in disadvantaged communities.

Dates: April 2018 – ongoing
Grantee: Community Bridges
Partners: Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission via Measure D.

Grant Amount:

CARB Contribution: \$268,219
Matching Funds: \$92,373
Project Total: \$360,592



Vehicles/Equipment Funded

Through Lift Line, the project funded the first paratransit electric vehicles in Santa Cruz County

- 2 ZEUS (Zero Emissions Utility Shuttles) assembled by Phoenix Motorcars
- 2 Level II - Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations

Specifications:

- Chassis: Ford E450
- Drive Train: Rear Wheel Drive
- Driving Range (UDDS): Up to 110 miles
- Average Road Range: Up to 85 miles
- Regenerative Braking: Dual-Mode regenerative braking system
- Top Speed: 60 mph
- Certification: California Air Resource Board (CARB)

Lessons Learned

- Electrical infrastructure requires governmental intervention and coordination. PG&E has not been able to supply the timely infrastructure needed to deploy Level III charging stations at many locations, making the transition both costly and arduous.
- While EV technology is still being developed, current EVs are maxed out on their daily range limiting routes and service integration.

Project Highlights

Community Bridges Lift Line has provided rides to 681 people in the EVs

- 122 to medical appointments
- 415 to Meals on Wheels dining sites
- 144 to Elderday Adult Health Day Care

