



Sacramento Regional Zero-Emission School Bus Deployment Project

The Sacramento Regional Zero-Emission School Bus Deployment Project’s large-scale deployment of zero-emission school buses will prove that commercially available zero-emission school buses have the best total cost of ownership, substantially improve maintenance and performance, and optimally serve the needs of school districts to sustainably transport California’s children to and from school.



Twin Rivers, Elk Grove, and Sacramento City School Unified School Districts have committed to operate the zero-emission school buses and charging infrastructure on the identified routes for this project for many years beyond the end of the grant agreement. The end-users consider this project to be the strong spark that is needed now to transition fleets to be fully zero-emission.

Dates: 02/13/2017 – Spring 2020
Grantee: Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
Partners: First Priority Bus Sales, eLion, Motiv Power Systems, SMUD, and TransTech

Grant Amount:
 CARB Contribution: \$7,696,955
 Matching Funds: \$6,788,514
 Project Total: \$14,485,469



Vehicles/Equipment Funded

Deploy zero-emission, battery-electric school buses from eLion and TransTech and charging ports to serve as a large-scale demonstration in the State’s Capital.

- 29 Zero-Emission School Buses Show that battery electric school buses best serve school transportation needs substantially reduce GHG emissions, and eliminate toxic emission exposures to children in disadvantaged communities.
 - Twin Rivers Unified School District: 16 Type C eLion and 8 Type A TransTech school buses.
 - Sacramento City Unified School District: 3 Type A TransTech school buses.
 - Elk Grove Unified School District: 8 Type C eLion and 2 Type A TransTech school buses.
- Install and commission 29 charging ports for all project school buses.

Lessons Learned

- Time delays due to unintended consequences in planning on the scope of work for the project, incorrect assumptions regarding infrastructure completion steps.
- Delays in construction of infrastructure, due to requirements, regulations, inspections. Project setbacks.
- Develop improved communication and collaboration with our Facilities department, for more understanding and acceptance of new technology. Breakthrough resistance to change.

Status Updates

- 16 Electric Buses deployed, transporting students daily.
- We are expanding the electric bus fleet by 20 new vehicles over the next 18 to 20 months.
- We are developing relationships with key stakeholders to grow the California Clean School Bus Fleet.