



Legislation Details (With Text)

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6/18/2024	1	Town Council		

Carrboro's Green Future: Advancing Zero Emission Vocational Vehicles

**PURPOSE:** This item seeks approval from council to apply for the Environmental Protection Agency’s Clean Heavy Duty Vehicle Grant (EPA CHDV).

**DEPARTMENT:** Finance and Climate Action

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Wendy Welsh, Grants Manager, 919-918-7302, wwelsh@carrboronc.gov, Laura Janway, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator, 919-918-7326, ljanway@carrboronc.gov

**COUNCIL DIRECTION:**

Race/Equity  Climate  Comprehensive Plan  Other

The EPA CHDV grant aligns perfectly with Carrboro’s strategic objectives. This program would support the Comprehensive plan the Community Action Climate Plan. The [Carrboro Connects Comprehensive Plan](https://www.carrboronc.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12199/Carrboro-Connects-Plan-ADOPTED-2022-06-09-compressed?bidId=) was developed with the foundational themes of race and equity and climate action. Chapter 10: Municipal Operations, recommends reducing greenhouse gas emissions due to municipal fleet operations. One strategy mentioned is to replace internal combustion vehicles with electric vehicles and/or alternative fuel vehicles as the market continues to improve.

This grant will also support implementation of the [Energy and Climate Protection Plan](https://www.townofcarrboro.org/DocumentCenter/View/8962/Energy-and-Climate-Protection-Plan---Updated-Oct-2020) (ECPP). The ECPP is a companion to the Community Action Climate Plan. It shares a similar goal (reducing 2010 emissions 80% by 2030) but focuses on the Town’s municipal carbon footprint. This application will align with the Fleet Study’s technology leadership recommendation to convert a refuse hauler to a BEV by 2025. Purchasing the other two vehicles will accelerate the Fleet Study’s schedule in transitioning heavy-duty vehicles.

**INFORMATION:** This project aims to replace three Class 6 & 7 internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles with three comparable zero-emission (ZE) heavy duty vehicles. Funding will be used to purchase three battery-

electric heavy-duty vehicles, a level three charging station, and facilitate a workforce development program to educate and certify drivers and mechanics who work with these vehicles daily. Replacing heavy duty ICE vehicles will make a substantial contribution to achieving the town's climate action goals. By adopting zero-emission technology for heavy-duty vehicles, Carrboro will affirm its pledge to a sustainable future.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** No fiscal impact.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that council approve staff to apply for the EPA CHDV grant.