Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: December 4, 2012

To: **Honorable Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson**
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Item No. 8(N)(5)

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

Subject: Resolution Authorizing the Filing of a Grant Application on Behalf of Miami-Dade County with the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration for Fiscal Year 2012 Section 5308 Clean Fuel Program Funding In the Amount of $2,512,500

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approve the attached resolution authorizing the filing of a grant application with the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012, Section 5308-Clean Fuel Program funds in the amount of $2,512,500. This funding will be used to retrofit approximately 100 older buses with new electric engine cooling systems.

It is further recommended that the Board authorize this grant agreement pursuant to the application, as well as the receipt and expenditure of funds as specified in the agreement. A public hearing is required in accordance with FTA regulations.

SCOPE

The impact of the project benefits the riding public, and is therefore, countywide.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

This grant will provide $2,512,500 in federal funding for the Electric Engine Cooling Systems project. There will be no negative impact to the County since the required $427,125 match will be provided by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) using State Toll Revenue Credits as a "soft match." The local match rate is a blended rate at 17%. The total estimated cost of the project is $2,939,625.

Based on a fuel price of $3.75 per gallon, there is an estimated annual cost savings of $286,500, a 7% fuel economy improvement. This estimated cost savings equates to approximately $1,719,000 during the 6-year minimum expected life of the retrofitted buses.

TRACK RECORD/MONITOR

Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) has entered into numerous funding agreements with the FTA over the course of more than twenty-six (26) years. The Project Manager for this grant is Ed Carson, Grants Manager, MDT Grants Resources.

DELEGATED AUTHORITY

In accordance with Section 2-8.3 of the Miami-Dade County Code related to identifying delegation of Board authority, there are no authorities beyond that specified in the resolution which include authority for the Mayor, Mayor's designee or the MDT Director to execute the agreement and receive and expend these and any additional funds should they become available.

BACKGROUND

The FTA Clean Fuels Grant Program was initially established as the Clean Fuels Formula Program in Section 3008 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, Public Law 105-178, and June 9, 1998 (now codified at 49 U.S.C. 5308). The program is currently authorized as a discretionary program

under Section 5308, as amended by Section 3010 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

The Clean Fuels Grant Program assists designated recipients in achieving or maintaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone and carbon monoxide. Additionally, the program supports emerging clean fuel and advanced propulsion technologies for transit buses and markets for those technologies. Eligible projects include the following: 1) Purchasing or leasing clean fuel buses; 2) Constructing or leasing clean fuel bus facilities or electrical recharging facilities and related equipment; and 3) Projects relating to clean fuel, biodiesel, hybrid electric, or zero emissions technology buses that exhibit equivalent or superior emissions reductions to existing clean fuel or hybrid electric technologies.

On February 7, 2012, the FTA announced the availability of approximately $51.5 million in discretionary funds from its FY 2012 Section 5308 Clean Fuel Program to fund projects selected through a competitive process. MDT submitted its application proposal to the FTA on April 9, 2012 for $3,837,090 in funding assistance for the Electric Engine Cooling Systems Project. This project entails retrofitting 184 older model buses with new electric engine cooling systems. The electric engine cooling system replaces the conventional hydraulic cooling system and is designed to eliminate engine overheating, which is prone to occur in harsh start-stop conditions experienced by mass transit buses. The system offers immediate benefits: improved fuel economy; reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and prolongs the life of the bus fleet.

On September 14, 2012, the FTA announced the MDT Electric Engine Cooling Systems project was selected to receive $2,512,500 in Clean Fuel Program funding. Based on the federal funding allocated to this project, MDT reduced the original proposed 184 buses to be retrofitted to approximately 100. The total estimated cost of the scaled down project is $2,939,625. A completed grant application must be submitted to FTA before the federal funds can be awarded.

The anticipated completion date of this project is September 2014.

Alina T. Hudak
Deputy Mayor/County Manager

MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: December 4, 2012

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(N)(5)

Please note any items checked.

_____ **"3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised**

_____ **6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**

_____ **4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**

_____ **Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**

_____ **Budget required**

_____ **Statement of fiscal impact required**

_____ **Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing**

_____ **No committee review**

_____ **Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous _____) to approve**

_____ **Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 8(N)(5)
12-4-12

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (USDOT), FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) FOR $2,512,500 IN FISCAL YEAR 2012 SECTION 5308 CLEAN FUEL PROGRAM FUNDS AS AMENDED BY SECTION 3010 OF THE SAFE, AFFORDABLE, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS (SAFETEA-LU); AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF GRANT AGREEMENTS PURSUANT TO SUCH APPLICATIONS; AUTHORIZING THE RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS PURSUANT TO SUCH APPLICATIONS AND AGREEMENTS; AND AUTHORIZING THE RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDS SHOULD THEY BECOME AVAILABLE

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provision by it of the local share of project costs; and

WHEREAS, it is required by the USDOT in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1994, that the applicant give an assurance that it will comply with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1994; and USDOT requirement thereunder; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing has been conducted on Miami-Dade County's FTA Section 5308 Clean Fuel Program grant application as described in the County Mayor's accompanying memorandum; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is authorized to provide State Toll Revenue Credits (TRC's) as a soft match for federal funding for transportation programs and projects, when available,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. This Board authorizes the County Mayor, Mayor's designee, or Miami-Dade Transit Director, to file a financial assistance application with the USDOT for $2,512,500 in FY 2012 FTA Section 5308 Clean Fuel Program funds for the MDT Electric Engine Cooling Systems Project and to utilize $427,125 in Toll Revenue Credits from the State of Florida as a soft match.

Section 2. That the County staff is authorized to furnish such additional information as the USDOT and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) may require in connection with the grant application for this project.

Section 3. That this Board further authorizes the County Mayor, Mayor's designee, or Miami-Dade Transit Director, to execute such contracts and agreements as are approved by the County Attorney's Office; to receive and expend funds in accordance with such aforementioned contracts and agreements; to file and execute any additional agreements, revisions, or amendments as required to carry out the projects for and on behalf of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner ,
who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner
and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman

Bruno A. Barreiro	Lynda Bell
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	Juan C. Zapata

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of December, 2012. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By:_____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Bruce Libhaber

U.S. Transportation Secretary LaHood Announces $59.3 Million for Clean, Energy-Efficient Transit Projects Across the United States

9/14/2012
Contact: Angela Gates
202-366-3669

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood today announced that 27 projects will receive a combined $59.3 million to help transit agencies purchase and support cleaner, greener buses that reduce harmful emissions and improve fuel economy while also delivering a more comfortable, reliable ride for passengers. The funds from the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) FY 2012 Clean Fuels Grant Program will help achieve President Obama's goal for an independent and secure energy future.

"President Obama is committed to investing in sustainable transportation systems that improve access to jobs, education and medical care for millions of riders, while bringing cleaner air to our communities and reducing our dependence on oil," said Secretary LaHood. "These projects will also help transit agencies operate more efficiently and save money in the long run."

The types of projects selected to receive funding include replacing aging diesel buses with new hybrid-electric, compressed natural gas (CNG) or zero-emissions electric vehicles; building new fueling stations to accommodate alternative-fuel vehicles; and purchasing new clean-fuel hybrid batteries for buses.

"As more and more Americans choose to ride the bus to work and elsewhere, it's good to know that they can depend on vehicles that won't pollute their neighborhoods while also helping us to achieve greater energy independence," said FTA Administrator Rogoff. "By investing in these clean-fuel projects today, we're helping to ensure that the nation's transit services are good for the environment for years to come."

Demand for FY2012 funding was competitive, with FTA receiving 140 project applications totaling $516 million. A list of all 27 project selections, and a related map, can be found here: http://www.fta.dot.gov/grants/14825.html.

Some projects selected for funding include:

- $3.3 million for the St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission in St. Cloud, Minnesota to renovate its Metro Bus Operations Center so the facility can accommodate a fleet of compressed natural gas (CNG) fueled vehicles and a CNG fueling station.

- $4.4 million for the Transit Authority of River City in Louisville, Kentucky, to replace outdated, high-emission trolley cars with zero-emission buses, which will bring the transit system into compliance with federal clean air requirements for the first time and enable the transit authority to save on operating costs for years to come.

- $2.5 million for Florida's Miami-Dade County to retrofit older buses with new electric engine cooling systems that will improve fuel economy, reduce emissions, and prolong the life of the transit bus fleet; and

- $4.8 million for the Worcester Regional Transit Authority in Worcester, Massachusetts, to replace aging diesel transit buses with zero-emission, all-electric buses, which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, decrease fuel consumption, and save on operating costs.

In FY 2010 and FY 2011, FTA's Clean Fuels Program awarded $69.7 million for 36 projects and $62.6 million for 26 projects, respectively. This year's projects were competitively selected based on their ability to help communities achieve or maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone and carbon monoxide while supporting emerging clean fuel and advanced propulsion technologies for transit buses.

Transit ridership across the U.S. has increased 16 out of the last 19 months, and in July 2012, ridership was up by 2.5 percent over the prior 12-month period.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) of the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners in the Commission Chambers, second floor, 111 N.W. 1st Street, Miami, Florida, during a meeting to begin at approximately 9:30am, on November 13, 2012 to consider a project for which financial assistance is being sought from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The project is as follows:

Fiscal Year 2012 Section 5308 Clean Fuel Program Funds

A total of $2,512,500 is available to fund the Miami-Dade Transit Electric Cooling System project that involves the retrofitting of approximately one-hundred (100) older model buses with new electric cooling systems. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will provide $427,125 from State Toll Revenues Credits (TRCs) as a "soft match", for this grant application.

At the hearing, the Committee will afford an opportunity for interested persons or agencies to be heard with respect to the social, economic, and environmental aspects of this project. Interested persons may submit orally or in writing evidence and recommendations with respect to said projects.

A person who decides to appeal any decision made by any board, agency, or commission with respect to any such matter considered at its meeting or hearing, will need a record of all proceedings. Such person may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs or services. Auxiliary aids and services for communication are available with advance notice. This form can be made available in accessible format upon request (audiotape, Braille, or computer disk). For material in alternate format, a sign-language interpreter, or other accommodations, please contact Marcos Ortega at (786) 469-5225. Customers using TDD, please call through the Florida Relay Service 1 (800-955-8771) at least five (5) days in advance.