



# COUNTY of VENTURA

GENERAL SERVICES AGENCY  
**David J. Sasek, P.E.**  
Agency Director

**Rob Harris, P.E.**  
Interim Chief Deputy Director  
Facilities & Materials

**Greg Bergman, C.P.A.**  
Administrative Services Director

**Christopher Melton, M.L.T.M.**  
Fleet Services Deputy Director

**J. Colter Chisum, P.E.**  
Parks Department Deputy Director

September 14, 2021

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT: Ratification of the General Services Agency Fleet Services Department's Participation in the Grant Application by the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance for the Clean Transportation Program Grant from the California Energy Commission to Implement the Ventura County EV Ready Blueprint Project; Authorization for the Director of the General Services Agency or Designee to Accept \$1,052,890 in Funds Awarded Under the Clean Transportation Program Grant and Contribute \$323,267 in Match Funding; Approval of, and Authorization for the Director of the General Services Agency or Designee to Sign, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance to Manage and Administer the Ventura County EV Ready Blueprint Project; and Authorization for the Auditor–Controller's Office to Process the Necessary Budgetary Transactions (REQUIRES 4/5ths VOTE).**

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Ratify the General Services Agency (GSA) Fleet Services Department's participation in the grant application by the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA) for the Clean Transportation Program Grant from the California Energy Commission (CEC) to implement the Ventura County EV Ready Blueprint Project;
2. Authorize the GSA Director or designee to accept \$1,052,890 in funds awarded under the Clean Transportation Program Grant and contribute \$323,267 in match funding;
3. Authorize the GSA Director or designee to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with VCREA to manage and administer the Ventura County EV Ready Blueprint Project; and
4. Authorize the Auditor–Controller's office to process the necessary budgetary transactions to revise the following appropriations and revenues (REQUIRES 4/5ths VOTE):

General Services Agency – Transportation Fund I210

INCREASE Unit 4571	Equipment	\$ 738,108
INCREASE Unit 4571	Vehicles	\$ 638,049
INCREASE Unit 4571	Intergovernmental Revenue	\$1,052,890
DECREASE FUND I210	Unrestricted Net Position	\$ 323,267

**FISCAL/MANDATES IMPACT:**

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	\$1,052,890 from the California Energy Commission
Funding Match Required:	Yes, \$323,267 from GSA Fleet Services
Impact on Other Departments:	None

<b>Summary of Revenues and Costs</b>	<b><u>FY 2021-22</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2022-23</u></b>
Revenue:	\$ 1,052,890	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 1,376,157	\$ 0
Indirect-Agency/Dept.	\$ 0	\$ 0
Indirect – CAP	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Costs	\$ 1,376,157	\$ 0
Net Gain/(Loss):	\$ (323,267)	\$ 0

<b>FY 2021-22 Budget Projection</b>				
<b>GSA – Fleet Services (Budget Unit 4571)</b>				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Est. Savings/ (Deficit)
Appropriations	\$ 19,641,606	\$ 19,641,606	\$ 19,641,606	\$ 0
Revenue	\$ 18,453,658	\$ 18,453,658	\$ 18,453,658	\$ 0
Operating Gain/(Loss)*	(\$ 1,187,948)	(\$ 1,187,948)	(\$ 1,187,948)	\$ 0

\*Projected Operating Loss will be covered by unrestricted net position. The table above includes interest earnings and interest expense.

**REASON FOR RATIFICATION:**

On August 12, 2020 the CEC released a Grant Solicitation and Application Package titled “Electric Vehicle-Ready Communities Phase II–Blueprint Implementation” (Grant) under the Clean Transportation Program. The grant solicitation was only open to previous recipients of the California Energy Commission’s Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program Grant (now called the Clean Transportation Program) to develop an EV-Ready Community Blueprint. In September 2020 GSA Fleet Services Department (Fleet) was presented with an opportunity to join other entities in submitting a project to VCREA’s application package. Fleet selected its Strategy for Electric Vehicle Transition (Strategy) Phase II–RMP EV

Expansion and submitted a project proposal for VCREA consideration on September 23, 2020 (see Exhibit 1).

The grant application was submitted on October 23, 2020. VCREA acted as applicant and submitted Fleet's project on the County's behalf. On January 8, 2021 the CEC posted the Notice of Proposed Awards outlining that VCREA was selected for the \$2.5 million grant. With VCREA acting as grant administrator, the final grant agreement was signed by VCREA on May 24, 2021 and by the CEC on May 26, 2021 (see Exhibit 2).

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

California has an ambitious goal to reach 5 million Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEV) by 2030. To reach this goal, significant barriers need to be overcome. The CEC's Clean Transportation Program invests up to \$100 million annually in a broad portfolio of transportation and fuel technology projects to support innovation and accelerate their development and deployment throughout the state. This program plays an important role in achieving California's ambitious goals on climate change, petroleum reduction, and adoption of zero-emission vehicles, as well as efforts to achieve air-quality standards. The goal for Fleet is to continue to implement its Strategy for EV Transition to deploy EVs into the highest utilization locations in a cost-effective fashion.

### **DISCUSSION:**

GSA Fleet Services began partnering with VCREA and the CEO's Office of Sustainability in early 2019 on VCREA's Ventura County EV Ready Blueprint. Fleet had already begun crafting its own EV Strategy for transitioning the County vehicle fleet to EVs, which was presented to your Board in July 2019. The strategy evaluated locations that are most suitable for the installation of EV infrastructure and charging units, identified the right vehicle for the job, provided driver training tools, and supported drivers who might be hesitant to utilize new technology – all while minimizing costs to County taxpayers.

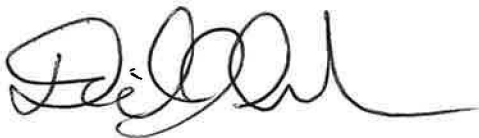
The strategy also contained recommendations to continue the transition of fleet vehicles for the County to EVs over the coming years, containing three main phases. Phase I: Central Motor Pool Expansion was completed in June 2020, deploying 14 EVs and 7 dual-port charging stations in Fleet's Central Motor Pool. Phase II is the Remote Motor Pool (RMP) Expansion. As part of the original strategy, Fleet analyzed its 9 RMP locations and vehicles to determine which locations have the highest vehicle utilization and best vehicle makeup that correspond with market-available EV/PHEV vehicles. This includes all sedans, minivans, and mini SUVs. Fleet investigated EV charging infrastructure technology, including new underground infrastructure, tapping into existing infrastructure, and non-connected solar charging. EV infrastructure has been, and continues to be, the largest barrier to EV expansion due to both the time required for construction and overall construction and installation costs. Fleet's investigation led to a review of alternative charging opportunities, including solar-powered charging stations. These stations required no electrical construction or installation costs, and require only a parking location and sunlight.

VCREA, as grant applicant, asked multiple entities, including Fleet, to provide an appropriate project for consideration for its Ventura County EV Ready Blueprint program. Fleet narrowed down its Phase II best-case EV replacement vehicles to sedans only, and created a project proposal to transition 18 vehicles to EV and purchase 9 solar-powered dual-port charging stations. VCREA accepted Fleet's proposal along with four other projects, including a proposal by a local community organization. The Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing Project's (MICOP) proposal was to purchase a Chrysler Pacifica Plug-In Hybrid Vehicle and an additional single-port charging station to provide reliable and clean mobility services to a Low-income and Disadvantaged Community. Fleet proposed to purchase both the vehicle and the charging station on behalf of VCREA as part of the grant funding request. For the Southern California region, VCREA competed against the County of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach for a grant award of up to \$2.5 million.

On January 8, 2021 the CEC posted the Notice of Proposed Awards, indicating that VCREA was selected for the \$2.5 million grant. As part of this grant award, Fleet received 75% of the amount of its project request of \$1,376,157, which breaks down to \$1,052,890 in funding, with a local matching amount of \$323,267. The local matching amount will be covered by Fleet, using recovered user fees and net auction proceeds from the RMP vehicles that will be replaced and sold.

The term of the grant agreement is May 26, 2021 to June 30, 2024. VCREA will be the administrative lead. Fleet is referenced as a subcontractor, and will implement its project in coordination with VCREA staff. Grant administration is detailed in the MOU between VCREA and GSA in the attached MOU (see Exhibit 3).

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Christopher Melton at (805) 672-2041.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Sasek', with a stylized, flowing script.

David J. Sasek, P.E.  
Director

Exhibit 1 – Fleet's Project proposal for Phase II EV Blueprint Grant  
Exhibit 2 – VCREA Grant Agreement  
Exhibit 3 – MOU between GSA Fleet Services and VCREA

ec: Christopher Melton, Deputy Director, Fleet Services