



RESOLUTION NO. U-11558

1 A RESOLUTION relating to the Department of Public Utilities, Belt Line Division
2 approving the acceptance of a grant funding award from the Federal
3 Railroad Administration to assist with the repowering of four (4), Tacoma
4 Rail Tier 0 diesel-electric switch locomotives.

5 WHEREAS the Department of Public Utilities, Belt Line Division
6 ("Tacoma Rail") applied in response to a competitive call for projects through
7 the Federal Railroad Association's FY-2024 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure
8 and Safety Improvements ("CRISI") grant program, and

9 WHEREAS the proposed project involved repowering four (4) existing
10 Tier 0 diesel-electric switcher locomotives with Tier 4 diesel engines as rated by
11 the Environmental Protection Agency, and

12 WHEREAS once completed, this upgrade will enhance the reliability of
13 Tacoma Rail's locomotive fleet, reduce annual fuel consumption of the project
14 locomotives, and reduce greenhouse gases and particulate matter emissions by
15 over 90 percent, and

16 WHEREAS Tacoma Rail was awarded \$8,316,000, from the Federal
17 Railroad Administration, and

18 WHEREAS it is in the best public interest to approve acceptance of said
19 funding award; Now, therefore,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

21 That the acceptance of the grant funding award from the Federal
22 Railroad Association's FY-2024 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety
23 Improvements ("CRISI") grant program which provided for a grant of
24 \$8,316,000, to assist with the repowering of four (4), Tacoma Rail Tier 0 diesel-



1 electric switcher locomotives, is hereby approved and the City Council is
2 requested to approve and authorize the proper officers of the City of Tacoma to
3 execute any documents necessary or convenient for the acceptance of such
4 funding award, all substantially in such form as on file with the Clerk and/or as
5 approved by the City Attorney's Office.
6

7 Approved as to form:

Chair

8
9 /s/
10 Chief Deputy City Attorney

Secretary

11 Clerk

Adopted



Board Action Memorandum

TO: Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities
COPY: Charleen Jacobs, Director and Board Offices
FROM: Alan Matheson, Rail Superintendent
MEETING DATE: October 8, 2025
DATE: September 15, 2025

STRATEGIC DIRECTIVE ALIGNMENT (select as many that apply):

Please indicate which of the Public Utility Board's Strategic Directives is supported by this action.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ GP1 – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging | ☐ GP8 – Telecom |
| ☐ GP2 – Financial Sustainability | ☐ GP9 – Economic Development |
| ☐ GP3 – Rates | ☐ GP10 – Government Relations |
| ☐ GP4 – Stakeholder Engagement | ☐ GP11 – Decarbonization/Electric Vehicles |
| ☒ GP5 – Environmental Leadership | ☐ GP12 – Employee Relations |
| ☐ GP6 – Innovation | ☐ GP13 – Customer Service |
| ☒ GP7 – Reliability & Resiliency | ☒ GP14 – Resource Planning |

SUMMARY: Tacoma Rail requests authorization to accept a grant funding award of \$8,316,000 from the Federal Railroad Administration to assist with the repowering of four (4), Tacoma Rail Tier 0 diesel-electric switcher locomotives. The locomotives will be repowered with Tier 4 diesel engines of comparable horsepower for use at Tacoma Rail's rail yard.

BACKGROUND: Tacoma Rail submitted an application in response to a competitive call for projects through the Federal Railroad Association's FY-2024 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant program.

The proposed project involves repowering four (4) existing Tier 0 diesel-electric switcher locomotives with Tier 4 diesel engines. Once completed, this upgrade will enhance the reliability of Tacoma Rail's locomotive fleet, reduce annual fuel consumption of the project locomotives, and reduce greenhouse gases and particulate matter emissions by over 90%.

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes

IF THE EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW IT IS TO BE COVERED.

Project will be incorporated into future budget cycles until completed.

IF THE ACTION REQUESTED IS APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT, INCLUDE LANGUAGE IN RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING \$200,000 INCREASE IN ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY TO DIRECTOR? No

ATTACHMENTS:

Email notice of award dated October 29, 2024.

CONTACT:

Primary Contact: Dan McCabe, Chief Information/Financial Officer, 253-405-9559



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

TO: Hyun Kim, City Manager
FROM: Daniel McCabe, Chief Financial Officer, Tacoma Rail
Alan Matheson, Rail Superintendent
COPY: City Clerk
SUBJECT: Authorize acceptance of a federal grant award, October 21, 2025
DATE: September 15, 2025

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

Tacoma Rail requests authorization to accept a grant funding award of \$8,316,000 from the Federal Railroad Administration to assist with the repowering of four (4), Tacoma Rail Tier 0 diesel-electric switcher locomotives with Tier 4 diesel engines of comparable horsepower for use at Tacoma Rail's rail yard.

BACKGROUND:

TPU-Rail recommends approval as the proposed project will enhance the reliability of the four project locomotives, reduce annual fuel consumption, and reduce greenhouse and particulate matter emissions by over 90% for the project locomotives. The award was received following a submission during a 2024 competitive call for projects from the Federal Railroad Administration's Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant program.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity
Increase positive public perception related to the Tacoma economy.

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* High Opportunity
Project will achieve a reduction in carbon emissions and contribute to Tacoma's 2030 Climate Action Plan objectives.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

Beyond reducing operational emissions, the project will reduce locomotive downtime caused by aging equipment and serves a broader national interest by modernizing transportation sector equipment which is critical to ongoing economic activities in the Tacoma Tideflats area.

ALTERNATIVES:

Presumably, your recommendation is not the only potential course of action; please discuss other alternatives or actions that City Council or staff could take. Please use table below.

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Reject requested approval.	None.	Delays locomotive modernization efforts.
2.		
3.		



EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

The Federal Railroad Administration will monitor project progression and requires post-project performance measures reporting for a period of three years. TPU-Rail will provide information to policy makers as requested as well as documenting results through future Resource Conservation Climate Plan (RCCP) goals.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

TPU-Rail staff recommend approval of this request to accept the federal grant funding. Following approval, staff will continue to work with the Federal Railroad Administration to finalize project specific paperwork and begin to move forward with development of a Project Specification to identify a contractor to complete the locomotive upgrades.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Please provide a short summary of the fiscal impacts associated with the grant, agreement, policy action, or other action.

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1. 4500 TPU-Rail	RAL-00138		\$8,316,000
2.			
TOTAL			

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

Budgeted in TPU-Rail Fund 4500.

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?

YES

Project will carry forward in future budget cycles until completed.

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

YES

The four (4) locomotives that are being repowered were built in 1982 with emission standards at that time (tier 0). Ongoing maintenance of the 1982 locomotives will be higher, will continue to operate with higher emissions, and be less fuel efficient than the repowered locomotives.

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

YES

The four (4) locomotives that are being repowered were built in 1982. The repowered locomotives will have lower maintenance costs, and the engines will be more fuel efficient. TPU Rail retains ongoing maintenance obligations for the locomotives.

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

No

ATTACHMENTS:

- Federal Railroad Administration Notice of Award

Matheson, Alan

From: McCabe, Daniel
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 6:15 PM
To: Matheson, Alan
Subject: FW: Selection Announcement for FRA's FY2023-2024 CRISI Programs

Official notice!

Dan McCabe
Tacoma  Rail
253.396.3040

From: FRA-Grants (FRA) <FRA-Grants@dot.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 18:11
To: McCabe, Daniel <dmccabe@cityoftacoma.org>
Subject: Selection Announcement for FRA's FY2023-2024 CRISI Programs



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration

Congratulations, Tacoma Rail.

Tacoma Rail Four Tier 4 Switcher Locomotive Repowers (application number: CRS2024001475) has been selected for an award of **\$8,316,000** with the Federal Railroad Administration under the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program! The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Office of Railroad Development is excited to partner with you to effectively deliver the Project.

This grant was made possible through the following legislative authority:

Section 11301 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, Pub. L. 114-94 (2015); 49 U.S.C. § 22907. Funding under this program was made available by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, Div. L Tit. I, Pub. L. 117-328 (2023 Appropriation, December 29, 2022), Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, Div. F. Tit. I, Pub. L. 118-42 (2024 Appropriation, March 9, 2023), FY 2023 and FY 2024 advance appropriations provided by and Division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Pub. L. No. 117-58 (November 15, 2021), \$7,724,132 in carryover FY 2022 appropriations, and \$2,000,000 in carryover from FY 2021 appropriations.

In preparation, the FRA is hosting a CRISI grant selection kick-off webinar for all selected applicants to inform recipients of the requirements needed to advance their Project to obligation and their role as recipients of Federal funding. We will answer many frequently asked questions during our kickoff webinar.

Please ensure the Project's project manager or day-to-day point of contact registers and joins us at one of the two webinars below:

Nov 19, 2024, 11 am—12 pm ET:

https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_64mo_PByS0G04bb0DevYw

Nov 20, 2024, 2—3 pm ET: https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_vG5cUCfcSGabv6Py8OGH7w

The webinars will be recorded, so if your agency cannot attend one of the two live events, please view a recording as soon as possible. For technical issues getting into the webinar or questions related to Zoom functionality, please email FRAWebinars@dot.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact FRA-Grants@dot.gov.

Mariam Ouhamou
Acting Chief
Grant & Loan Program Development Division
Office of Railroad Development
Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)