

Las Cruces Public Schools Electric School Buses

Science, Technology, and Telecommunications Legislative
Committee

Las Cruces Public Schools

Gabe Jacquez, Deputy Superintendent

August 31, 2023

Santa Rosa, NM



LAS CRUCES
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LCPS Statistics

- Approximately 23,000 Students
- 68% Economically disadvantaged
- 40 Schools (25 Elem, 8 Middle Schools, 6 High Schools, 1 K-8 School)
- 9767 Registered Riders
- 8942 Actual LCPS Ridership
- 39% of our total student population are actual bus riders
- 45% of our economically disadvantaged students are registered riders(4395 students)



Current LCPS Transportation Division

- Contract student transportation with STS-NM
- Fleet consists of 112 diesel busses (100 replaced 2022, 16 being replaced 2024 (11 diesel and 5 electric))
- 109 total daily routes run with a 3-tier system
- Average Route approx. 30-40 minutes inner city, Longest Route approx. 60 minutes, Shortest Route approx. 20-25 minutes.



Clean School Buses at LCPS

LCPS began looking into the possibility of electric school buses being added to our fleet in 21/22

LCPS Board of Education and Administration shared interest in renewable energy options for District transportation (fleet and school buses)

LCPS Operations Team attended regional informational session provided by Isleta Independent School District, El Paso Texas

LCPS Operations Team attended Power Up Las Cruces Expo and Training

LCPS encouraged to apply by Sen. Heinrichs office

Fall 2022 LCPS Applied for 5 busses and charging stations from the first EPA Clean School Bus Rebate Program



The Award

October 26, 2022 LCPS was selected and awarded rebate funding for 5 Electric Buses and charging infrastructure

- \$1,875,000 for 5 new electric busses
- \$100,000 for eligible charging infrastructure



Where are we at?

- Collaborate with our local municipalities in creating a support/infrastructure network
- Work with our Instruction Division to identify educational opportunities for our students
- Work with our Career and Technical Education team to look at modules/pathways
- Under the Leadership of the LCPS BOE and Administration, develop Policy, Regulation, and possible District standards/goals

Shared information with our LCPS Community

Collaborating with our Transportation Provider (STS-NM, DS Bus Lines, and Beacon) who have experience with district implementation nationally

Participated in EPA's webinars

Researched busses, charging stations, infrastructure

Collaborating with El Paso Electric Team

Met with our Design Professionals (Vigil and Associates) that were working on the design of our New Operations Complex to add in charging stations to our design

Met with NMPED Transportation Division to discuss next steps and collaborate on questions moving forward



Electric Busses

LCPS has ordered **(5) five** 2024 Thomas Built Safe-T-Liner C2 340TS electric Busses

- Engine type—Proterra Electric 0 cylinder 295 HP, 400RPM
- Air-conditioned
- 71 Passenger
- Estimated Delivery March 29, 2024
- \$401,462.97 each bus
- **\$2,007,314.85 total**



Electric Charging Stations

PCS NUVVE Rhombus 60kw DC

- Purchased 5 (\$34,200/**\$171,000**)
- Purchased dispenser (\$9800/**\$49,000**)
- Also commissioning required (\$1350 1st unit/\$500 per additional **\$3,350**)
- GIVE Platform Subscription (2 years included-- purchased additional 3 additional years \$680/**\$3400**)

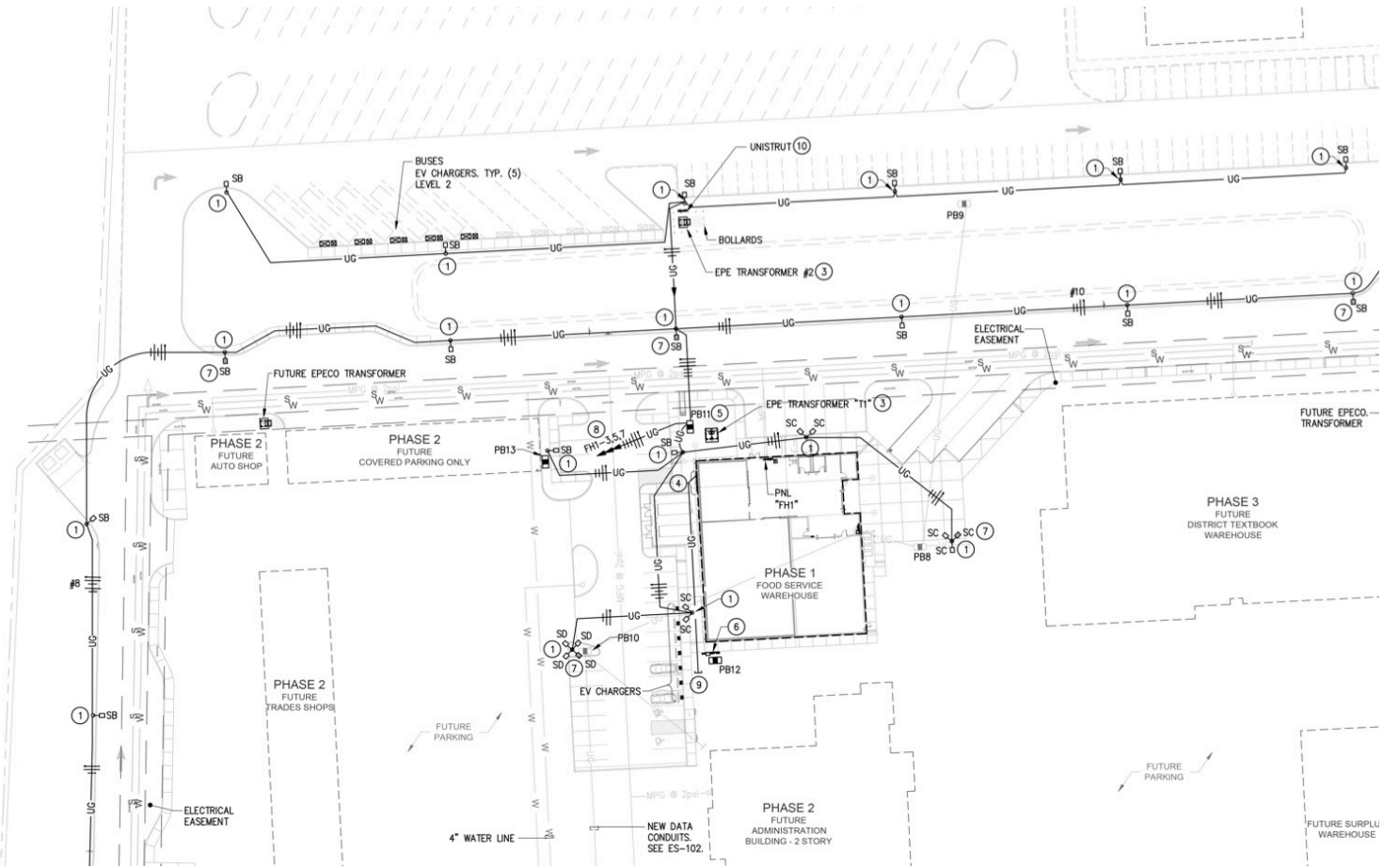


Infrastructure/Utility Company

- Vigil and Associates—LCPS Design Team
- Working very closely with El Paso Electric in the planning for the Electrical infrastructure needed.
- Collaborating with El Paso Electric to possibly conduct a study year to examine electricity usage, cost, and vehicle to grid transfer of electricity in our first year of operation
- Possibility of financial support on infrastructure from the utility for new utility equipment needed for charging



Infrastructure



Financials

Current Costs

- **\$2,007,314.85** Electric Busses
- **\$226,750.00** Electric Chargers, Commissioning and Subscriptions
- **\$75,000** for on-site infrastructure
- **\$25,000** Utility equipment
- **\$2,334,064.85** Total Cost

EPA Clean School Bus Reimbursement

- **\$1,875,000** for 5 Busses
- **\$100,000** for infrastructure
- **\$1,975,000** total award
- **\$359,064.85** difference to be covered by LCPS Capital Project Funds



Preparation—Strategic/Tactical Plan for Implementation

- Local First Responders
- Maintenance Support
- Transportation Contract—deviates from standard
- El Paso Electric—energy usage, cost, and possible buy-back program
- Training for LCPS Staff
- Training for Drivers
- Promotion and Educational Opportunities
- CLC/Community Partnership with infrastructure

Questions?



Las Cruces Public Schools

Mr. Ignacio Ruiz, Superintendent

Mr. Gabe Jacquez, Deputy Superintendent for Operations

Dr. Fred Montalvo, Executive Director for Operations

Mr. Sean Barham, Executive Director for Operations

Mr. Reynaldo Gomez, Transportation Coordinator

Ms. Teresa Tenorio, School Board President

Ms. Pamela Cort, School Board Vice President

Mr. Robert Wofford, School Board Secretary

Ms. Carol Cooper, School Board Member

Mr. Patrick Nolan, School Board Member



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