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For Immediate Release – June 1, 2022

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HDPT receives funding to support purchase of two electric school buses

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The Harrisonburg Department of Transportation (HDPT) will soon move forward on the acquisition of two electric school buses and supporting infrastructure thanks in part to funding from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

The Clean School Bus Program awarded \$570,300 to HDPT, which will use the funds to offset the difference between what two new diesel buses would cost versus the cost of two electric school buses, as well as for the purchase of associated charging infrastructure. HDPT staff will begin the process of purchasing the two buses in hopes of incorporating them into the school bus fleet in the next few years. When these buses will go into service is dependent upon market availability of the vehicles and related materials.

HDPT is eager to move forward on the project, as the transportation department focuses on sustainability improvements for its transit, paratransit and school bus operations.

“HDPT would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the State (specifically DEQ) for giving us the opportunity to enhance our vehicle energy renewal and sustainability goals for the City of Harrisonburg,” HDPT Director Gerald Gatobu said. “HDPT’s valued employees look forward to implementing the project that will ultimately enhance the quality of our City school transportation system.”

A commitment to community resiliency and protecting the natural environment is one of seven key focus areas in the Harrisonburg 2039 Vision Plan. Learn more about the plan here: www.harrisonburgva.gov/city-council-vision.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to 51,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburqVA.gov.



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