



## Use Part of the VW Settlement To Purchase Electric Buses

The State of Oregon is receiving \$68 million as its share of a settlement for the lawsuit brought against Volkswagen (VW) for deliberately cheating on emissions tests. It has been mandated that these funds must be used to reduce diesel emissions from mobile sources.

Lane Transit District (LTD) believes that a one-time investment of \$20 million for the purchase of electric buses statewide would be an effective and valuable long-term investment in an essential public service. LTD, along with transit districts statewide, currently faces an aging fleet of diesel buses without a viable way to replace them other than debt financing. This investment would allow transit districts statewide to replace aging diesel buses and offer operations cost savings while improving air quality in heavily trafficked areas.

### **\$20 Million Would Buy 25 Electric Buses**

Individual electric buses cost roughly \$830,000 apiece; nearly \$150,000 more than diesel-hybrid buses. In addition, transit agencies need to add high-voltage feeds and charging stations for electric-bus fleets. This necessary infrastructure would cost LTD approximately \$100,000.

### **Cost Savings**

Each electric bus would save \$15,000 per year (based on a 12-year average cost of gas) in fuel consumption compared with diesel buses. That equals \$180,000 in savings per bus over their 12-year lifespan. In addition, LTD would see a savings of \$25,750 in annual maintenance costs. That equals an additional \$443,000 in savings per bus over their 12-year lifespan.

### **Carbon Reduction and Public Health**

Each year, an average diesel bus in LTD's fleet consumes 7,823 gallons of diesel fuel, travels 34,423 miles and idles for 590 hours. Each electric bus would result in an annual reduction of 121 tons of carbon dioxide, which according to the EPA is equivalent to \$55,000 in health costs.

### **Settlement Goals Achieved Through E-Bus Purchase**

Using VW settlement funds to purchase electric buses achieves the goals of the settlement by:

- Effectively utilizing reduced diesel emissions from mobile sources
- Reducing operations costs for transit districts by investing in electric buses
- Decreasing noxious gas emissions
- Positively impacting public health

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