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MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization Committee Members

FROM: Kip Harrington, Division Manager

DATE: June 3, 2025

RE: **25TP013 – Letter of Support for City of Rapid City’s FY25 5339(b) Small Urban Vehicle Procurement for Replacement of Two (2) Fixed-Route Buses Grant Application**

The City of Rapid City is applying for a FY25 Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program grant application to replace two fixed-route buses for its Rapid Transit System.

The City of Rapid City’s Rapid Transit System (RTS) has been providing local residents and visitors with a safe and reliable public transportation service for more than 30 years. As the population of Rapid City continues to expand, along with increasing tourism, more demand is placed on the existing transportation system. Just last year, RTS counted 254,305 fixed-route trips; 61,168 of those were students using the “Youth Ride Free” program.

Rapid Transit System currently has 13 buses for its six fixed routes. Six of these buses operate in peak service and throughout the day, with one used as a spare. All have met their 10-year useful life. The replacement of two buses will greatly improve the safety and reliability of RTS’s fixed-route service.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the Letter of Support for City of Rapid City’s FY25 5339(b) Small Urban Vehicle Procurement for Replacement of Two (2) Fixed-Route Buses Grant Application.