



Invitation for Bids

Transit Hydrogen Bus Service Bay & Safety Controls Procurement & Installation

Project Title:

TRANSIT HYDROGEN BUS SERVICE BAY & SAFETY CONTROLS

Summary

Lewis County Transit is the business name of the Lewis Public Transportation Benefit Area (LPTBA), a public transit agency in Lewis County, Washington. Lewis County Transit has provided public transit services to the cities of Centralia and Chehalis since 1977.

Project Background

Lewis County Transit has received WSDOT State Transit Support and WSDOT State Bus & Bus Facilities* capital grants funds for the purpose of procuring hydrogen safety equipment and infrastructure to support ongoing maintenance of our hydrogen fuel-cell buses. By the end of 2025, Lewis County Transit will integrate six hydrogen fuel-cell buses into our fleet. With a growing fleet of hydrogen-powered vehicles, our maintenance shop must adapt to safely service and maintain these eco-friendly vehicles. Hydrogen, while offering clean energy, presents unique safety challenges due to its flammability and high-pressure storage. Lewis County Transit is seeking bids for a **hydrogen service bay** that meets OSHA, NFPA, and other regulatory guidelines to support a safe, compliant, and efficient workspace. A well-designed hydrogen service bay minimizes risks by providing a controlled environment with proper ventilation, leak detection, and explosion-proof features, ensuring the safety of technicians.

**The WSDOT State Bus & Bus Facilities Capital grant program is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA puts cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov.*

Project Location

Lewis County Transit Operations & Fleet Center
212 E Locust Street
Centralia, WA 98531

Project Scope

This project will include the design for installation of a hydrogen bus service bay within the existing facility in a location currently used for gasoline powered transportation vehicle service/storage. The service bay and associated ventilation and control equipment will operate independently of all other HVAC systems and equipment in the building or under the awning. Bidder's design should include the necessary MEP and FP systems to support the relocation of the existing equipment (if any), design of new ductwork and equipment as required, electrical power design, fire alarm system interconnection (if applicable), and fire protection design for the service bay sprinkler system. Bidder should also provide systems commissioning and operational validation services with the local building and fire department authorities.

The list of desired technical specifications for the hydrogen service bay is included below.

Lewis County Transit Hydrogen Bus Service Bay Specifications:

- Approximate Size: Inside Dimensions 20' wide x 50' long x 18' tall
- Air Flow: 1,500 CFM during standard operation, 4800 CFM during alarm purge mode.
- Curtains: NFPA rated curtain system all the way around the unit for a protected area to work. Curtains will be 12" off the floor to allow air to be pulled in near the floor.
- Electric soft roll up door with observation windows. 14' wide x 14' tall opening.
- Automatic Safety Control Panel: H2 Service Bay specific control panel with audio alarms and visual beacons required by code. 208/240/460v
- Gas Sensor: H2 gas sensor with controller and 12hr backup battery
- 16" Exhaust Duct Package - 22' Tall Metal/Wood Roof

All bids shall be inclusive of design, installation, testing/validation, training, and warranty (if available) of the hydrogen service bay as detailed below.

- Mechanical and Electrical Assembly of:
 - Hydrogen service bay
 - Exhaust Duct Run(s)
 - Wire system per N.E.C.
- Submittal and shop drawing review to be completed by bidder. Bidder will review all submittals, including but not limited to shop drawings, physical samples, manufacturer's data sheets, and product installation instructions, to verify that the proposed materials are consistent with the design intent.
- Support the needs of Lewis County Transit and the contractors during the permitting and construction phases.
- Generation of all required final affidavits or other closeout documentation for city inspectors subsequent to:
 - Receiving written confirmation from general contractor that all items in final punch lists have been completed.

- Receiving all of the following close-out documents from general contractor:
 1. Fire Alarm Certificate of Completion
 2. Sprinkler System Test and Inspection Reports (if applicable)
 3. Balancing Contractor's "Testing, Adjusting and Balancing Report"
 - Commissioning: The functional testing and validation of the hydrogen service bay controls, ventilation systems, H2 Detection, and alarming systems including:
 - Exhaust System
 - Hydrogen Detection and Notification System
 - Control Panel and Alarms
 - Controls Interlocks
 - Review all Testing and Balancing reports associated with the hydrogen detection and ventilation system.
 - Complete a Commissioning Report with all documentation required by the code and authority-having jurisdiction (AHJ) following an acceptable test of the hydrogen control system.
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Submission Instructions

Responses may be emailed to the Lewis County Transit Director of Fleet & Facilities, Tim Palmateer, no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21, 2025. Submissions can be provided in either Excel or PDF format, depending on the nature of the attachment. Respondents should not include attachments in any other format. If respondents submit more than one attachment, please clearly label and number each attachment.

If mailed or delivered, submittals must be **received by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, October 21, 2025. Postmarks will not be accepted.** Submittals received after the deadline will not be considered.

Please mail or hand-deliver proposals to:

Lewis County Transit
Attn: Tim Palmateer
212 E. Locust St.
Centralia, WA 98531

Questions about the meaning or intent of information provided in this IFB are to be directed to Tim Palmateer via e-mail at tim@lewiscountytransit.org.

Selection Criteria

Submittals will be evaluated and ranked based on the following criteria:

- 1) Estimated cost to complete the project
- 2) Ability to deliver equipment by November 30, 2025, or soonest thereafter.

The IFB submittal must include the following elements:

1. Cover Letter - This letter should provide a brief introduction of the firm to Lewis County Transit and indicate its interest in the project.
2. Narrative of Project Understanding - This discussion should communicate the firm's understanding of the project tasks and deliverables.
3. Outline of Project Plan - Prepare an outline of the project plan identifying the major project milestones and related work elements. Provide a brief narrative of each milestone and work element.
4. Cost Estimate – Prepare an estimate of the amount of money you intend to charge Lewis County Transit for completing this project.

Contract Limitations

Lewis County Transit reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive technical or legal deficiencies, to make such investigation as it deems necessary to evaluate Consultant's qualifications, to accept any proposal that may be deemed in the best interest of Lewis County Transit and to negotiate terms and conditions of any proposal leading to acceptance and final execution of a contract for services.

Bid Protest Procedures

1. Procedure: A Bidder protesting for any reason the Bidding Documents, a bidding procedure, the Owner's objection to the Bidder or a person or entity proposed by the Bidder, including but not limited to a finding of non-responsibility, the award of the Contract or of any other aspect arising from or relating in any way to the bidding shall cause a written protest to be filed with the Owner within two (2) business days of the event giving rise to the protest and, in any event, no later than two (2) business days after the date upon which Bids are opened. (Intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are not counted.) The written protest shall include the name of the protesting Bidder, a detailed description of the specific factual and legal grounds for the protest, copies of all supporting documents, and the specific relief requested. The written protest shall be delivered to the Owner; Lewis County Transit at 212 E Locust Street, Centralia, WA 98531.
2. Consideration: Upon receipt of the written protest, the Owner will consider the protest. The Owner may, within three (3) business days of the Owners' receipt of the protest, provide any other affected Bidder(s) the opportunity to respond in writing to the protest. If the protest is not resolved by mutual agreement of the protesting Bidder and the Owner, the designee will review the issues and promptly furnish a final and binding written decision to the protesting Bidder and any other affected Bidder(s) within six (6) business days of the Owners' receipt of the protest. (If more than one protest is filed, the Owners' decision will be provided within six (6) business days of the Owners' receipt of the last protest.) If no reply is received from the Owner during the six- business-day period, the protest shall be deemed rejected.
3. Waiver: Failure to comply with these protest procedures will render a protest waived.
4. Condition Precedent: Timely and proper compliance with and exhaustion of these protest procedures shall be a condition precedent to any otherwise permissible judicial consideration of a protest.

Lewis County Transit, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises as defined at 49 CFR Part 23 will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex in consideration for an award.