Electric Bus in Colorado
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Strong support from the Governor

- CDOT
- Governor’s Energy Office
- Almost 50% of the VW Settlement funds in Colorado going towards transit

Strong support from some local communities

- Environmental Considerations
- Other Considerations
Zero Emission Bus Policy Discussions

- Zero emission vs zero tail pipe
- 1000 ZEV buses by 2030 in Colorado—is that even possible?
- Is it worth it despite the fact electricity is currently primarily from burning coal and other downstream considerations?
- Traditionally agencies do not replace buses before their useful life
Agency Considerations for Electric Bus

- Weather
- Routes
- Length of service day
- Charging costs
- Public Support
Barriers Transit Agencies Face in ZEV Implementation

- Cost is a really big deal—especially after COVID-19
- It takes 18 months from order to delivery for a bus
- It can take 12-17 years to turn over a fleet
- Not all agencies have the technical knowledge or capacity in-house to do an electric bus procurement
- To many rural agencies, going electric does not seem practical yet
Finding Solutions for Electric Bus in Colorado

- Agencies with ZEV’s are mentoring newbies
- Agencies with new ZEV’s are collecting great data that helps other agencies in Colorado make informed decisions and more successful deployment of ZEV’s
- Committees at the Governor’s Energy Office, CASTA and others are providing forums for exchange of information and training
● There’s good communication between Colorado policy makers at CDOT, the Colorado Energy office and transit agencies in the state

● VW Settlement Funds and the No and Low emission Federal grant program have jump started the Electric Bus momentum for the state
CDOT continues to interact with and work on ways to help agencies overcome financial or technical barriers to electric bus

- Adapting procurement policies
- Including electric options on the state master purchasing list
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