



Declarada en el 2013 "De Utilidad Pública"

April 13, 2023

Mr. Michael Hursh
General Manager/CEO
AC Transit
1600 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Hursh.

On behalf of [Amigos of Costa Rica](#), a US 501(c) (3) non-governmental organization (NGO), operating in the United States and [Estrategia Siglo XXI \(ESXXI\)](#), a collaborating non-profit NGO operating in Costa Rica, we respectfully request to be considered for the donation of the recently retired Van Hool fuel cell buses and associated parts and materials. Our organizations are willing to bear the costs of removal, transportation, and all associated documentation, and to provide a new life for these buses in Costa Rica's integrated green hydrogen transportation ecosystem.

Since 2010, under the leadership of Ad Astra Rocket Company (Ad Astra) and in collaboration with ESXXI and other non-profit community organizations, Costa Rica has been building Latin America's first fully integrated green hydrogen transportation ecosystem. This community-based pilot project, located in the city of Liberia in the country's northwest, includes a small solar and wind farm supplying clean electricity to a small electrolysis plant. The plant provides green hydrogen, at both H35 and H70 dispensing pressures, to a fleet of fuel cell electric sedans and a Van Hool fuel cell bus, identical to the buses being retired by AC Transit. The ecosystem went into full operation in November of 2017. The pilot operates as a demonstration, training and education project and is partially financed by non-profit foundations and by Ad Astra, who is promoting the deployment of green hydrogen as an important ingredient in decarbonizing Costa Rica's transportation sector.

The donated buses are intended to support the expansion of the existing pilot ecosystem. They would be operated as part of an education initiative spearheaded by ESXXI in collaboration with the Kellogg Foundation, to better familiarize the community with hydrogen fuel cell mass transit and support the training of technicians and operators of the technology.

The Costa Rica team is well qualified to support this initiative. We have the expertise, the experience, and have become intimately familiar with the technology and operation of these buses since we deployed our own bus in 2017 in collaboration with US Hybrid. We have also maintained strong and valuable technical interactions with AC Transit since our first visit to your facility in August of 2016. With our operational hydrogen infrastructure, we can provide an excellent new home for these buses in service to the community.


The donation of these buses will undoubtedly strengthen the cultural and technological bonds between Oakland, California and Liberia, Guanacaste, both Pacific Northwest communities, albeit in different countries, with a strong commitment to clean energy and decarbonization. We hope you will give your favorable consideration to this request.

Respectfully yours

Emily Arnold


Executive Director
Amigos of Costa Rica

Franklin Chang Díaz


President
Estrategia Siglo XXI

Attachments: Proof of nonprofit status

[Amigos of Costa Rica](#), +1 (484)-402-4809
PO Box 748
West Chester, PA 19381

[Estrategia Siglo XXI](#), +506 8386-0092
1.5 km N, Embajada Americana, Edificio Franklin Chang
Pavas, San José, CR