

U.S. Dept. of Transportation: Biden-Harris Administration announces \$110 million grant to improve transportation options in Madison

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WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today announced a \$110.6 million construction grant award to Madison, Wisconsin, for the new East-West Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. The grant, funded by President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, will be used to build a 15-mile route that will provide fast, frequent, clean, and reliable service for the University of Wisconsin, the Madison Central Business District, and other important destinations in Wisconsin’s capital city.

“USDOT is proud to help connect the people of Madison to some of the most important employers and services in the city—including the Capitol, downtown shopping, and UW-Madison—with this grant for new electric bus service,” said **U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg**.

Madison’s East-West BRT battery-electric buses will run 15 miles from the west side of Madison to the City of Sun Prairie in the northeast. Along the way, it will travel through the UW-Madison campus (home to 50,000 students and approximately 20,000 staff), downtown Madison – including the state Capitol – and the East Towne Mall area. At both ends of the line, riders will be able to access the transit system through park-and-ride facilities.

“The East-West BRT will provide speedy service throughout Madison, while helping keep the air clean for generations of Badgers to come,” said **FTA Administrator Nuria Fernandez**. “Bus Rapid Transit has been transforming communities across

the country with fast, frequent service along key economic corridors, and Madison is just another community that will benefit from America's largest ever investment in high-quality public transportation."

The East-West BRT will alleviate traffic congestion on roads throughout the corridor that are among the most crowded in the region. BRT provides a faster, more convenient travel option than conventional buses and is expected to appeal to the estimated 115,000 new residents anticipated to move in and around downtown Madison by 2040.

New bus stations will provide level boarding and shelters enhanced with real-time bus arrival information and security cameras. The 60-foot zero-emission, battery-electric vehicles will run on 9.5 miles of dedicated lanes and receive transit signal priority to speed travelers on their way.

The federal support for the estimated \$194.3 million project comes from FTA's [Capital Investment Grants \(CIG\) program](#), which helps communities carry out transformational transit projects.