



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Disposition of Surplus Transit Buses

Issue Date: March 18, 2026

Proposal Due Date: April 30, 2026

Contact:

Randi Gates, Director of Transportation

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704-854-6604

1. Introduction

The City of Gastonia invites proposals from local governments and non-profit organizations interested in obtaining surplus transit buses that are no longer in service. These buses were previously operated by Gastonia Transit and have reached the end of their useful life for public transit purposes, but are still suitable for repurposing or other non-revenue use.

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes (N.C.G.S.) §§ 160A-266 and 160A-267, the City of Gastonia may dispose of personal property belonging to the City through various means, including private negotiation and sale or donation to other governmental units. This Request for Proposals (RFP) is being issued in accordance with those statutory provisions.

2. Available Vehicles

The following vehicles are available for disposition:

Vehicle	Make/Model	Year	Length	Mileage	VIN	Condition
Unit #1	Gillig Low Floor Transit Bus	2004	35 ft	533,742 mi	15GGB291841072637	Used – Out of Service
Unit #2	Gillig Low Floor Transit Bus	2004	35 ft	546,293 mi	15GGB291641072636	Used – Out of Service
Unit #3	Gillig Low Floor Transit Bus	2004	35 ft	473,010 mi	15GGB291141072642	Used – Out of Service

Notes:

- All vehicles are offered as-is, where-is, with no warranty expressed or implied.
- The City of Gastonia makes no representation as to the mechanical condition, operability, or roadworthiness of these vehicles.
- The successful proposer will be responsible for all costs associated with transportation, removal, and any future maintenance or modifications.

3. Eligibility

- **Local Governments:** May be eligible to receive the vehicle(s) at no cost under G.S. 160A-279, when used for a public purpose.
 - **Non-Profit Organizations:** May be eligible to purchase the vehicle(s) at a negotiated fair market value consistent with G.S. 160A-266 and G.S. 160A-267.
 - Proof of IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status must be provided with the proposal.
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4. Proposal Requirements

Interested parties must submit a written proposal that includes the following information:

1. Organization Information:

- Name, address, and contact person.
- Type of organization (local government or non-profit).
- Proof of eligibility (e.g., government authorization or IRS determination letter).

2. Intended Use of the Vehicle:

- Provide a clear description of how the bus will be used.
- Explain how this use will benefit the community, enhance public service, or serve a charitable or educational purpose.
- Indicate whether the vehicle will remain in active service, be converted for alternative uses, or serve as a display, training, or outreach unit.

3. Vehicle Preference:

- Identify which bus(es) your organization is interested in obtaining.

4. Removal and Transportation Plan:

- Proposed timeline for vehicle removal upon award.

Proposal Format and Page Limit

Proposals shall be limited to **five (5) pages total**, excluding proof of eligibility documentation (e.g., IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter or government authorization documentation).

The five-page limit includes all narrative content, graphics, charts, tables, and attachments describing the proposed use. Cover letters and required eligibility documentation are excluded from the page limit.

Submissions exceeding the five-page limit may be deemed non-responsive and may not be considered.

5. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Alignment of the proposed use with community benefit or public service goals.
- Feasibility and sustainability of the proposed use.
- Completeness and clarity of submission.
- Compliance with eligibility and statutory requirements.

The **City of Gastonia** reserves the right to:

- Accept or reject any or all proposals;
 - Award one or more vehicles to one or more applicants;
 - Negotiate terms of sale with eligible non-profit organizations; and
 - Withdraw this RFP at any time.
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6. Submission Instructions

All proposals must be received by **5:00 pm on Thursday, April 30, 2026**.

Proposals may be submitted electronically or by mail to:

City of Gastonia – Transportation Department

Attn: Randi Gates, Director of Transportation

P.O. Box 1748

Gastonia, NC 28053

Email: randi.gates@gastoninc.gov

Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

7. Statutory Compliance

This RFP and subsequent actions will adhere to the provisions of the **North Carolina General Statutes**, including but not limited to:

- **G.S. 160A-266** – Methods of sale; limitation.
- **G.S. 160A-267** – Private sale.
- **G.S. 160A-279** – Conveyance of property for public benefit.

Any transfer to a non-profit organization will comply with all notice, publication, and waiting period requirements prior to final disposition.

8. Award Notification

The City anticipates notifying selected recipients within approximately 60 days after the proposal deadline.

Selected organizations must complete transfer documentation and remove the vehicle(s) within 90 days of notification.

9. Inspection

Interested parties may schedule an inspection of the available vehicles prior to submitting a proposal by contacting:

Steve Huss, Assistant Division Manager of Fleet Services

Email: transit@gastonianc.gov