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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Madison County Transportation Authority Leverages Upgraded Multi-Use Fuel Vehicles Madison County, NC – June 20, 2024

Madison County Transportation Authority (MCTA) Director Daniel Metcalf, led a multi-fuel van conversion initiative through the application and receipt of a \$69,560 N.C. Community Transportation Grant which was approved by the Madison County Board of Commissioners in September 2023 to provide funding to convert eight MCTA vans to multi-fuel vehicles. Chairman Matthew Wechtel, stressed the importance of optimizing the county fleet with minimal cost to the taxpayer, "leveraging the state grant to enhance our fleet is a win-win for the County."

Converting the fleet which provides transportation services for nearly 600 residents weekly took 90 days to complete, with the fleet now operating on both gasoline and propane fuels. The vehicle operator can manually switch between fuels, but typically, the switch happens automatically resulting in a transition between fuels that occurs seamlessly, going unnoticed by riders. On June 17, 2024, the County completed the installation of a propane fueling station at the MCTA facility. Director Metcalf stated, "new fleet acquisitions will come with the capability to utilize multi-use fuel."

County Manager Rod Honeycutt is appreciative of the MCTA initiative and stated, "leveraging multi-use fuel vehicles not only has the potential to minimize maintenance cost through prolonged engine use, but also to save on fuel cost as propane is generally less than gasoline, and most importantly, it is environmentally friendly, a change we can all be proud of."

