

**COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO  
AUTONOMOUS MUNICIPALITY OF VEGA BAJA  
MUNICIPAL LEGISLATURE VEGA BAJA, PUERTO RICO**

**ORDINANCE PROYECT NO. 51  
ORDINANCE NO. 51**

**SERIES: 2024-2025**

**TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF VEGA BAJA, PUERTO RICO, HON. MARCOS CRUZ MOLINA OR HIS LEGAL SUCCESSOR AND THEIR DESIGNATED OFFICERS, TO FILE APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE ON BEHALF OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF VEGA BAJA, ITS DESIGNATED RECIPIENT, TO THE FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION (FTA), UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECT ASSISTANCE, AUTHORIZED BY 49 U.S.C. CHAPTER 53, TITLE 23 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE AND OTHER FEDERAL STATUTES ADMINISTERED BY THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

**WHEREAS:** The Municipal Code of Puerto Rico, approved by Law 107-2020, establishes in Article 1,008, subsection (r), the following:

“Article 1.008. — Powers of Municipalities

Municipalities shall have the natural and transferred powers that correspond to them to exercise the powers inherent to their purposes and functions. In addition to the provisions of this Code or any other laws, municipalities shall have the following powers: (a)... (r) Enter into agreements, arrangements and contracts with the federal government, agencies, departments, public corporations, instrumentalities of the Government of Puerto Rico and municipalities, as well as for the development of municipal public works and facilities and for the provision of any public services, in accordance with applicable federal or state laws and to promote the viability of the work or project to be carried out and any delegation of powers. Public agencies and instrumentalities that agree to delegate powers to municipalities will be obliged to transfer the fiscal and human resources necessary to assume such powers, unless the municipality certifies that it has its own resources. The formalization of agreements accords and contracts will not require the prior approval of the Municipal Legislature unless such approval is an indispensable requirement of the federal or state law or program”.

**WHEREAS:** Likewise, Article 1.010, subsection (n), establishes the following:

“Article 1.010 — General Powers of Municipalities

It is the responsibility of each municipality to order, regulate and resolve whatever is necessary or convenient to address local needs and for their greater prosperity and development. Municipalities shall be vested with the necessary and convenient powers to carry out the following functions and activities:

(a)...

(n) Establish, maintain, operate or contract the operation or maintenance of interurban or intermunicipal public transportation systems, whether for a fee or free of charge, subject to Act No. 74 of June 23, 1965, as amended, known as the "Puerto Rico Highway and Transportation Authority Act," and any other applicable laws. Two (2) or more municipalities may agree to the joint operation of these systems. Such transportation may not be charged to students, their parents, guardians and/or caretakers".

**WHEREAS:** The Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) has the authority to provide federal financial assistance for transportation projects, including mass transit terminals, vehicles, and the appointment, hiring, and payment of salaries for personnel working directly on such projects.

**WHEREAS:** The municipality of Vega Baja intends to directly request and receive the funds subsidized by the FTA and to this end, has processed the annual certifications and guarantees required for the projects.

**WHEREAS:** The federal assistance cooperation agreement between the FTA and the Municipality of Vega Baja will assign certain obligations to the municipality of Vega Baja and will require the municipality to contribute the local share of the cost of the funds granted for the projects on an in-kind basis. In order to submit the proposal for said funds and sign the necessary and pertinent documents, the Municipality of Vega Baja goes to the Municipal Legislature.

**THEREFORE: BE ORDERED BY THE HONORABLE LEGISLATURE OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF VEGA BAJA, THE FOLLOWING:**


**SECTION 1:** To authorize the Mayor of the Municipality of Vega Baja, Puerto Rico, Hon. Marcos Cruz Molina or his legal successor and his designated officials, to submit requests for federal assistance funds on behalf of the Municipality of Vega Baja, its designated recipient, to the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) of the United States Department of Transportation, for assistance in transportation projects, authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53, Title 23 of the United States Code and other federal statutes administered by the Federal Transit Administration.

**SECTION 2:** The Mayor of Vega Baja, Hon. Marcos Cruz Molina or his legal successor and his designated officials are authorized to file and submit the certifications, guarantees and other documents required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) prior to granting a subsidy or signing a collaboration agreement.

**SECTION 3:** The Mayor of Vega Baja, Hon. Marcos Cruz Molina or his legal successor and his designated officials, are hereby authorized to administer the funds and cooperation agreements with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on behalf of the Municipality of Vega Baja, Puerto Rico. The cooperation agreements may be the contribution of goods and services.

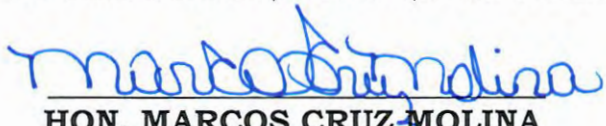
- SECTION 4:** The provisions of this ordinance are independent and separate from each other, so that if any court with jurisdiction and competence declares any of its provisions unconstitutional, null, or invalid, the determination to such effect will not affect or impair the validity, validity, or legality of the remaining provisions.
- SECTION 5:** A copy of this Ordinance shall be sent to the Mayor's Office and to other municipal departments concerned.
- SECTION 6:** This Ordinance will come into force after being approved by the Municipal Legislature and ratified by the Mayro of our city.

**APPROVED BY THE MUNICIPAL LEGISLATURE, TODAY, FEBRURARY 13 2025.**

  
**HON. RAFAEL E. MARTÍNEZ SANTOS**  
**PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATURE**

  
**ROCHELLY RIVERA COSME**  
**SECRETARY OF THE LEGISLATURE**

**APPROVED BY THE MAYOR, TODAY, FEBRUARY 18 2025.**

  
**HON. MARCOS CRUZ MOLINA**  
**MAYOR**