

Beyond City Hall

Trace outside forces behind a local transit decision.

CE.4.b “describing how state, national, and international issues and events impact local decision making; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each state, national, or international influence on Riverton's bus decision. Number the local decision those influences could change.

Choosing Riverton's Buses

- ① In Riverton, the city council planned to replace several aging diesel buses. Residents wanted cleaner air, but the council also had to keep fares affordable. Local leaders compared electric buses with newer diesel buses and asked the transit department for costs. The final choice would affect bus riders, drivers, and the city budget. Although the decision would be made at city hall, events beyond Riverton could change which option seemed practical for local families who rely on buses daily.
- ② Virginia's Clean Economy Act sets statewide goals for reducing carbon pollution from electricity. The law does not order Riverton to buy electric buses. Still, state air-quality rules and state grant programs can influence local choices. If Riverton chooses electric buses, it may seek state money for charging equipment and may need to meet state permitting requirements. Council members must consider these state conditions while deciding how quickly to replace the old buses in its fleet.
- ③ National and international events also reach Riverton. A federal transportation grant could pay part of the cost of electric buses, leaving more city money for routes and fares. At the same time, a worldwide shortage of some battery materials could raise bus prices or delay deliveries. The council might apply for the federal grant but buy fewer buses at first. By changing the purchase schedule, members could respond to global supply problems while still improving local transit.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What local decision is the Riverton city council making? Name two local concerns it must consider.

2 How could state rules and programs affect Riverton's decision about electric buses?

3 What national support could affect the city's budget, and how?

4 How could an international shortage change what the council buys or when it buys it?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

In 3 or 4 sentences, describe a local decision about school buses, parks, roads, or another community service. Explain how one state influence, one national influence, and one international event or issue could affect that decision.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each state, national, or international influence on Riverton's bus decision. Number the local decision those influences could change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What local decision is the Riverton city council making? Name two local concerns it must consider.	The council is deciding whether to replace aging diesel buses with electric or newer diesel buses. It must consider cleaner air, affordable fares, costs, riders, drivers, and the city budget.
2	How could state rules and programs affect Riverton's decision about electric buses?	Riverton may seek state grant money for charging equipment and may need to meet state air-quality and permitting requirements.
3	What national support could affect the city's budget, and how?	A federal transportation grant could pay part of the cost of electric buses, leaving more city money for routes and fares.
4	How could an international shortage change what the council buys or when it buys it?	A worldwide shortage of battery materials could raise prices or delay deliveries. The council might buy fewer buses at first or change its purchase schedule.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The county school board is deciding whether to replace its oldest buses. State vehicle inspection and emissions rules can determine which buses meet requirements. A federal clean-bus grant could lower the local cost, so the board might replace more buses. If an international shortage of computer chips raises prices, the board might delay part of the purchase.

Accept equivalent answers that accurately connect each outside influence to Riverton's local bus decision. For Part 3, accept varied community examples if the response clearly explains one state, one national, and one international impact.