



Transit Board Meeting
AGENDA

**AMES TRANSIT AGENCY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

PHONE: US: 1-312-626-6799

ZOOM MEETING ID: 846 1829 3864

VIDEO PARTICIPATION: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84618293864>

CYRIDE CONFERENCE ROOM – July 29, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 P.M.
2. Public Comments
3. 2022 HVAC Improvements Project
4. Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge
5. Meeting Dates / Times
 - August 11, 2021, 4:30pm
 - September 15, 2021, 4:30pm
 - October 13, 2021, 4:30pm
 - November 10, 2021, 4:30pm
 - December 8, 2021, 4:30pm
6. Adjourn

July 29, 2021
2022 HVAC Improvements Project
CyRide Resource: James Rendall

BACKGROUND: In August of 2020 CyRide received \$292,093 in Iowa DOT Public Transit Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) funding to replace obsolete heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment in the facility. The equipment being funded serves the maintenance repair bays and the south-west bus storage area and has been identified in CyRide’s Transit Asset Management (TAM) plan as being the highest priority for replacement.

The included plans and specifications would reduce the number of rooftop HVAC units in the facility by consolidating the existing independent air conditioning and ventilation systems. Newer equipment would also be more energy efficient and create a healthier work environment through automated air exchanges. If funding allows the system would be incorporated into the existing facility HVAC controls, and skylights will be installed where existing rooftop units are being eliminated to improve natural lighting. The current cost estimate for the project is \$450,711.

The PTIG grant money will be supplemented with local funding and remaining dollars from the 2020 HVAC Improvements Project. The following budget has been reserved for this project and is also programmed in the Capital Improvements Plan.

Funds Available	Dollars
State PTIG Funds	\$ 378,219
Local	\$ 198,358
Total Available	\$ 576,577

Current planning has the bid letting date as August 11, 2021 with bids due on September 8, 2021. Bid results will be reported at the September 2021 Transit Board meeting.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve plans and specifications for the 2022 HVAC Improvements Project as presented.
2. Direct staff to work with the A&E consultant and refine the project plans in accordance with Transit Board priorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Transit Director recommends approval of Alternative #1. Acceptance of the plans and specifications would allow CyRide to replace obsolete equipment with modern, energy-efficient alternatives, and would improve the working environment for employees.

July 29, 2021

Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge

CyRide Resource: Shari Atwood

BACKGROUND: On June 15, 2021, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) launched the [Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge](#), encouraging transit agencies to develop strategies that reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This effort will help support the goal announced by [President Biden](#) to reduce 50-52 percent of net GHG pollution by 2030 and reach a net-zero emission economy by 2050. Overall, transportation accounts for 29 percent of the nation's 2019 GHG emissions and public transportation agencies will play an important role in meeting the announced targets.

FTA is challenging all transit agencies to make bold actions and investments to cut GHG emissions. Transit agencies are being encouraged to develop climate action or sustainability plans that detail GHG reduction strategies, such as converting fleets to electric buses and making facilities more energy efficient. FTA is encouraging CyRide to develop climate action strategies with measurable goals to achieve these GHG emission targets.

FTA will be holding technical assistance sessions for all transit agencies between July 2021 and March 2022, with the goal to develop climate action plans by April 15, 2022. FTA plans to showcase transit agency success stories and the challenge results on the next Earth Day, April 22, 2022. By participating in the Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge by July 30, 2021, CyRide will pledge to the following items:

- Develop a climate action or sustainability plan detailing GHG reduction strategies.
- Submit the plan to FTA by April 15, 2022.
- Support FTA's initiative by participating in future Challenge-related events.

While this commitment is optional, it aligns with the Ames City Council Goal to initiate and complete a Climate Action Plan by the end of 2021. If approved, staff would develop a climate action plan that addresses GHG reduction steps that CyRide could take and bring the proposed plan to the Transit Board for formal approval at a future meeting. Any sustainability plan developed will, at a minimum, discuss steps CyRide has already taken toward sustainability and future potential plans to increase sustainability with realistic funding availability. This commitment to FTA's Healthy Planet Challenge will present a positive stance within future federal discretionary grant applications.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve participation in the Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge, direct CyRide staff to develop a climate action plan that details GHG reduction strategies for CyRide, and submit the plan to FTA.
2. Direct staff to proceed according to Transit Board priorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Transit Director recommends approval of Alternative #1. Participating in FTA's Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge will provide direction for more sustainable practices for CyRide while demonstrating a commitment to sustainability efforts already in progress by the City of Ames and Iowa State University.