



July 29, 2021

AMES TRANSIT AGENCY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Ames Transit Agency Board of Trustees met on July 29, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. in the CyRide Conference room. President Jeffrey called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. with Trustees Beatty-Hansen, Cain, Jeffrey, Ríos Martínez, and Schainker present via video conference. Trustee Ludwig present in the CyRide Conference Room.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

2022 HVAC IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT: Assistant Director Crippen reviewed the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) project for which CyRide received Public Transit Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) funding to replace outdated equipment in the maintenance repair bays and the southwest bus storage area. ASK Studios, the on-call architecture and engineering firm, has proposed reducing the number of HVAC rooftop units by consolidating units and adding skylights for more natural light.

ASK Studios estimated the project will cost \$450,711. Assistant Director Crippen summarized the funding available for the project, stating that State PTIG funds from 2021 and 2022 total \$378,219 and \$198,358 of local match was programmed in the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). She said that the PTIG funds would be fully expended.

The Assistant Transit Director recommended approval of Alternative #1, to approve the plans and specifications from ASK Studios for the 2022 HVAC Improvement Project to be released for bid.

Trustee Cain made a motion to approve plans and specifications for the 2022 HVAC Improvements Project as presented. Trustee Beatty-Hansen seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays: None) Motion carried.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSIT FOR A HEALTHY PLANET CHALLENGE: Assistant Director Crippen explained the Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which was launched by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in June. The White House has a goal to reduce 50-52% greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and have net-zero emissions by 2050. To support the President's goal, the FTA challenged transit agencies to take a pledge by July 30, 2021 to develop a climate action plan to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by transitioning to electric buses and making facilities more energy efficient.

Assistant Director Crippen said that CyRide's plan would detail GHG reduction strategies and be due to the FTA by April 15, 2022. She shared this challenge aligns with the Ames City Council goal to complete a Climate Action Plan by the end of 2021 and is expected to improve CyRide's standing for discretionary grants.

The Assistant Transit Director recommended approval of Alternative #1. She explained that 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.

Trustee Schainker asked if a 50-52% reduction in GHG was an attainable goal. Assistant Director Crippen advised CyRide is planning for more electric buses. Shari Atwood, Transit Planner, stated that CyRide is not committing to reducing GHG by 50%, but is committing to a plan that the Transit Board can choose what they want to reduce, develop a plan, and then submit the plan to the FTA. Trustee Schainker asked for clarification on what the action required. Shari Atwood, Transit Planner said that an action plan would be developed and then submitted to the FTA. Assistant Director Crippen explained that CyRide is only committing to having a plan and a pledge needs to be taken by July 30, 2021, which says a sustainability plan will be made by April 2022.

Trustee Cain asked for clarification on the action item for the Transit Board. She said that the meeting packet lists three action items that CyRide will pledge to do, but Alternative #1 only lists two of the three items. Trustee Cain proposed an amended alternative to participate in the Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge, striking the section stating, "that details GHG reduction strategies for CyRide and submit the plan to the FTA". Trustee Ludwig inquired if the pledge was required to participate in future sustainability events. Assistant Director Crippen said that it would be required.

Trustee Cain made a motion to approve an amended resolution that included participation in the Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge. Trustee Ludwig seconded the motion. (Ayes:6 Nays: None) Motion carried.

Adjourn: Trustee Ludwig made a motion to approve adjourning at 3:15 p.m. Trustee Ríos Martínez seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays: None) Motion carried.

Liz Jeffrey, President

Julie Brouard, Recording Secretary