



April 1, 2016

## ADMINISTRATION

**CyRide Short-Term Storage Needs:** After delivery of the four articulated buses scheduled for May and receiving five new, used buses this summer, CyRide will have exhausted both the interior and exterior bus parking spaces at its current facility site and will *immediately need additional space to park for four to six more vehicles*. It is anticipated that in the following year, up to five additional spaces may be needed to accommodate CyRide's bus fleet. Therefore, CyRide staff and the Transit Board have been working over the past few months to identify and select a second site to park buses beginning this fall.

At the [March 29<sup>th</sup> board meeting](#), it was decided that the City of Ames property at Carnegie Ave. and Edison St. (Ames Police Department's impound lot) could be used to house a portion of CyRide's fleet starting later this summer on a two-three year period. The Ames PD plans to construct a new facility at a different location hopefully within the next year. Therefore, CyRide would initially share the lot this year with the Ames PD and possibly have full use the entire site thereafter. CyRide can park up to 15 buses in sharing the lot with the possibility of up to 25 when the entire site becomes available. Staff believes the site will be used to strictly store buses this next year, but if need be, it could be used to directly operate out of, as a second site, on a daily basis. A map of the anticipated bus parking layout is shown to the right. The Board also approved several site improvements that will need to be completed over the spring/summer to make the site acceptable for outdoor bus parking such as: fence repair (east side), new entrance gate, gravel surfacing, electric to warm



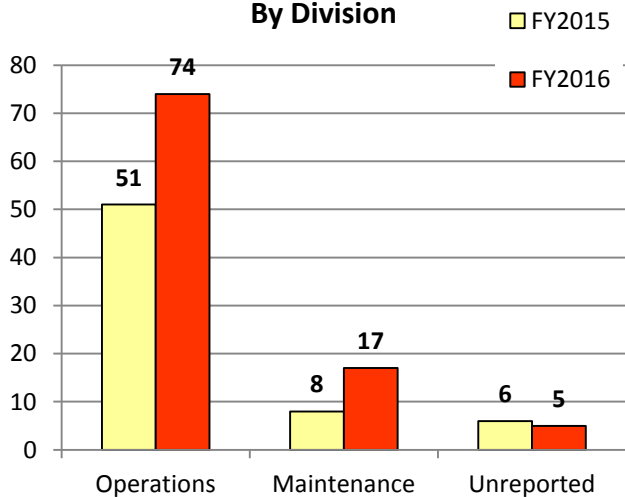
bus engines and new lights as mechanics will need to maintain the vehicles at all times of the day. The anticipated cost to improve this site is estimated at approximately \$43,000. Staff will be working on these improvements over the next few months.

By summer/early fall, staff hopes to have options developed for CyRide’s long-term facility needs. (Sheri K.)

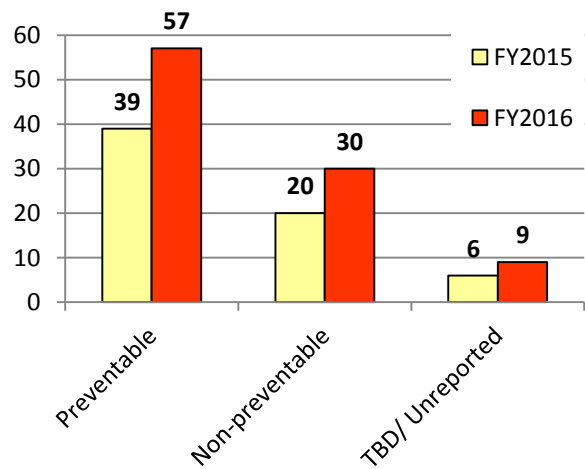
**Orange Route Study/Bus Rapid Transit Update:** The Transit Board selected the Bus Rapid Transit option as the “preferred alternative” in the Orange Route Study to provide transit service between the commuter Lot, east campus residence halls and campus. This choice allows CyRide to apply for a different federal funding program called “New Starts” that CyRide has never been eligible for to-date, which is a highly competitive application process. CyRide will begin the process in April 2016 with a letter requesting consideration to be accepted into the program and the project development process. The project development phase can take up to two years to complete before CyRide can officially request to be considered in the President’s annual budgeting process. Implementation would only occur if CyRide were selected to implement a New Starts project by the President. As a result, there is a long journey to actually seeing Bus Rapid Transit become a reality in Ames, but we will keep working toward that goal. (Sheri K.)

**Accidents:** CyRide is experiencing more bus accidents this year than last. Specifically, from the beginning of the current fiscal year to the early part of March (7/1/15 to 3/9/16) there have been 96 accidents total versus 65 accidents over the same time period from a year prior. Of the 65 accidents last year 35.4% were on CyRide property and 64.6% were on route. Of the 96 accidents this fiscal year 44.8% were on CyRide property and 55.2% were on route.

**CyRide Accidents  
By Division**



**CyRide Preventable vs.  
Non-Preventable Accidents**



The number of operations and maintenance accidents are up 23 and 9 respectively from this time last year, but unreported accidents are down by 1. Comparing the preventable, non-preventable, and TBD or unreported number of accidents all have increased from last year 18, 10, and 3 respectively. As safety is our first priority, this is an area everyone can work together on to try to reverse this trend in sometimes challenging situations (Rob).

## OPERATIONS

**Safe Driver Awards:** The following drivers earned Safe Driver Awards from CyRide and the National Safety Council in January and February, 2016. (Karen)

Ron Pool	Million Mile Award	Katie McNulty	1 yr.
John Sorbo	21 yrs.	Sam Mayer	1 yr.
Kevin Gries	7 yrs.	Bethany Madden	1 yr.
John Cramer	2 yrs.	Nate Weigel	1,040 hrs.
Ron Morrison	1 yr.	Michael Asbe	1,040 hrs.
		Tanisha Holmes	1,040 hrs.

**Outstanding Performance Awards:** Thirty five drivers earned the Outstanding Performance Award for 2015 by meeting the criteria shown below. The awardees received a \$10 bonus for each year the award was earned and were recognized with a lunch provided by CyRide. Congratulations! (Karen)

### Award Criteria:

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| * No preventable accidents    | * No lates   |
| * No Complaints               | * No reprimands or suspensions                       |
| * Sick leave at 2.5% or below | * No violations or accidents on State driving record |

Glenn Crosswait	23 yrs.	Kurt Turner	2 yrs.
Randy Lien	19 yrs.	Jake Armstrong	1 yr.
Paul Klimesh	12 yrs.	Ryan Carroll	1 yr.
John Packwood	12 yrs.	Tedd Devick	1 yr.
Adam Wiederholt	11 yrs.	Yvette Gahring	1 yr.
Ray Coffey	8 yrs.	Christen Harms-Bollman	1 yr.
Phil Hodges	7 yrs.	Skylar Hosch	1 yr.
Kevin Gries	6 yrs.	Matt Kennedy	1 yr.
Ron Pool	6 yrs.	Kirk Langas	1 yr.
Ralph Jones	5 yrs.	Dan Lakin	1 yr.
Phil Lombardo	4 yrs.	Jason Lippard	1 yr.
Eric Ollie	4 yrs.	Bethany Madden	1 yr.
Mallory Parmerlee	4 yrs.	Dave Massarini	1 yr.
Nick Shimanek	3 yrs.	Sam Mayer	1 yr.
Adam Duke	2 yrs.	Emily Nguyen	1 yr.
Kim Rasmusson	2 yrs.	Tim Onstot	1 yr.
Laurel Scott	2 yrs.	John Vachris	1 yr.
Tim Thien	2 yrs.		

**Class Schedule Preference:** The Iowa State Registrar's Office is now providing class scheduling preference for CyRide employees who are ISU students. If signed up for this preference with Karen, the registrar will adjust the time you register for classes online to the first day of the classification year (grad student, senior, junior, etc.) you are in school. We hope this will make it easier for our student employees to schedule classes at an optimal time for themselves or register for classes before other classmates that are in high demand for their major. We hope to attract new ISU students to CyRide with this benefit.

A memo was posted before spring break asking for names of our current student employees so we could provide that information to the Registrar's Office to implement this scheduling preference. If you did not get a chance to sign that memo and would like to participate in this registering preference, please let Karen know. (Karen)

**Road Construction Ahead:** As you are probably aware, the shortest distance between any two time-points during the summer is always under construction! Major road construction projects that will impact CyRide operations are as follows:

- **6th Street Bridge Replacement** – This project continues with the estimated completion date of August 2016. The bridge is being lengthened and widened to accommodate on street bike lanes, a 5-foot-wide sidewalk on the north side of the bridge, and a 12-foot-wide shared use path on the south side of the bridge.
- **5th Street Burnett Ave to Grand Ave** – This project will likely start April 11 with estimated completion by July 1. The 5th Street from Burnett Avenue west to Grand Avenue will be reconstructed to improve underground sanitary and storm sewers. This project will affect CyRide's routes operating to City Hall. CyRide will utilize 6<sup>th</sup> street for bus stops and transfer points.
- **Bessey Hall** – This project continues with an estimated completion date of August 2017. During the month of June 2016, a section of Osborn Drive west of Farm House Lane will close for approximately three weeks for underground utility work. During this time the Stange Road barricades in front of Lagomarcino Hall will be removed for buses to access Osborn Drive. Opening this area will help us to accommodate transfers.
- **Stange Road Bridge Deck replacement** – This closure is scheduled to start May 9th and will last for approximately a month. This project will repair and overlay the bridge deck by improving the north and southbound bridge approaches and replace the railing on the bridge. This project will also have significant impact on CyRide and operations. While the detour information is still in progress, shuttle buses will be operated in the affected areas.
- **Beach Road Closure** – The timing of this closure isn't finalized yet, but is estimated to begin May 30<sup>th</sup> and last approximately six weeks. This project will complete the demolition of the coal fired boiler for ISU. The plan was originally a full Beach road closure requiring us to detour on University like we did last summer; however, recent conversations have the University and the contractor considering the possibilities to modify and/or avoid the Beach road closure altogether. We will let you know when we know something.
- **Osborne Drive Sidewalk Widening project** – This should not affect us but the University will continue to work on widening the sidewalks along Osborne drive.

Be patient; expect delays. Drive with caution through construction zones and notify the dispatcher if you need assistance. Happy Motoring! (Barb)

## **HIRING AND TRAINING**

**New Instructors:** Seven drivers took the opportunity to enroll in the Instructor Training Program offered over spring break. The group participated in classroom sessions and on-the-road training. We want to welcome and congratulate Bethany Madden, Emily Nguyen, Jenny Pausback, Sam Rohrer, Sara Scheiding, Trevin Ward, and Nate Weigel on their completion and new positions as New Driver Instructors. (Tom and George)

**Thunderstorms and Tornadoes:** Late spring in Iowa heralds the arrival of severe weather. During severe weather, the dispatcher will monitor weather radio, internet, and television broadcasts and will notify drivers of dangerous conditions. Drivers should notify the dispatcher if they must stop due to poor visibility caused by heavy rain or hail. Drivers should also call the dispatcher for instructions if a detour is required due to street flooding, downed tree limbs, etc.

In the event of a tornado warning, drivers should stop the bus in a safe location. Drivers should then direct their passengers to the nearest building for shelter. If no building is available, drivers should instruct their passengers to stay on the bus and remain below window level. Once the sirens have stopped, drivers should contact the dispatcher for further instructions. (Dorothy and Toto)

## **FLEET AND FACILITIES**

**New Bus Update:** Nova has delayed our new (4) articulated bus build, therefore delivery is now expected sometime in May. Additionally, CyRide has received funding for four 40-foot standard buses and is beginning to work on ordering these vehicles. However, there have also been numerous delays due to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) implementing a new grant software program. As a result, grantees have not been able to apply for grants since October 2015 and we estimate official award will occur by May 2016 when we move ahead with the official purchase. Once the buses have been ordered, Gillig estimates the timeframe for delivery of new buses will take 20 months. (Rich L.)

**New Relief Vehicle:** Last month, we indicated that the new 2016 Ford Fusion hybrid to replace the current Toyota Prius would arrive in February. That order has been delayed but now is scheduled to arrive by the end of April 2016. The new 2016 Prius is expected to have more interior room inside the vehicle. (Rich L.)

## **BREAK ROOM COMMITTEE (BRC) CORNER**

**Sixth Annual Employee Rodeo:** The date for CyRide's 2016 Employee Rodeo is Saturday, June 4, 2016 at the Iowa State Center. Nathan Shimanek will post information with details as the date gets closer and will ask for volunteers to set up and tear down the course, judge driving skills, scoring, and anything else Nathan needs help with for the event.

CyRide will provide that early cup of JAVA, juice, and pastries for the morning and the Breakroom Committee will provide the lunch.

Employees who participate can illustrate their driving skills by operating a standard 40-foot heavy-duty bus through an obstacle course. Nathan encourages all CyRide employees to participate as CyRide will select the four top scoring drivers (operators only) to represent CyRide at the Iowa Public Transit Association (IPTA) State Roadeo competition in Coralville June 24 – 25, 2016. Two drivers will compete in the large bus competition and another two different CyRide drivers will compete in the small bus competition, for a maximum of four ROADEO participants at the State level! The first place winners in the large and small bus courses at IPTA will represent Iowa next year in 2017 at [APTA's International Bus Roadeo](#) for large bus or the [Community Transportation Expo](#) for small bus.

(Breakroom Committee members: Ray Coffey, James Crabb, John Cramer, Yvette Gahring, Karen Goodman, Dave Happe, Donna Olson, Tim Thien, John Vachris, and Joanne Van Dyke.)