

2009 Passenger Transportation Development Plan Addendum

In the past few weeks, Congress has been developing proposals to create economic stimulus legislation. The proposed “American Recovery and Reinvestment Bill of 2009, seeks to create jobs, stimulate the economy by making immediate investments in the nation’s infrastructure and provide a series of tax cuts. Of this legislation, approximately \$10.1 billion would be directed to public transportation and intercity passenger rail nationwide. It is estimated that approximately \$9-12 million, depending on how the final legislation is written, will be available from the Urbanized Area Formula Program (Section 5307) to the Iowa Department of Transportation’s Office of Public Transit for distribution towards “ready-to-go” projects at 100% funding. However, projects must be approved within MPO’s PTDP’s and included within a current TIP for projects to be selected for this funding. Grantees need to spend over 50% of the funds within 120 days of the project and the remaining within two years.

With approval of the stimulus bill anticipated by mid-February, CyRide requests the PTDP committee to modify the following bus projects already included within the 2009 Passenger Transportation Development Plan (PTDP). If approved, the IDOT may consider funding these projects along with other projects already approved within the 2009 PTDP for 100% stimulus financing. The additional projects and descriptions are as follows:

Provider

Name	Project Description	Type	Total Cost	Source	Fed. Amount
CyRide	14 10 - 40' HD Expansion Diesel/Hy-brid Buses w/cameras	CAP	\$ 5,720,000	STIM/ 5309/5307	\$ 5,720,000
CyRide	Three Light Duty Low-floor buses	CAP	\$ 345,000	STIM/ 5309/5307	\$ 345,000
CyRide	Three Light Duty Low-floor buses upgrade (partial funding)	CAP	\$ 150,780	STIM/ 5309/5307	\$ 150,780
TOTAL			\$ 6,215,780		\$ 6,215,780

Fourteen Ten 40-foot Heavy Duty Diesel/Hybrid Expansion Buses with cameras (5307): CyRide requests funding to expand their fleet by ten buses. CyRide currently has 57 large 40-foot HD buses within its active fleet of which 40% are NOT accessible. CyRide’s goal is to have a 100% accessible fleet. The pull out requirement for fall 2009 is expected to increase to 53 buses (2 more) leaving only 4 spares for preventive maintenance or heavy duty maintenance. CyRide has an issue of keeping buses adequately maintained with this low of spare ratio. CyRide’s goal would be to attain ten extra buses to achieve a 20% ratio. CyRide can proceed immediately with procurement of these vehicles with bus options currently under contract.

Light Duty Low-floor Buses (5307): Within the last year, a “manufactured” low-floor light-duty bus has been developed on the market which seems to be a better quality light-duty bus than other options. This means that the bus is structurally better (no rattling) and the design offers seamless boarding with the bus floor only 5” from the ground, automatically kneeling upon the door opening. Low-floor allows for no steps within the bus after boarding and it seats more passengers due to the design. If a ramp is needed, it can be deployed manually if it malfunctions. The bus is more suited for ease of travel and transferring for all passengers but especially the disabled population.

A) CyRide currently has three light-duty buses in the 2009 TIP at \$80,000/bus (\$240,000 total). CyRide wishes to increase this funding level to \$115,000/bus (\$345,000 total) to purchase these better low-floor quality vehicles as described above.

B) CyRide received 5309 funding for three light-duty buses in 2008 at \$78,000/bus (\$234,000 total) which is in an approved grant at an 83% level. This request would increase the funding for those approved buses from 2008 and request the funding level for to \$115,000/bus (\$345,000), asking for an additional \$50,260/bus.