



OCTOBER 17, 2024
AMES TRANSIT AGENCY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Ames Transit Agency Board of Trustees met on October 17, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the CyRide Conference room. President Beatty-Hansen called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. with Trustees Boland, Gopa, Lee, and Schainker present. Trustee Norton joined after Public Comments.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2024, MINUTES:

Trustee Boland made a motion to adopt the September 19, 2024, Transit Board minutes as presented; Trustee Schainker seconded the motion. (Ayes: 5 Nays: 0); Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

FY 2026 BUDGET PLANNING - DISCUSSION:

Director Neal presented customer service requests to the board as part of the annual budgeting process. She reminded the board that any additional services would need to be evaluated within the context of the current budget constraints and long-term financial stability. The board discussed the options presented and determined to not move forward with any of the customer requests at this time.

ANNUAL TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN – PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS UPDATE:

Director Neal requested board approval of CyRide's FY 2025 Transit Asset Management (TAM) plan performance targets. Beyond meeting the regulation requirements, having the fleet in a State of Good Repair (SGR) supports CyRide's highest priority of safety and is critical to its ongoing success. CyRide is required to set and update performance measures annually and report the TAM plan targets to the National Transit Database.

Director Neal recommended approval of Alternative #1, to approve the FY 2025 TAM plan performance targets for each asset category. Doing so would allow CyRide to meet its federal obligations and help guide future capital replacement needs.

Trustee Schainker made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Boland seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0;) Motion carried.

AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS:

Director Neal requested board approval to purchase bus video surveillance systems. CyRide's fixed route vehicles are equipped with a video surveillance system that records multiple areas inside and outside the vehicle. CyRide is currently in a multi-year contract with Safety Vision to purchase video surveillance systems as needed, providing a cost-effective solution for ongoing replacements. CyRide has 12 vehicles needing replacement for a total cost of \$75,831.68.

Director Neal recommended approval of Alternative #1, to approve the purchase of twelve video surveillance systems and installation service to Safety Vision of Houston, Texas, for a total cost of \$75,831.68. Doing so would replace outdated and failing systems on buses, and are critical to maintaining safe transit operations and keeping CyRide's equipment in a state of good repair.

Trustee Norton made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Gopa seconded the motion. (Ayes 6 Nays: 0); Motion carried.

AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF INFOTAINMENT SYSTEMS:

Director Neal requested board approval to purchase additional infotainment systems on CyRide's buses. Since 2018, CyRide has successfully operated a limited number of infotainment systems on buses, which display real-time information on upcoming bus stops, routes, and transfers to help passengers orient themselves with the transit system. The screens also display agency information and advertising content, offering a potential additional revenue source. In coordination with the Purchasing Division, staff issued Request for Proposal No. 2025-044 for the purchase of infotainment signage systems. GMV Syncromatics submitted a bid that was determined to be fair and competitive, meeting all requirements. Based on pricing and available funding, 21 systems could be purchased at this time, with a first-year cost of \$185,673. Section 5310 federal funding would cover 80% of the project costs.

Director Neal recommended approval of Alternative #1, to approve the award of contract to GMV Syncromatics of Los Angeles, California, for a period of two years with up to three additional one-year renewal periods for the purchase of infotainment systems for an initial cost of \$185,673. Doing so would improve the rider experience, support passengers with disabilities, and help all passengers better navigate the transit system.

Trustee Boland inquired about the percentage of the fleet with infotainment systems. Technology Coordinator Wilbur answered that the additions would get CyRide to 32% of the fleet having infotainment.

Trustee Schainker made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Boland seconded the motion. (Ayes 6 Nays: 0); Motion carried.

AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF 40' DIESEL BUSES:

Director Neal requested board approval to purchase two 40' diesel buses. CyRide has been awarded grant funding to replace two 40' heavy-duty diesel buses that are 24 years old and past their useful life. Funding was approved in the FY 2023 Capital Improvements Plan, and the Iowa DOT allocated additional funding through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program. Using a statewide cooperative procurement schedule, the pricing provided by Gillig was \$628,498 per bus for a total of \$1,256,996, which is higher than the available funding. Based on the pricing received, an additional \$166,804 in local funding would be required to purchase both buses.

Director Neal recommended approval of Alternative #1, to approve the award of contract for two 40' heavy-duty diesel buses to Gillig LLC of Livermore, California, for a total cost not exceed amount of \$1,256,996. Doing so would replacing obsolete buses with new vehicles, improve efficiency, and move CyRide closer to meeting its TAM plan goals, while also reducing overall fleet emissions using newer, cleaner-burning engines.

Trustee Boland made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Lee seconded the motion. (Ayes 6 Nays: 0); Motion carried.

MONTHLY REPORT:

Free Rides Election Day: CyRide will be offering fare-free on Election Day, November 5, 2024, to lower transportation barriers, encourage non-traditional rides, and help passengers more easily travel to vote.

Fare Collection: Staff have been reviewing options for electronic fare payments at CyRide. Additional information about mobile ticketing will be brought to a future board meeting once more in-depth research has been completed on options.

B100 Pilot Project Update: Five buses have biodiesel conversion equipment installed, allowing them to use 100% biodiesel (B100) fuel. CyRide will continue to evaluate how the buses perform and bring updates to the Transit Board.

Fall meeting dates:

- November 21, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.
- December 19, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Adjourn: Trustee Lee made a motion to approve adjourning at 5:45 p.m.; Trustee Boland seconded the motion (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0); Motion carried.

Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen, President

Cheryl Spencer, Recording Secretary