



Transit Board Meeting
AGENDA

**AMES TRANSIT AGENCY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

CYRIDE CONFERENCE ROOM – December 19, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2024
3. Public Comments
4. City of Ames Public Art Commission Accessible Map-Envisioning Sculpture Project
5. CyRide Electric Bus System Upgrades Project Closeout
6. 2023 Shop Rehabilitation Project Closeout
7. 2023 HVAC Improvement Project Closeout
8. FY 2026 Budget
9. Monthly Report
10. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members
11. Spring Meeting Dates / Times
 - January 16
 - February 20
 - March 20
 - April 17
12. Adjourn



NOVEMBER 21, 2024
AMES TRANSIT AGENCY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Ames Transit Agency Board of Trustees met on November 21, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the CyRide Conference room. President Beatty-Hansen called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. with Trustees Boland, Gopa, Lee, Norton, and Schainker present.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 19, 2024, MINUTES:

Trustee Boland made a motion to adopt the October 19, 2024, Transit Board minutes as presented; Trustee Schainker seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dr. Joseph Merchant presented an Ames Public Art Commission Project concept.

BATTERY ELECTRIC BUS FINAL REPORT - INFORMATIONAL

Staff members from the Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) presented their report detailing the performance of the two battery electric buses (BEBs) to the Transit Board. Overall, the buses have reduced emissions by 108,694 pounds. The board thanked CTE for their study and informative presentation and expressed interest in pursuing another analysis at a later date that would include the Gillig BEBs and the B100 buses.

RATE SETTING RESOLUTION – FY 2026 BUDGET:

Director Neal requested board approval of the FY 2026 Rate Setting Resolution. City ordinances require the board to annually set the fare and rate structure for the next budget year. The only changes were modifications to the dates that passes will be sold, and no changes were recommended to the fare structure.

Director Neal recommended that the board approve Alternative #1 to adopt the proposed rate setting resolution and fulfill the city ordinance requirements while maintaining last year's fares.

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

MONTHLY REPORT:

Customer Satisfaction Survey: 95.2% of respondents indicated they were either very or somewhat satisfied with CyRide, up from 93.4% last year.

Winter Season Preparation: With colder weather approaching, preparation work for the winter operational season has begun.

Token Transit: CyRide is moving forward with adding the Token Transit app as a way for customers to purchase bus passes securely through their electronic devices.

Blue Collar Union Update: Following a recent recertification election, transit employees are the only ones who remain in the blue collar union. The City will negotiate a new contract for transit employees at a future date.

Triennial Review Final Written Report: CyRide received its final written report for the Triennial Review conducted on July 11 and 12, confirming zero deficiencies. It is the second consecutive review in which CyRide received no deficiencies.

Quarterly Report: The quarterly report statistics were reviewed, showing ridership continuing to increase.

Discussion was held on the Ames Public Art Commission Project. Trustee Boland made a motion for the Ames Public Art Commission Project to be brought back to the board for future consideration; Trustee Lee seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays 0); Motion carried.

Fall/Spring meeting dates:

- December 19, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.
- January 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.
- February 20, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.
- March 20, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.
- April 17, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Adjourn: Trustee Boland made a motion to approve adjourning at 5:58 p.m.; Trustee Lee seconded the motion (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0); Motion carried.

Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen, President

Cheryl Spencer, Recording Secretary

December 19, 2024
City of Ames Public Art Commission
Accessible Map-Envisioning Sculpture Project
CyRide Resource: Christine Crippen

BACKGROUND:

During public comments at the November 21, 2024, Transit Board meeting, a representative of the City of Ames Public Art Commission (PAC), Dr. Joseph Merchant, presented a proposal for adding artwork to public sites in Ames. Following the presentation, the Transit Board subsequently directed staff to bring the proposal back as an agenda item for consideration.

The goal of the project, named Accessible Map-Envisioning Sculptures (AMES), is to use sculptures to assist passengers in wayfinding by giving each bus shelter a distinct identity. The project intends to assist passengers with disabilities, language barriers, or those unfamiliar with Ames by providing a unique feature for each bus shelter, and to add beauty and interest to public areas.

PAC has proposed beginning this initiative with the #1 Red Route, a high ridership corridor in Ames. PAC plans to use art funding to commission an artist to create a cohesive ensemble of sculptures for seven bus shelters along the route. Each sculpture would be unique for its respective shelter while maintaining an overarching theme. The artwork would not be attached to the shelters and would not obstruct visibility for passengers or drivers.

PAC would cover the costs of commissioning, installing, and maintaining the artwork. They would also manage placement of the sculptures on City of Ames easements or obtain permission from private property owners. CyRide would collaborate with PAC during the planning and installation phases to ensure proper implementation.

The Transit Board would have final approval of the artwork once the artist has been selected and the designs are ready for review.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the City of Ames Public Art Commission's proposal to add artwork to the #1 Red Route bus shelters, with the final artwork design to be brought to the board for formal approval at a later date.
2. Direct staff to proceed according to Transit Board priorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Transit Director recommends approval of Alternative #1, to approve PAC's art project for the #1 Red route. Approval of this alternative will allow PAC's project to help passengers with wayfinding and add artistic elements to some of CyRide's bus shelters.

December 19, 2024
CyRide Electric Bus System Upgrades Project Closeout
CyRide Resource: James Rendall

BACKGROUND:

The CyRide Electric Bus System Upgrades project (Bid No. 2022-096) was released on February 8, 2022. Plans and specifications called for installing a transformer pad for a new 480-volt transformer, new facility switchgear and its associated platform, a charger platform, and installation of purchased charging equipment. The project utilized a Section 5339 discretionary grant that CyRide was awarded for the purchase of battery electric buses and associated hardware. Bids were due on March 9, 2022. Jaspering Electric Inc. of Ames, Iowa, submitted a bid for \$282,800 and was awarded the contract at the Transit Board meeting on March 23, 2022.

Construction on the project started in May 2022 and was substantially completed on February 1, 2024. There was a single change order for the installation of a temporary power disconnect due to the long lead time for the new switchgear for a cost of \$3,243. As of December 12, 2024, the project punch list is complete, the required project documentation is on file, and Jaspering Electric has met all of the contract conditions to the satisfaction of CyRide staff and the A&E firm.

The table below outlines details of the final project costs.

Description	Amount
Jaspering Electric Inc. Original Contract Base Bid	\$282,800.00
Change Order No. 1 - Add temporary disconnect	\$3,243.00
Total Project Cost with Change Orders	\$286,043.00
Payment Made to Date	\$271,740.85
Unpaid Balance – 5% Retainage	\$14,302.15

All but the remaining \$14,302.15 in retainage has been paid to date. Payment of retainage is the last step needed to complete this project.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Accept final project completion and approve the release of retainage in the amount of \$14,302.15 to Jaspering Electric Inc. of Ames, Iowa, for the CyRide Electric Bus System Upgrades Project.
2. Direct staff to proceed according to Transit Board priorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Transit Director recommends approval of Alternative #1. All documentation and punch list items are complete, and all conditions of the project contract have been finished to the satisfaction of CyRide staff and the A&E firm. Closeout of this project is the last step needed to complete this important upgrade to the CyRide facility.



December 13th, 2024

Mr. James Rendall
Ames Transit Agency, CyRide
Assistant Director, Fleet and Facilities
601 North University Boulevard
Ames, IA 50011

Mr. Rendall,

Upon final examination of the CyRide Electric Bus System Upgrades project, ASK Studio is satisfied that the work has been finished as specified. Closeout documentation has been received and ASK Studio will consider this project completed so long as CyRide is also satisfied with the quality of the finished product.

Sincerely,

ASK Studio
Ryan Carter, AIA, NCARB

December 19, 2024
2023 Shop Rehabilitation Project Closeout
CyRide Resource: James Rendall

BACKGROUND:

The CyRide 2023 Shop Rehabilitation Project (Bid No. 2024-015) was released on July 27, 2023. Plans and specifications called for the construction of a new section of mezzanine connecting the existing east and west mezzanines and reworking workspaces within the maintenance area. Project goals included consolidating bus parts into one location, improving maintenance employees' work environment, supporting employee efficiency, and adjusting workspaces to enhance safety. The project utilized a Public Transportation Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) that CyRide was awarded from the Iowa Department of Transportation. Bids were due on August 23, 2023. R.H. Grabau Construction Inc. of Boone, Iowa submitted a bid of \$390,165 for the base bid plus alternate #1, and was awarded the contract at the Transit Board meeting on August 31, 2023.

Construction on the project started in December 2023. Due to a favorable bid by R.H. Grabau, CyRide was able to implement several project elements that were previously removed during the design phase. The Transit Board approved the first six change orders at the May 16, 2024, meeting, revising the contract amount to \$457,089.34. Since then, two additional change orders were executed and an administrative correction of \$0.20 was made to Change Order number 1.

The table below outlines details of the final project costs.

Description	Amount
Original Contract Base Bid	\$385,000.00
Add Bid Alternate #1 - Install window on the new masonry wall	\$5,165.00
Contract Award Amount	\$390,165.00
Change Order No. 1 - Infill opening in the mezzanine*	\$2,356.00
Change Order No. 2 - Extend west support I-beam to vertical I-beam	\$1,842.12
Change Order No. 3 - Add power outlets, data ports, and relocate fluid system control terminal	\$4,895.74
Change Order No. 4 - Not executed	\$0.00
Change Order No. 5 - Rework air compressor power supply wires, add data ports in repair bay and wing wall, add vertical support C-channel, and repair concrete under removed wall	\$9,348.41
Change Order No. 6 - Rework existing mop sink area into office space for the Principal Clerk position. Move existing laundry facilities to the mezzanine level. Apply epoxy flooring to the fabrication area under the new mezzanine floor and between the new masonry wall and repair bay. Paint remaining walls in the fabrication area under the new mezzanine floor and rework office space.	\$48,482.07
Amended Project Cost with Change Orders One through Six	\$457,089.34
Change Order No. 7 - Repair damaged underground conduits	\$8,956.00
Change Order No. 8 - Deduct: For implementing alternate #1	\$(5,165.00)
Total Project Cost with Change All Orders*	\$460,880.54
Payments Made to Date	\$437,836.51
Unpaid Balance – 5% Retainage	\$23,044.03

*Due to clerical error, Change Order No. 1 was short \$0.20, adjustment made at project closeout

The project was substantially completed on September 1, 2024. As of December 12, 2024, the project punch list is complete, the required project documentation is on file, and R.H. Grabau has met all of the contract conditions to the satisfaction of CyRide staff and the A&E firm. All but the remaining \$23,044.03 in retainage has been paid to date. Payment of retainage is the last step needed to complete this project.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Accept final project completion and approve the release of retainage in the amount of \$23,044.03 to R.H. Grabau Construction Inc of Boone, Iowa, for the 2023 Shop Rehabilitation Project.
2. Direct staff to proceed according to Transit Board priorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Transit Director recommends approval of Alternative #1. All documentation and punch list items are complete, and all conditions of the project contract have been finished to the satisfaction of CyRide staff and the A&E firm. Closeout of this project is the last step needed to complete this important upgrade to the CyRide facility.



December 13th, 2024

Mr. James Rendall
Ames Transit Agency, CyRide
Assistant Director, Fleet and Facilities
601 North University Boulevard
Ames, IA 50011

Mr. Rendall,

Upon final examination of the CyRide Maintenance Shop Improvements project, ASK Studio is satisfied that the work has been finished as specified. Closeout documentation has been received and ASK Studio will consider this project completed so long as CyRide is also satisfied with the quality of the finished product.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Carter". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "R" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ASK Studio
Ryan Carter, AIA, NCARB

December 19, 2024
2023 HVAC Improvement Project Closeout
CyRide Resource: James Rendall

BACKGROUND:

The CyRide 2023 HVAC Improvement project (Bid No. 2023-137) was released on February 15, 2023. Plans and specifications called for the replacement of aging heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment in the tire storage, paint booth, and body repair bay areas. The project also replaced the vehicle exhaust system in the body repair bay and updated the vehicle gas detection system. The project utilized a Public Transit Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) that CyRide was awarded from the Iowa Department of Transportation. Bids were due on March 15, 2023. Mechanical Comfort Inc. of Ames, Iowa, submitted a bid for \$534,750 and was awarded the contract at the Transit Board meeting on March 30, 2023.

Construction on the project started in October 2023 and was substantially completed on November 1, 2024. There was a single change order for the installation of an exhaust fan in a new location for a cost of \$5,735. As of December 12, 2024, the project punch list is complete, the required project documentation is on file, and Mechanical Comfort has met all of the contract conditions to the satisfaction of CyRide staff and the A&E firm.

The table below outlines details of the final project costs.

Description	Amount
Mechanical Comfort Inc. Original Contract Base Bid	\$534,750.00
Change Order No. 1 – Move and Install New Exhaust Fan	\$5,735.00
Total Project Cost with Change Order	\$540,485.00
Payment Made to Date	\$513,460.68
Unpaid Balance – 5% Retainage	\$27,024.32

All but the remaining \$27,024.32 in retainage has been paid to date. Payment of retainage is the last step needed to complete this project.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Accept final project completion and approve the release of retainage in the amount of \$27,024.32 to Mechanical Comfort Inc. of Ames, Iowa, for the 2023 HVAC Improvement Project.
2. Direct staff to proceed according to Transit Board priorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Transit Director recommends approval of Alternative #1. All documentation and punch list items are complete, and all conditions of the project contract have been finished to the satisfaction of CyRide staff and the A&E firm. Closeout of this project is the last step needed to complete this important upgrade to the CyRide facility.



December 13th, 2024

Mr. James Rendall
Ames Transit Agency, CyRide
Assistant Director, Fleet and Facilities
601 North University Boulevard
Ames, IA 50011

Mr. Rendall,

Upon final examination of the CyRide HVAC Improvements, Phase III project, ASK Studio is satisfied that the work has been finished as specified. Closeout documentation has been received and ASK Studio will consider this project completed so long as CyRide is also satisfied with the quality of the finished product.

Sincerely,

ASK Studio
Ryan Carter, AIA, NCARB



December 19, 2024

FY 2026 Budget

CyRide Resource: Rob Jennings, Barbara Neal

BACKGROUND:

CyRide annually develops and presents a budget for approval by the Transit Board of Trustees, reflecting anticipated revenues and expenses for the upcoming budget year. Under the Intergovernmental Agreement between Iowa State University, the Student Government, and the City of Ames, the Transit Board of Trustees must approve a budget by January 21 each year.

The following budget and capital plan supports CyRide's goal of connecting people to their community with safe and efficient transportation that exceeds customer expectations. It also supports efforts to reduce carbon emissions and provide a sustainable community in which to live.

Ridership is projected to reach about 85% of pre-pandemic levels by the end of the current fiscal year. Community ridership is also rising, a clear indicator that residents are embracing transit as a trusted and sustainable transportation option. While these trends are encouraging, challenges remain, including workforce needs, inflation-driven cost increases, and supply chain uncertainties. In this environment, CyRide is pleased to present a budget with low increases to the local funding partners while still advancing initiatives to improve service quality and efficiency.

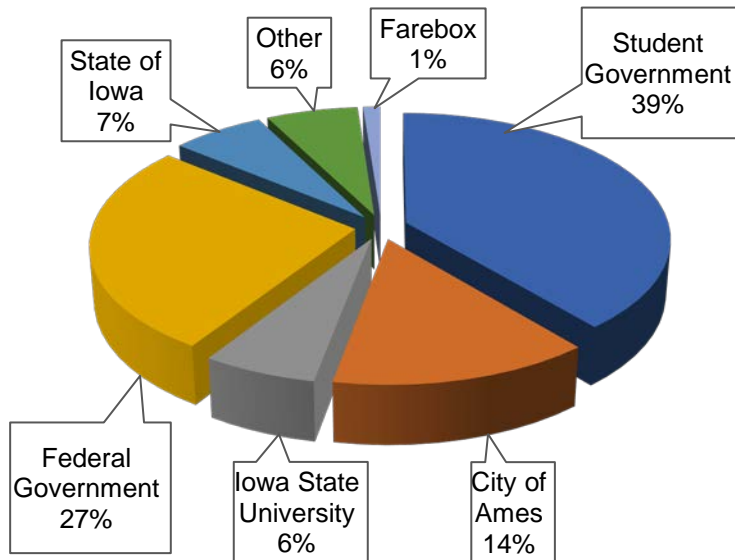
Developing our employees will remain a top priority to ensure CyRide can meet our customers' service demands. This will encompass efforts to boost staffing through improved hiring, retention, and training opportunities to support workforce growth. Investing in our employees will help develop new leaders and enable CyRide to preserve high-quality customer service across all levels of the organization.

Technology will also play a key role, with improvements designed to enhance accessibility, convenience, and responsiveness for riders. New systems will enhance real-time service updates, streamline interactions, and enrich the overall transit experience. CyRide remains committed to using technology to provide inclusive, user-friendly services that keep riders informed and engaged, meeting the community's evolving expectations.

Budgeted expenditures are expected to be balanced by anticipated revenues and reserves in the proposed FY 2026 budget. CyRide staff will continue to implement cost-effective strategies to increase ridership and deliver value to the community.

Current Year (FY 2025) Budgeted Revenues

CyRide’s revenue sources for the current fiscal year are shown below. The Transit Board approved revenue contributions by the three local funding partners in December 2023.



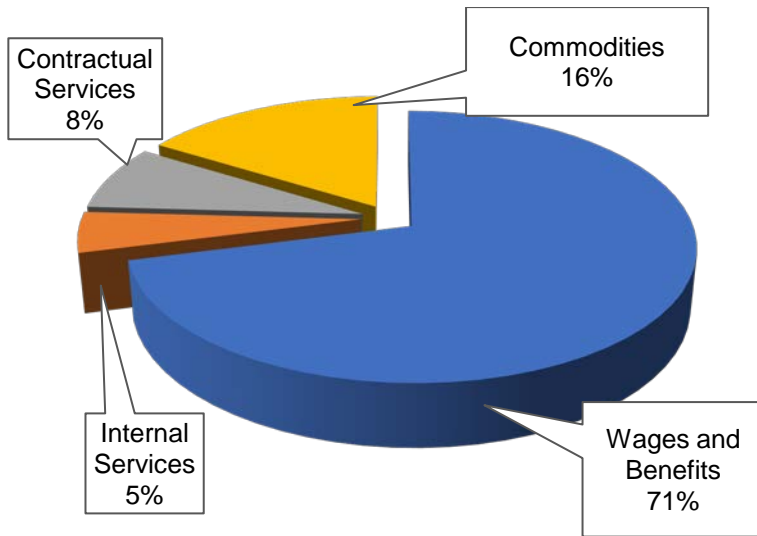
Funding Partner	Revenues
Student Government	\$ 6,002,724
City of Ames	\$ 2,173,044
Iowa State University	\$ 952,966
Federal Government	\$ 4,135,821
State of Iowa	\$ 1,000,000
Other	\$ 984,105
Farebox	\$ 185,600
Total Revenues	\$15,434,260

- Federal** – This revenue represents Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding sources such as Section 5307, Section 5310, and Small Transit Intensive Cities (STIC). CyRide’s annual Section 5307 funds are directed toward employee wages and fuel. These funds were budgeted at \$4,135,821.
- State of Iowa** – The State of Iowa contribution is budgeted at \$1,000,000. This funding is provided through State Transit Assistance (STA), which comes from new car sales. We anticipate the final funding amount to be similar to the prior year’s allocation.
- Other Revenue** – This category includes advertising, transit contracts, reimbursements, interest income, etc., and is budgeted at \$984,105.
- Farebox Revenue** – For the current year, farebox revenue is budgeted at \$185,600.

CyRide will continue to monitor revenue sources for significant deviations and bring information to the Transit Board if conditions change.

Current Year (FY 2025) Budgeted Operating Expenses

CyRide’s operating expenses for the current fiscal year are shown below, excluding transfers to support the capital plan.



Category	Expenses
Wages and Benefits	\$10,994,519
Commodities	\$ 2,473,226
Contractual Services	\$ 1,197,442
Internal Services	\$ 820,091
Refunds	\$ 600
Total Expenses	\$15,485,878

- **Wages and Benefits** – This category is the largest expense in the CyRide budget. For the current budget year, wages and benefits are budgeted at \$10,994,519.

- **Commodities** – Fuel, parts, and lubricants comprise the largest portion of this expenditure. Fuel is currently budgeted at \$4.03 per gallon. Currently fuel is averaging \$2.58 per gallon. For FY 2026, CyRide plans to reduce the fuel budget to reflect more stable pricing trends.
- **Contractual Services** – For the current year, contractual items were budgeted at \$1,197,442.
- **Internal Services** – For the current year, Internal Services accounts for \$820,091 in expenses.

CyRide will continue to monitor expenditures for significant deviations and bring information to the Transit Board if conditions change.

Reserve Fund Balances

CyRide maintains reserve funds in three separate accounts to provide financial stability to the organization. Reserves are kept in the Transit Operations Fund, Transit Capital Reserve Fund, and the Student Government Trust Fund.

Transit Operations Fund – CyRide maintains a closing balance in this fund to address unanticipated needs, satisfy the City’s reserve requirements for cash-flow purposes, meet local match requirements for grant opportunities, and help offset the local funding partners system subsidy. Transit Board policy is to have a closing balance between 7.5% and 10% of total expenditures. At the meeting on September 19, 2024, the Transit Board approved reallocating \$1,000,000 from the FY 2024 operations fund closing balance to the Capital Reserve Funds to support battery electric bus (BEB) battery replacement and accessible technology. After the reallocation, the uncommitted closing balance is anticipated to be \$214,091, as indicated below. The Operations Fund closing balance meets the Transit Board’s goal with a final balance above the 10% threshold.

Operations Fund Activity	Dollars
Preliminary Operations Fund Closing Balance	\$9,932,024
FY 2024 Federal Funds*	(\$2,400,000)
10% Closing Balance for FY 2024	(\$1,369,221)
FY 2025 Local Funding Partners System Subsidy	(\$1,191,619)
System Recalibration	(\$250,000)
Reserved FY 2026 – FY 2030 Local Funding Partners System Subsidy	(\$4,507,093)
Anticipated Uncommitted Closing Balance after Reallocation	\$214,091

* These funds are needed for cash-flow purposes because federal funds are received after the budget year has been completed.

Transit Capital Reserve Fund – This fund is used for grant and capital activities. The balance remaining in the Capital Reserve Fund at the end of the current fiscal year is anticipated to be \$2,677,858, which will be carried over as the beginning balance for the next fiscal year. This fund will support the purchase of rolling stock and next year’s facility improvement projects. This number does not include additional reserves allocated by the Transit Board for facility expansion, BEB vehicle and battery replacement, 40’ bus replacements, and accessible technology replacement.

Transit Student Government Trust Fund – This fund is used to stabilize contributions from the Student Government (SG) to CyRide’s operating budget. The fund balance fluctuates based on ISU enrollment, SG approved fees, and service levels. The fund has a target goal of 10% of the SG budget commitment to CyRide. The SG Trust Fund balance is projected to end the 2024/25 academic school year with \$1,233,205 above the minimum reserve, as detailed in the attached SG Trust Fund data.

FY 2026 Operating Budget Revenue Discussion

REVENUES	City Year-End Actuals		CyRide		
	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2026 Requested	Change FY 2025 to FY 2026
Local Funding Partner Contributions					
Student Government (SG)	\$ 5,952,409	\$ 6,296,461	\$ 6,002,724	\$ 6,152,792	2.5%
SG Trust Fund Transfer	\$ 0	\$ (210,922)			
City of Ames	\$ 2,059,721	\$ 2,097,004	\$ 2,173,044	\$ 2,227,370	2.5%
Iowa State University	\$ 911,493	\$ 929,723	\$ 952,966	\$ 976,790	2.5%
Federal, State, Fares, and Other Revenue					
Federal Government	\$ 3,486,210	\$ 3,923,009	\$ 4,135,821	\$ 4,135,821	0.0%
CRRSSA and ARP	\$ 1,865,971				
State of Iowa	\$ 1,032,498	\$ 1,198,823	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	0.0%
Fares	\$ 205,387	\$ 198,101	\$ 185,600	\$ 193,500	4.3%
Other	\$ 1,151,953	\$ 1,498,613	\$ 984,105	\$ 999,796	1.6%
Total Revenues	\$16,665,642	\$15,930,813	\$15,434,260	\$15,686,070	1.6%

The baseline budget for the local funding partners shows a requested increase of 2.5%. The following revenue assumptions have been made for revenue sources other than those provided by the local funding partners.

- **Federal Government Funding** – This revenue represents Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding sources such as Section 5307, Section 5310, and Small Transit Intensive Cities (STIC). The amount of assistance provided by the federal government is being budgeted at \$4,135,821.
- **State of Iowa Funding** – This revenue source comes from the State Transit Assistance (STA) funding. The State of Iowa's assistance is being budgeted at \$1,000,000.
- **Fare Revenue** – This revenue source is being set at \$193,500, a 4.3% increase from the current budget year to reflect higher community ridership.
- **Other Revenue** – This revenue source is being budgeted at \$999,796.

FY 2026 Budget Operating Expense Assumptions

EXPENDITURES	City Year-End Actuals		CyRide		
	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2026 Requested	Change FY 2025 to FY 2026
Wages and Benefits	\$ 9,250,593	\$10,170,021	\$10,994,519	\$11,325,042	3.0%
Commodities	\$ 1,841,069	\$ 1,893,116	\$ 2,473,226	\$ 2,203,473	-10.9%
Contractual Services	\$ 1,002,903	\$ 908,511	\$ 1,197,442	\$ 1,290,878	7.8%
Internal Services	\$ 651,336	\$ 734,382	\$ 820,091	\$ 872,138	6.3%
Refunds	\$ 206	\$ 313	\$ 600	\$ 600	0.0%
Total Expenditures	\$12,746,107	\$13,706,343	\$15,485,878	\$15,692,131	1.3%

The proposed FY 2026 budget reflects a **1.3% increase in operating expenses** compared to the FY 2025 adopted budget. The following shows the operating expenses by category.

- **Wages and Benefits** – This expenditure is being increased by 3.0% overall for FY 2026. This increase is due to contractual and noncontractual wage and benefit increases. The outcome of negotiations for the current union contract, which expires on June 30, 2025, may impact these projections.
- **Commodities** – Fuel, parts, and lubricants are the largest portion of this expenditure. The overall budget for commodities is being decreased by 10.9% for FY 2026.
 - **Fuel** – The FY 2026 fuel budget has been lowered to \$3.15 per gallon, compared to \$4.03 per gallon in FY 2025. The fuel market is expected to continue to fluctuate over the next budget year. If the price of fuel begins to approach the budgeted value, staff will bring an action item to the Transit Board with options for resolving the situation.
 - **Parts and Lubricants:** The projections for parts and lubricants have been increased by 5.3%. Limited manufacturers, raw material shortages, and supply chain disruptions are leading to higher costs across this expense category. Additionally, the aging bus fleet has resulted in more frequent repairs and parts replacements. These factors underscore the need for increased funding to maintain service reliability.
- **Contractual Services** – This category includes payments for services by outside professionals, contractors, vendors, and utilities. Contractual expenses are projected to increase by 7.8% overall, driven by higher costs for structural repairs and maintenance.
- **Internal Services** – This category includes payments for services performed internally by other City of Ames departments, such as human resources, information technology, messenger services, etc. Internal services for FY 2026 will increase by 6.3%.

Capital Improvements Plan

CyRide’s annual capital budget provides funding for transit vehicles, facility improvements, bus stop renovations, transit technology projects, and shop and office equipment. CyRide annually develops a five-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) to align available resources with programmed capital projects to achieve and maintain a State of Good Repair (SGR) throughout its vehicle fleet, facilities, and other capital equipment. The FTA requires CyRide to have a Transit Asset Management (TAM) plan to manage capital assets and prioritize funding to maintain our facility and fleet in an SGR. Implementation of the CIP is dependent on the availability of federal, state, and local funding. Effective planning helps provide a framework for capital improvements based on conditions and the availability of financial resources. After the Transit Board of Trustees approves the CIP, it is incorporated into the City of Ames Capital Improvements Plan annually in January.

If approved as part of the overall budget, CyRide will begin to purchase items contained in the first year of the CIP, starting July 1, 2025. The remaining years are more fluid due to annual funding increases and decreases. The information below details the CIP’s first-year purchases.

FY 2026 Capital Request Summary

CAPITAL	City Year-End Actuals		CyRide	
	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2026 Requested
Beginning Balance	\$ 7,063,108	\$10,877,395	\$13,448,357	\$ 2,677,858
Capital Revenues				
Federal/State Funding (Grants)	\$ 6,531,122	\$ 1,128,683	\$ 9,416,769	\$ 4,714,106
ISU Parking	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000
Interest Revenue	\$ 116,312	\$ 557,961	\$ 255,000	\$ 125,000
Transfer from Transit Operations	\$ 4,193,914	\$ 2,800,000	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 800,000
Total Capital Revenues	\$ 9,083,179	\$10,858,348	\$11,583,869	\$ 1,623,268
Total Capital Available	\$17,921,456	\$15,381,039	\$24,937,126	\$ 8,333,964
Capital Expenditures				
Vehicle Replacement & Rehabilitation	\$ 6,908,327	\$ 839,878	\$10,062,701	\$ 5,228,163
Facility Improvements & Expansion	\$ 64,227	\$ 936,737	\$ 1,426,530	\$ 830,000
Technology	\$ 2,480	\$ 16,915	\$ 846,149	\$ 75,000
Bus Stop Improvements	\$ 2,533	\$ 64,330	\$ 135,670	\$ 110,000
Shop and Office Equipment	\$ 66,494	\$ 74,822	\$ 541,400	\$ 267,400
Total Capital Expenditures	\$ 7,044,061	\$ 1,932,682	\$13,012,450	\$ 6,510,563
Ending Balance	\$10,877,395	\$13,448,357	\$11,924,676	\$ 1,823,401

**Does not include transfers to reserve funds*

The FY 2026 budget reflects a transfer of \$800,000 to the capital fund to support the purchase of buses and facility improvements. The board approved an additional \$1,000,000 capital transfer to the FY 2025 budget at the September 19, 2024, meeting to fund the battery electric bus battery replacement and accessible technology reserve funds. A variety of capital projects are planned for the upcoming fiscal year:

- **Six New 40' Heavy-Duty Buses** – CyRide received grant funding for six new 40' buses. CyRide will receive 80% state funding for these buses. They will replace existing 40' buses and assist CyRide in meeting its federal Transit Asset Management (TAM) plan goals.
- **One Battery Electric Buses (BEB)** – CyRide received grant funding to replace one 40' diesel bus with a battery electric bus. This bus will increase the number of zero-emission buses in CyRide's fleet to eight, moving toward a more environmentally sustainable future.
- **One Support Vehicle** – The plan includes replacing one CyRide support vehicle, which is currently programmed as a hybrid. We are evaluating the possibility of introducing an all-electric vehicle into the support vehicle fleet. These vehicles are used to support operations.
- **Building Fire Safety Enhancement Project** – This project is designed to mitigate battery fire risks within the facility. It includes upgrading sprinkler heads and pipes to increase water density, installing a 3-hour fire-rated coiling door at the west entrance of lanes one and two, and replacing existing doors with 3-hour fire-rated versions to improve fire containment. CyRide received Public Transit Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) funding to support this project.
- **Bus Stops and Shelters** – CyRide plans to upgrade two bus shelters this year, with these improvements being 80% federally funded. CyRide will continue using automatic passenger counters (APCs) to monitor passenger boarding and alighting at each bus stop, ensuring upgrades are targeted and effective.
- **Bus Technology** – CyRide will continue to invest in bus technology to improve system efficiency, accessibility, and the passenger experience. Planned improvements include real-time information displays at key campus bus stops and expanded interior infotainment systems on buses, which will provide upcoming stop details and real-time updates to make navigation easier and more accessible for all passengers. These same monitors may also be used for advertising.
- **Concrete** – CyRide annually budgets funds to repair and replace concrete at bus stops and around the facility. The amount budgeted varies based on the amount of concrete expected to degrade each year.
- **Snow Removal Equipment** – The CyRide Maintenance division is responsible for snow removal at the main facility, bus stops, and bus turnaround locations throughout Ames. Investing in a self-contained snow blower will improve efficiency and safety.
- **Inground Bus Lift** – Currently, CyRide has one location to service 60' articulated buses. The articulated bus fleet is expected to increase to ten vehicles by the end of FY 2026. Increasing the number of inground bus lifts will help accommodate these larger vehicles.
- **Shop Equipment** – The CyRide Maintenance Division owns several pieces of specialized equipment used to maintain buses in compliance with FTA regulations regarding vehicle maintenance. The specialized equipment includes parts washers, refrigerant recovery machines, lifts, and electronic diagnostic equipment. CyRide plans to begin replacing the fluid reels within the maintenance facility. CyRide currently has thirty-two fluid reels that have reached the end of

their useful life and need to be replaced. The Maintenance Division also plans to purchase a bus pusher in FY 2026. This specialized equipment is used to safely move inoperable buses within the maintenance facility, ensuring they can be positioned for repairs, cleaning, or storage without requiring the bus engine to be operational.

- **Computers/Office Equipment** – The FY 2026 office equipment expenditures include replacing computers, laptops, printers, office chairs, and stand-up-style desks at an estimated cost of \$27,400.

Remaining Four Years (FY 2027 - 2030)

Additional capital projects are scheduled for the remaining four years of the CIP if sufficient federal and state funding is available. Refer to the attached FY 2026 Capital Improvements Plan for complete details. Capital items in this period include:

- **40' and 60' Buses** – Four to five buses are scheduled for replacement annually in FY 2027 through FY 2029, with one replacement planned for FY 2030. These buses will replace older 40' buses and assist CyRide in meeting its federal TAM plan goals.
- **Battery Electric Buses (BEB)** – The CIP includes the replacement of one 40' diesel bus with a battery electric bus each year for the remaining four years of the CIP. In 2019, CyRide worked with the Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) to develop a “Zero Emission Roadmap” for deploying electric bus technology through 2030. As a result, it was determined that seventeen BEBs could operate within our current route structure. In addition, CyRide will continue to seek grant opportunities to move toward more sustainable transportation options.
- **Support Vehicles** – Administrative vehicles are replaced every four to six years, depending on conditions and fiscal constraints.
- **Bus Stop Improvements** – CyRide will continue to use automatic passenger counters (APCs) to monitor the number of passengers boarding and alighting at bus stops, ensuring bus stop amenities improve and enhance the passenger experience for the greatest number of riders. CyRide also has programmed local funding for small concrete replacement projects in FY 2027 through FY 2030 to maintain accessibility and safety.
- **Concrete** – Funds for concrete replacement are programmed into FY 2026 and FY 2027 based on the amount of concrete expected to degrade in those years.
- **60” Brake Press** – CyRide has budgeted funds to invest in a brake press, which will allow CyRide to fabricate brackets and parts custom-made in-house. Many of the parts being fabricated are obsolete and no longer available. Having the ability to manufacture parts in-house will allow CyRide to continue to operate older vehicles.
- **Alignment Machine Rack** – The plan includes funding for an alignment machine rack. This equipment will allow CyRide to align the bus suspension system better, reducing tire wear, improving bus handling, and preserving the riding experience for passengers.

- **Building Improvement and Expansion**

- **Fueling System Upgrade** – CyRide would replace its fuel dispensing system with a spill-free fueling system that is faster, more efficient, and environmentally sustainable. CyRide would look for state grant opportunities to assist with funding this project.
- **Facility Expansion** – CyRide has budgeted funds to explore improvements and a possible facility expansion to address current and future needs.

FY 2026 Budget Summary

The FY 2026 CIP budget includes funding for six replacement 40' buses and one battery electric bus. Additionally, a State of Iowa Public Transportation Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) will enable CyRide to upgrade its fire suppression to mitigate battery fire risks within the facility. If additional discretionary grant funding opportunities arise, staff will present these projects to the Transit Board for consideration.

The proposed FY 2026 operating budget totals \$15,692,131 and represents an increase of 1.3% over the adopted FY 2025 budget. This budget preserves current service levels and **requires a 2.5% increase in contributions from the local funding partners.**

CyRide is seeking board input on the recommended budget and if any modifications should be included. The Transit Board may approve the final budget at the December meeting or defer action until the January 16 meeting, ensuring compliance with the Intergovernmental Agreement deadline of January 21.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the FY 2026 budget as proposed, with a 2.5% cost increase to the local funding partners.
2. Defer approval and direct staff to modify the FY 2026 budget according to Transit Board priorities, with the final budget approval scheduled for the January 16, 2025, Transit Board meeting to meet the Intergovernmental Agreement deadline of January 21.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Transit Director recommends approval of Alternative #1, to approve the FY 2026 budget as presented. This budget allows CyRide to continue offering the high level of transit services the community relies upon with low increases to the local funding partners, with initiatives designed to improve the quality and efficiency of CyRide services.

BUDGET ANALYSIS - 2024 Actual, 2025 Amended, 2026 Requested

		10/18/2022	10/2/2023	10/14/2024				
12/11/24	11:53 AM	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	24-25	25-26
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Adopted	Amended	Requested
FIXED ROUTE								
550-1221	Operations	\$6,186,971	\$6,423,269	\$6,989,829	\$7,562,535	\$8,646,437	\$8,621,530	\$8,945,952
550-1222	Maintenance	\$2,121,874	\$2,658,022	\$3,058,725	\$3,231,018	\$3,854,163	\$3,922,809	\$3,639,764
FIXED ROUTE TOTAL		\$8,308,845	\$9,081,291	\$10,048,554	\$10,793,553	\$12,500,600	\$12,544,339	\$12,585,716
DIAL-A-RIDE								
550-1341	Operations	\$129,217	\$243,104	\$254,746	\$281,698	\$285,729	\$285,619	\$292,333
550-1342	Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
DIAL-A-RIDE TOTAL		\$129,217	\$243,104	\$254,746	\$281,698	\$285,729	\$285,619	\$292,333
ADMINISTRATION/SUPPORT								
550-1101	Administration	\$1,086,923	\$1,289,435	\$1,328,082	\$1,515,495	\$1,540,497	\$1,575,971	\$1,622,894
550-1102	Safety/Training	\$444,302	\$561,533	\$620,271	\$664,841	\$636,971	\$636,071	\$661,916
550-1103	Promotion	\$751	\$4,203	\$1,673	\$3,298	\$6,550	\$6,550	\$6,550
550-1105	Bldg/Grounds	\$368,006	\$403,627	\$492,780	\$447,458	\$515,532	\$505,498	\$522,723
ADMIN/SUPPORT TOTAL		\$1,899,982	\$2,258,799	\$2,442,807	\$2,631,092	\$2,699,550	\$2,724,090	\$2,814,083
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		\$10,338,044	\$11,583,193	\$12,746,107	\$13,706,343	\$15,485,879	\$15,554,048	\$15,692,132
TRANSFER TO SG TRUST					\$210,922		\$440,145	
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL FUND		\$1,057,193	\$5,401,961	\$4,193,914	\$2,800,000	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000	\$800,000
TOTAL USED		\$11,395,237	\$16,985,154	\$16,940,021	\$16,717,265	\$17,285,879	\$17,794,193	\$16,492,132
OPENING BALANCE		\$5,895,307	\$10,846,451	\$10,781,932	\$10,507,553	\$9,932,024	\$9,932,024	\$8,080,405
OPERATING REVENUE		\$16,346,381	\$16,919,515	\$16,665,642	\$16,141,736	\$15,434,260	\$15,434,260	\$15,686,070
TOTAL AVAILABLE		\$22,241,688	\$27,765,966	\$27,447,574	\$26,649,288	\$25,366,284	\$25,366,284	\$23,766,475
Committed Funds			\$3,884,593	\$2,766,638	\$2,680,000	\$2,650,000	\$2,650,000	\$2,650,000
Closing Balance Excess of 10%			\$5,770,605	\$6,466,304	\$5,882,802	\$3,881,817		\$3,055,130
CLOSING BALANCE		\$10,846,451	\$1,125,614	\$1,274,611	\$1,369,221	\$1,548,588	\$4,922,091	\$1,569,213
Closing/Operating Total		104.9%	9.7%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	31.6%	10.0%
REVENUE/EXPENSE RATIO		158.1%	146.1%	130.8%	117.8%	99.7%	99.2%	100.0%

ISU Student Fees and Trust Fund Summary
Minimum Reserve Fund of 10%, with 3.0% and 3.5% Annual Budget Increases
Fall 2025 Enrollment Projections for 30,000 Students

CyRide Budget	Actual 22-23	Actual 23-24	Projected 24-25	Projected 25-26	Projected 26-27	Projected 27-28	Projected 28-29	Projected 29-30
Budgeted Commitment	\$5,741,487	\$5,856,316	\$6,002,724	\$6,152,792	\$6,337,376	\$6,559,184	\$6,788,756	\$7,026,362
Revenue Collected	\$5,952,409	\$6,296,461	\$6,327,728	\$6,171,542	\$6,297,092	\$6,315,598	\$6,452,773	\$6,617,383
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$210,922	\$440,145	\$325,004	\$18,749	(\$40,284)	(\$243,587)	(\$335,983)	(\$408,979)

TRUST FUND

Opening Balance	\$776,327	\$1,030,329	\$1,489,473	\$1,833,477	\$1,860,227	\$1,827,942	\$1,592,356	\$1,264,373
Interest	\$43,080	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$5,001
Transfers In (Out)	\$210,922	\$440,145	\$325,004	\$18,749	(\$40,284)	(\$243,587)	(\$335,983)	(\$408,979)
Ending Balance	\$1,030,329	\$1,489,473	\$1,833,477	\$1,860,227	\$1,827,942	\$1,592,356	\$1,264,373	\$860,394
Minimum Reserve Balance	\$574,149	\$585,632	\$600,272	\$615,279	\$633,738	\$655,918	\$678,876	\$702,636
Balance Above Min. Reserve	\$456,180	\$903,842	\$1,233,205	\$1,244,948	\$1,194,205	\$936,437	\$585,497	\$157,758

Increase	\$10.50	\$5.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.25	\$2.25	\$2.50	\$3.00
Total Fees	\$105.10	\$110.60	\$110.60	\$110.60	\$112.85	\$115.10	\$117.60	\$120.60
Official Enrollment	29,969	30,177	30,432	30,000	30,000	29,500	29,500	29,500

CyRide Capital - FY24 to FY30

		FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
Capital								
	Actual							
Beginning Balance		\$ 10,877,395	\$ 13,448,357	\$ 2,677,858	\$ 1,823,401	\$ 1,296,024	\$ 801,378	\$ 145,447
State/Federal Building	80%							
PTIG Building	80%	\$ 592,016	\$ 785,611	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000
State/Federal Bus (60' Bus)(FY22)		\$ -	\$ 1,150,740					
State/Federal Bus (40' Bus)(FY22)								
State/Federal Bus (40' Bus)(FY23)	80%	\$ -	\$ 1,385,874	\$ 3,169,898	\$ 2,218,929	\$ 2,328,208	\$ 2,912,344	\$ 611,592
State/Federal Bus (40' Bus)(FY24)								
STBG Money		\$ -	\$ 1,093,192	\$ 377,050	\$ 377,050	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
VW Award Money								
State/Federal BEB (FY21)		\$ 105,299	\$ 12,000					
State/Federal BEB (FY23)		\$ -	\$ 1,565,488	\$ 503,158	\$ 523,285	\$ 544,216	\$ 565,985	\$ 588,624
State/Federal BEB (FY24)		\$ -	\$ 2,952,635					
State/Federal Minibuses (FY22)	85%	\$ 249,917	\$ 95,141					
State/Federal Minibuses (FY23 HIRTA)	85%	\$ 135,372	\$ 33,315					
State/Federal Bus Stops	80%	\$ 46,080	\$ 73,920	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000
State/Federal Annunciators - LED	80%	\$ -						
State/Federal Annunciators - APC		\$ -	\$ 37,016					
Infotainment (FY22)		\$ -	\$ 35,707					
Infotainment (FY23)		\$ -	\$ 72,255					
Infotainment (FY24)		\$ -	\$ 44,946					
Infotainment (FY25)			\$ 78,929					
ISU Parking		\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000
Interest		\$ 557,961	\$ 255,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000
GSB								
Capital Transfer		\$ 2,800,000	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000
Capital Revenues		\$ 4,503,645	\$ 11,488,769	\$ 5,656,106	\$ 4,725,263	\$ 4,878,424	\$ 5,484,328	\$ 3,206,216

		FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
Total Available		\$ 15,381,039	\$ 24,937,126	\$ 8,333,965	\$ 6,548,665	\$ 6,174,448	\$ 6,285,707	\$ 3,351,664
	Grants							
Interior Improvement Project								
HVAC Replacement (Phase 2)	PTIG							
HVAC Replacement (Phase 3)	PTIG	\$ 491,803	\$ 90,531					
Shop Expansion	PTIG	\$ 405,324	\$ 344,676					
Building Fire Suppression (BEB)	PTIG		\$ 661,323	\$ 750,000				
Fueling System Upgrade (Spill Free)	PTIG				\$ 750,000			
Facility Expansion	PTIG					\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000
Articulated Bus (Grants)		\$ -	\$ 1,967,741					
Bus (Grants) BEB (FY21)		\$ 149,637	\$ 15,000					
Bus (Grants) BEB (FY23)		\$ -	\$ 2,670,778	\$ 1,215,791	\$ 1,276,580	\$ 1,340,409	\$ 1,407,430	\$ 1,477,801
Bus (Grants) BEB (FY24)		\$ -	\$ 3,473,688					
Bus (Grants) 40' Buses (FY22)								
Bus (Grants) 40' Buses (FY23)		\$ -	\$ 1,885,494	\$ 3,962,372	\$ 2,773,661	\$ 2,910,260	\$ 3,640,430	\$ 764,490
Bus (Grants) 40' Buses (FY24)								
Bus (Grants) Minibuses (FY22)		\$ 402,794	\$ -					
		<small>*3-Low-floor Minibuses (390, 391, 7654)</small>	<small>10 Large Buses Tot. * 2 ARTIC's(952, 502) * 5 BEB BUSES (501, 503, 949, 950, 951) * 3 - 40' Diesel Buses (953, 954, 9070)</small>	<small>7 Large Buses Tot. * 1 BEB bus * 6-40' HD BUSES(9072, 9074, 9077, 9071, 9075, 9073, 9076) NOT CURRENTLY FUNDED</small>	<small>5 Large Buses Tot. * 1 BEB(504) * 4-40' HD Diesel BUSES (186, 187, 188, 189)</small>	<small>5 Large Buses Tot. * 1 BEB * 4-40' HD BUSES (9 hybrids & 3 2010 buses need replaced)</small>	<small>6 Large Buses Tot. * 1 BEB * 5-40' HD BUSES (9 hybrids & 3 2010 buses need replaced)</small>	<small>2 Large Buses Tot. * 1 BEB * 1-40' HD BUS</small>
HIRTA Bus	5310	\$ 201,397	\$ -					
Bus Stop Shelters	5310	\$ 57,600	\$ 92,400	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000
Annunciators / AVL - LED Signage	5310							
Infotainment (FY22)		\$ -	\$ 44,634					
Infotainment (FY23)	5310	\$ -	\$ 90,319					
Infotainment (FY24)		\$ -	\$ 56,183					
Infotainment (FY25)			\$ 98,661	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000			
APC Project	5312	\$ -	\$ 41,128					
Facility Improvements - Maint.		\$ -	\$ 75,000					
Facility Improvements - Interior		\$ -	\$ 75,000					
AVL Replacement (Local)		\$ -	\$ 100,000					
Bus Technology - Accessibility / Technology		\$ -	\$ 254,834	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Support Vehicle		\$ 86,050	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Shop Trucks								
Shop Equipment		\$ 33,307	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Computers/Office Equip.		\$ 16,915	\$ 14,400	\$ 27,400	\$ 27,400	\$ 27,400	\$ 27,400	\$ 27,400
Concrete		\$ -	\$ 130,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -
Concrete (Bus Stops)		\$ 6,730	\$ 43,270	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000
A&E Services		\$ 30,533	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Security System (Building)		\$ 39,610	\$ 160,390					
Protection Rails (Articulated Buses)		\$ -	\$ 75,000					
Cooling Tower Loop		\$ -	\$ 50,000					
Auxiliary Heaters (buses)		\$ -	\$ 100,000					
EV Level 2 Charger		\$ 5,818						
Wheel Lifts (x6)		\$ -	\$ 75,000					
Copier (Shop)		\$ 5,164						
Tire Balancer			\$ 27,000					
Steam Clean Hoist			\$ 150,000					
Snow Removal Equipment				\$ 40,000				
Inground Bus Lift				\$ 150,000				
60" Brake Press					\$ 25,000			
Alignment Machine Rack					\$ 35,000			
Capital Expenses		\$ 1,932,682	\$ 13,012,450	\$ 6,510,563	\$ 5,252,641	\$ 5,373,069	\$ 6,140,259	\$ 3,334,692
Ending Balance		\$ 13,448,357	\$ 11,924,676	\$ 1,823,401	\$ 1,296,024	\$ 801,378	\$ 145,447	\$ 16,972

		FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
Reserve Fund								
Facility Expansion Local Match			\$ 3,715,166					
BEB Local Match (Vehicles or Batteries)			\$ 1,382,960					
40' Bus Local Match			\$ 3,398,692					
Accessibility Technology Replacement			\$ 750,000	\$ 26				
Balance w/o Reserve Fund		\$ 13,448,357	\$ 2,677,858	\$ 1,823,401	\$ 1,296,024	\$ 801,378	\$ 145,447	\$ 16,972

Description/Justification

CyRide will replace buses in the fleet as grant funding opportunities arise to ensure vehicles are in a state of good repair, as required by the Federal Transit Administration. CyRide anticipates future state funding for new buses through the state’s capital funding allocation process. Staff will continue to look for other grant opportunities to continue moving toward a more sustainable fleet. CyRide’s Zero-Emission roadmap, developed by the Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) and approved by the Transit Board, supports up to 17 battery electric buses in the current facility and on the existing routes. CyRide has five vehicles used for administrative support in the operations division for drivers to utilize when switching shifts.

In total, these purchases are programmed as follows:

2025/26	Replace six 40' buses (\$3,962,372); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,215,791); replace one administrative vehicle
2026/27	Replace four 40' buses (\$2,773,661); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,276,580); replace one administrative vehicle
2027/28	Replace four 40' buses (\$2,910,260); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,340,409); replace one administrative vehicle
2028/29	Replace five 40' buses (\$3,640,430); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,407,430); replace one administrative vehicle
2029/30	Replace one 40' bus (\$764,490); replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus (\$1,477,801); replace one administrative vehicle

Comments

New buses will be funded with 80-85% federal funding, including the State of Iowa’s Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) funds, which are a distribution of federal dollars.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Large Buses - 40' New	20,769,224	5,178,163	4,050,241	4,250,669	5,047,860	2,242,291
Large Buses - 60' New						
Administrative Vehicles	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Dial-A-Ride Bus						
Total	21,019,224	5,228,163	4,100,241	4,300,669	5,097,860	2,292,291
Financing:						
Transit Fund	4,514,749	1,178,057	980,977	444,109	1,219,530	692,076
PTMS Funds	14,550,375	3,673,056	2,742,214	3,456,560	3,478,329	1,200,216
STP Funds	1,954,100	377,050	377,050	400,000	400,000	400,000
Total	21,019,224	5,228,163	4,100,241	4,300,669	5,097,860	2,292,291

Program - Activity:	Department:	Account Number:
Transportation - Transit	CyRide	552-1159-439, 552-1169-439

CyRide Facility Improvements

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

The CyRide facility is 40 years old, and major components of the building are nearing the end of their useful life. Additionally, the facility houses more vehicles than it was initially designed for, increasing fleet maintenance costs and highlighting the need to explore expansion options. This plan has been developed to keep the current facility in a state of good repair, as required by the Federal Transit Administration.

2025/26	Building fire safety enhancement project for battery electric buses; concrete replacement, A & E services
2026/27	Fueling system upgrade; concrete replacement; A & E services
2027/28	Construct an addition onto existing facility; concrete replacement; A & E services
2028/29	Construct an addition onto existing facility; A & E services
2029/30	Construct an addition onto existing facility; A & E services

Comments

With the expansion of battery electric buses to the fleet, a building fire suppression system will be necessary to mitigate battery fire risks within the facility. A fueling system upgrade will replace the existing fueling system with one that is faster, has less waste, and is more environmentally sustainable. A & E services would provide technical expertise during the various construction projects and assist with preparing bid documents. Concrete replacement is budgeted through FY2027/28 to replace concrete around the facility. The CIP assumes a CyRide facility expansion as funding sources are identified. To date, CyRide has reserved \$3,715,166 in local match dollars for a grant to begin construction.

Location

CyRide, 601 North University Boulevard.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Architectural/Engineering	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Concrete	90,000	30,000	30,000	30,000		
Construction	3,750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000
Total	4,090,000	830,000	830,000	830,000	800,000	800,000
Financing:						
Transit Fund	1,090,000	230,000	230,000	230,000	200,000	200,000
State of Iowa - PTIG	3,000,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000
Total	4,090,000	830,000	830,000	830,000	800,000	800,000

Program - Activity:

Transportation - Transit

Department:

CyRide

Account Number:

552-1159-439,
552-1169-439

CyRide Technology Improvements

Project Status: Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

Advancements in technology have grown significantly over the past several years. As a result, CyRide will incorporate the following:

- **Bus Technology/Signage:** CyRide will continue investing in bus technology to improve system efficiency and the rider experience for passengers with disabilities. Interior signs displaying upcoming stops will be expanded to additional vehicles, and obsolete advertising screens will be retrofitted with new equipment. These signs will be supported with 80% federal funding.

Comments

CyRide is enhancing passenger accessibility and the overall riding experience through continued investment in technology. Real-time information displays are being installed at key campus bus stop locations, providing passengers with easy access to bus arrival times and helping them navigate the system more effectively. Interior infotainment systems displaying upcoming stops and real-time information will be expanded to additional vehicles, enhancing the ease of use for passengers while also offering potential revenue opportunities. CyRide is also improving access to real-time bus data and alerts through the Transit app, MyState app, and Ames Ride app, providing passengers with multiple tools to stay informed about bus schedules and updates.

Location

CyRide, 601 North University Boulevard

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Bus Technology	250,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Infotainment Signage	50,000	25,000	25,000			
Total	300,000	75,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Financing:						
Transit Fund	300,000	75,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Federal 5310 Grants						
Total	300,000	75,000	75,000	50,000	50,000	50,000

Program - Activity:

Transportation - Transit

Department:

CyRide

Account Number:

552-1159-439,
552-1169-439

Bus Stop Improvements

Project Status: No Change

Description/Justification

CyRide annually updates its Bus Stop Improvement Plan to ensure that enhancements benefit the greatest number of riders. The updated plan also incorporates recommendations from an Iowa DOT report on bus stop improvements along state roadways.

CyRide will continue utilizing automatic passenger counters (APCs) to track the number of passengers boarding and alighting at each bus stop, ensuring targeted and effective upgrades. Plans to upgrade five bus shelters are currently underway to further enhance the passenger experience. The Bus Stop Improvement Plan will continue to be reviewed and refined each year to reflect evolving needs and priorities. Local funding has also been added for small concrete replacement projects to maintain and upgrade bus stops.

Comments

Funding for shelter improvements is 80% federally funded from Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 funding.

LOCATION

Various locations throughout Ames.

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Pads, Benches, Shelters	400,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
Concrete	165,000	30,000	30,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
Total	565,000	110,000	110,000	115,000	115,000	115,000
Financing:						
Transit Fund	245,000	46,000	46,000	51,000	51,000	51,000
Federal 5310 Grants	320,000	64,000	64,000	64,000	64,000	64,000
Total	565,000	110,000	110,000	115,000	115,000	115,000

Program - Activity:
Transportation - Transit

Department:
CyRide

Account Number:
552-1159-439,
552-1169-439

CyRide Shop and Office Equipment

Project Status: Cost Change

City of Ames, Iowa
Capital Improvements Plan

Description/Justification

The FY 2025/26 office equipment expenditures include the replacement of computers, laptops, printers, office chairs, and stand-up style desks at an estimated cost of \$27,400.

The CyRide Maintenance Division relies on specialized equipment to ensure buses are properly maintained and compliant with Federal Transit Administration regulations. CyRide budgets \$50,000 annually for shop equipment, as expenditures in this category can be challenging to predict due to the long lifespan of some equipment, which can remain reliable for decades.

This year, CyRide is investing in inground lifts designed specifically for maintaining the growing fleet of articulated buses. Additionally, snow removal equipment will be purchased to assist in clearing bus stops and CyRide property, enhancing safety for both passengers and employees during winter months. These planned purchases will ensure CyRide’s operations remain efficient and safe while adapting to the evolving needs of the system.

2025/26	Snow Removal Equipment (\$40,000); Inground Bus Lift (\$150,000); Shop Equipment (\$50,000); Replacement Computers/Office Equipment
2026/27	60" Brake Press (\$25,000); Alignment Rack (\$35,000); Shop Equipment (\$50,000); Replacement Computers/Office Equipment
2027/28	Shop Equipment; Replacement Computers/Office Equipment
2028/29	Shop Equipment; Replacement Computers/Office Equipment
2029/30	Shop Equipment; Replacement Computers/Office Equipment

Location

CyRide, 601 North University Boulevard

	Total	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Cost:						
Computers/Office Equipment	137,000	27,400	27,400	27,400	27,400	27,400
Shop Equipment	500,000	240,000	110,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total	637,000	267,400	137,400	77,400	77,400	77,400
Financing:						
Transit Fund	637,000	267,400	137,400	77,400	77,400	77,400
Total	637,000	267,400	137,400	77,400	77,400	77,400

Program - Activity:

Transportation - Transit

Department:

CyRide

Account Number:

552-1159-439



December 19, 2024

Monthly Report

CyRide Resource: Barbara Neal

1. Rudolph

Theodore and Mr. Gobbles left after Thanksgiving, which means it is time for Rudolph to make an appearance. Rudolph has been guiding his bus on various routes, bringing holiday cheer before winter break starts.



2. Shop with a Cop

On Saturday, December 7, the Ames Police Department had its annual Shop with a Cop event. CyRide provided rides for the children and officers from City Hall to Target. Police officers from the ISU Police Department also participated. As always, Shop with a Cop was highly successful, and providing transportation was an excellent way for CyRide to help be a part of this event.



3. Token Transit

On Tuesday, December 10, members of CyRide met with Token Transit to finalize details on the app and set a launch date. Passengers will be able to buy tickets and a 31day pass beginning January 21, 2025. The app will serve as an optional complement to our existing cash fares, paper tickets, and passes. Token Transit includes security features, such as animated images and changing colors, to prevent fraud. The app supports popular payment methods, including Google Wallet, Apple Pay, credit, and debit cards. It will be another option to help community riders and make bus riding more accessible.

4. Infotainment

Installation of infotainment screens is wrapping up on 21 buses. These in-bus screens show multiple upcoming stops and real-time information for transfers, improving accessibility and helping riders orient themselves on the transit system. These screens can also show agency information interspersed with advertising content, providing additional system revenue.



December 19, 2024
Recognition of Outgoing Board Members
CyRide Resource: Barbara Neal

BACKGROUND:

Under the City of Ames Municipal Code creating the Ames Transit Agency, the term for the City Council member seat on the Transit Board of Trustees will expire on December 31, 2024. On December 4, 2024, the ISU Student Government Senator representative resigned from Student Government and vacated their position on the board. CyRide would like to recognize and thank our outgoing board members.

Asray Gopa joined the board in May 2024 as the ISU Student Government Senator position. Asray focused on ways to improve the connection between students and transit in Ames and enhance technological interfaces, bringing valuable student perspectives to the board.

Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen joined the board in January 2020 as the City Council representative. During her time on the board, Bronwyn has advocated for advancements in reducing CyRide's greenhouse gas emissions and providing equitable access to transit. She has been outspoken in her support of using CyRide as a viable means for community riders to get around Ames. Bronwyn has also served as President of the Transit Board.

CyRide is grateful for the time both of you have dedicated to being on the Transit Board of Trustees and appreciates the perspectives you've shared with the board about transit issues affecting Iowa State University students and community riders. CyRide thanks each of you for your service, and we are incredibly grateful for the time you have given to the Transit Board. We wish you the best!