



**DECEMBER 18, 2025  
AMES TRANSIT AGENCY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Ames Transit Agency Board of Trustees met on December 18, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. in the CyRide Conference room. President Boland called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. with Trustees Junck, Neal, Norton, and Schainker present.

**APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 20, 2025, MINUTES:**

Trustee Norton made a motion to adopt the November 20, 2025, Transit Board minutes as presented; Trustee Schainker seconded the motion. (Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING RENEWAL WITH STORY COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER:**

Director Neal requested board approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Story County Medical Center. The current MOU was last executed in 2022 and is set to expire on December 31, 2025. The MOU allows CyRide to provide transportation services if Story County issues an emergency proclamation. The transportation support provided will remain subject to CyRide's available resources and the Transit Director's determination of operation priorities. The MOU had been reviewed and approved by the Legal Department.

Director Neal requested board approval of Alternative #1, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Story County Medical Center for Emergency Transportation Services to support emergency preparedness and strengthen regional emergency coordination.

Trustee Schainker made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Neal seconded the motion.

(Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

## **AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS:**

Director Neal requested board approval to purchase bus video surveillance systems. All fixed-route buses are equipped with surveillance systems that monitor both the interior and exterior of the vehicles. These systems are critical for providing liability protection and ensuring passenger safety and security. CyRide recently received five 40' battery electric buses and two 60' articulated buses. During the final design phase of the bus purchase, the cost provided by the manufacturer to install the cameras was evaluated, and it was determined that purchasing and installing the video surveillance systems after vehicle delivery would result in a lower overall cost. CyRide's current vendor, Safety Vision, provided pricing of \$66,703.94 for the seven buses, which included onsite installation and all required hardware.

Director Neal requested board approval of Alternative #1, to approve the purchase of seven surveillance systems for CyRide's new buses, which are an important component of safe transit operations and will help ensure CyRide's vehicles remain in a state of good repair.

Trustee Norton made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Neal seconded the motion.

(Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

## **AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR BUS SHELTER PURCHASE:**

Director Neal requested board approval for the purchase of bus shelters. CyRide currently has fifty shelters, of which 14 of them are the modern style, installed at bus stops systemwide, which improve the rider experience by providing seating, route information, and protection from unfavorable outdoor conditions. Staff worked with the Purchasing Division and determined that a single-source procurement from Columbia Equipment Company to purchase additional modern shelters would provide the best value. During the last review process of the bus stop plan, it was determined that a slightly smaller shelter would be appropriate for some future locations. Columbia Equipment Company provided updated pricing of \$28,500 for the large red-arch shelter and \$24,300 for the medium-sized shelter. The plan for the shelters is for them to be placed at the Fitch Family Aquatic Center, Bloomington and Grand Avenue, South Dakota and Dickinson, and the Towers Turnaround. The final award of contract will be subject to approval by the Iowa Department of Transportation Office of Public Transit.

Director Neal requested board approval of Alternative #1, to approve the single-source procurement from Columbia Equipment Company of Manhattan, New York, in the amount of \$109,800 for the purchase of four modern bus shelters, which will provide additional amenities for CyRide's passengers and continue to support a consistent, positive appearance for CyRide.

Trustee Neal made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Schainker seconded the motion.

(Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

## **FY 2027 BUDGET:**

Director Neal presented the FY 2027 budget, which is required to be approved by January 21, 2026. CyRide will continue focusing on supporting and growing its large ridership base and connecting people to their community with safe and efficient transportation that exceeds customer expectations. The budget also supports the goal of reducing emissions and providing a sustainable community in which to live. Ongoing efforts to attract, hire, and retain employees will remain a high priority to ensure CyRide can deliver the services on which the community depends. Ridership remains strong and is projected to be more than five million rides this year. Maintaining strong ridership is central to CyRide, as more than \$2.4 million in federal funding is tied to CyRide's ridership and ability to outperform transit agencies serving much larger communities. Focusing on the rider experience and delivering the highest level of customer service will be essential.

The current year's adopted revenues, the 5-year pro forma detailing both operating and capital funds, the current year's adopted expenses, and the three reserve fund balances were reviewed with the board. Director Neal then presented the FY 2027 operating budget, representing an overall increase of 4.5% of total expenditures, and a 3.5% increase from the three local funding partners. The 5-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) was also presented, which included funding for vehicle replacements, building improvements, technology projects, bus stop renovations, and shop and office equipment.

Director Neal recommended approval of Alternative #1. Approving the FY 2027 budget and CIP as presented allows CyRide to continue offering the high level of transit services upon which the community relies at minimal additional costs to the funding partners.

Board members asked clarifying questions about the average fuel price, the reserve funds, building improvement projects, technology projects, and bus replacements.

Trustee Neal made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Norton seconded the motion.

(Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

## **MONTHLY REPORT:**

**Rudolph:** Rudolph guided the bus on various routes, bringing holiday cheer to riders.

**Shop with a Cop:** CyRide assisted the Ames Police Department with their annual Shop with a Cop event.

**2025 Facility Fire Protection Improvement Project:** Sprinkler piping has been installed, and the reconstruction of the lane 1 overhead doorway has been completed.

**Spring meeting dates:**

- January 15, 4:30 p.m.
- February 19, 4:30 p.m.
- March 19, 2026, 4:30 p.m.
- April 16, 2026, 4:30 p.m.
- May 21, 2026, 4:30 p.m.

**Adjourn:** Trustee Neal made a motion to adjourn at 5:08 p.m.; Trustee Schainker seconded the motion.

(Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

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Emily Boland, President

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Cheryl Spencer, Recording Secretary