

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY WAIVER OF AMES MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 26A.3(1)(b) REQUIREMENTS TO ALLOW APPOINTMENT TO TRANSIT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BACKGROUND:

The Ames Transit Agency, commonly known as CyRide, has a Board of Trustees made up of representatives of the City of Ames, Iowa State University (ISU), and the Iowa State University Student Government (SG). Under the Ames Municipal Code Section 26A.3(1)(d), the President of the SG appoints one Trustee who is not an SG Senator, and under Section 26A.3(1)(b), **the SG Senate chooses an SG Senator to serve as a Trustee**. These terms of office begin on May 15 of each year, per Ames Municipal Code Section 26A.3(2).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Iowa State University has ceased holding in-person classes for the Spring semester. Therefore, the SG Senate is not meeting and cannot make its Trustee appointment. Therefore, the City Council is being asked to temporarily suspend Section 26A.3(1)(b) of the Municipal Code for the year 2020 only, and allow the President of the SG, instead of the SG Senate, to make the appointment of an SG Senator to serve as a Transit Board Trustee for the one-year term beginning May 15, 2020.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the temporary resolution waiving for one year the Ames Municipal Code Section 26A.3(1)(b) requirements, and allow the Student Government President to appoint a Student Government Senator to the Transit Board of Trustees.
2. Do not approve the temporary resolution waiving the Ames Municipal Code Section 26A.3(1)(b) requirements, and leave this position vacant until an appointment can be made by the Student Government Senate.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Allowing a one-year waiver would enable all six positions on the Ames Transit Board of Trustees to remain filled. The waiver would also ensure two ISU students were represented on the Board.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.