

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: INTERMODAL FACILITY CONCEPTUAL DESIGN CONTRACT

BACKGROUND:

On February 17, 2010, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded TIGER funds to 51 projects nationwide. The Ames Intermodal Facility was fortunate to receive an \$8,463,000 grant to implement an Intermodal Facility. Since mid February CyRide staff members, in conjunction with Iowa State University's Facilities Planning & Management staff, have held several conversations with federal officials to gain a better understanding of what the TIGER funds could be spent on. A conference call held on March 9, 2010 provided the group with a number of answers and deadlines that must be met.

The first deadline is May 17, 2010. By this date, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) must approve a revised project document detailing the elements of the smaller/phased facility. A draft of this document would need to be completed by May 1, 2010 to meet this deadline. **TIGER funds cannot be used to develop this information.** Specifically, this documentation must include:

- Grant Agreement Terms and Agreement (draft 40-page document provided to staff)
- Project Scope
- Project Budget
- Project Schedule

To meet FTA requirements, the project will need to be developed to the conceptual phase, identifying which portions of the larger Intermodal facility will be included in the project and how they relate to the overall redesigned facility. Therefore, an architectural/engineering firm will need to work with the local steering committee comprised of representatives from CyRide, the City and ISU to develop this smaller/phased concept for the facility as well as its cost and construction schedule. This redesign of the project to the conceptual stage must be separate, but lead to final design of the facility.

Since the TIGER grant will not allow approval of any contracts or funds to be spent on this project until after the May 17th approval date, a separate short-term contract, paid for with funds in CyRide's available balance, was approved by the Ames Transit Board of Trustees on March 12, 2010. This contract will be for an amount not-to-exceed \$68,500 in order to completed this work by the deadline. CyRide's current available fund balance is \$732,966.

To accomplish this work and in anticipation of a TIGER grant, the local steering committee has been in the process of conducting a competitive procurement for design services through construction. Based on technical qualifications, the firm of Neumann Monson was rated as the most qualified to provide architectural/engineering services for this project. The steering committee believes that it would be in the best interests of the project to enter into a short term, separate contract to complete the redesign documentation for FTA's May deadline with the firm that will most likely receive the design contract for the facility after FTA approval in May. This will allow for continuity and accelerated completion of the overall design work.

In summary, the Intermodal project will need to be redesigned, conceptually, within the next 45 days without utilizing TIGER grant funding. The funding source to complete this work would be secured from CyRide's available fund balance in an amount not-to-exceed \$68,500 under a short-term contract with the Neumann Monson design firm. This firm is the most technically qualified to complete the design work based on a competitive process completed over the past several months.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve a project redesign with Neumann Monson for an amount not to exceed cost \$68,500 secured from CyRide's available fund balance to complete the required FTA documentation for the Intermodal Facility.
2. Do not approve funding for the Intermodal Project Redesign project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The completion of a transit intermodal facility in the Campustown area is likely to be a key component in future redevelopment of that area. Without Federal funds, the development of such a facility would be very difficult to accomplish. Time is of the essence in reviewing the current design plans for the facility to develop an alternative plan that meets the FTA deadlines.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, and approve a contract with Neumann Monson for the redesign of the intermodal facility. This action will allow the grant requirements to be met and the May submittal deadline to be met. Work on the redesign would then begin quickly. By contracting with this firm, the design work will be compatible with final design of the facility later this year.