

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FROM HIRTA TO DRAW DOWN \$3,156.63 IN FY 2014/15
TRANSPORTATION FUNDS**

BACKGROUND:

At the November 10, 2015, City Council meeting, the City Council referred a request from HIRTA to carryover \$3,156.63 approved in the FY 2014/15 ASSET funding process for its City Transportation program. The drawdown deadline for these funds was in July 2015.

HIRTA indicated that it believed a drawdown request had been submitted in June 2015, but neither City staff nor HIRTA can produce documentation for this request. Therefore, these funds went unclaimed and were returned to the Local Option Sales Tax fund. HIRTA has requested that the unclaimed funds be carried over into the FY 2015/16 allocation for HIRTA.

In FY 2014/15, the City contracted with HIRTA to provide 3,154 rides at a total cost of \$38,133. HIRTA's FY 2015/16 contract provides for 3,284 rides at a total contracted amount of \$40,000. HIRTA has drawn down 1,100 units (\$13,398) of the in-town rides from July through October of the current fiscal year.

Because FY 2014/15 has been closed for some time, a carry-over cannot be authorized. The City Council may, however, direct that additional funds be authorized from the Local Option Sales Tax fund to support the request.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Direct staff to accept \$3,156.63 in reimbursement requests for City Transportation above HIRTA's FY 2015/16 contracted amount, with funding from the Local Option Sales Tax fund balance. **This alternative will authorize the staff to pay \$12.18 for 259 in-town rides above the amount approved in their FY 2015/16 contract with the City.**
2. Do not approve HIRTA's request.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

HIRTA provides a critical service to the Ames community. The demand for the in-town transportation program is high, and is likely to outpace the funds awarded for FY

2015/16. It is not possible to reimburse for services delivered in FY 2014/15, so any additional funding approved would be used to meet service demands in the current year.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby directing staff to accept \$3,156.63 in reimbursement requests for City Transportation above HIRTA's FY 2015/16 contracted amount, with funding from the Local Option Sales Tax fund balance.