

ITEM #: 3
 DATE: 05-28-24
 DEPT: AAMPO

TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: DRAFT FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:

To receive funds for transportation improvement projects, it is necessary for projects to be part of the approved state-wide plan. The initial step in this process is for the Ames Area MPO (AAMPO) to develop a Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The TIP includes four years of programming, and a new TIP is created annually. Projects included in the TIP involve roadway improvements, transit projects, planning activities, and trail projects. The FFY 2025-2028 TIP (see Attachment A) was prepared following published Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) guidelines and is fiscally constrained based on funding targets provided by the Iowa DOT.

During annual TIP updates, the AAMPO solicits applications to receive MPO funding. In spring 2024, the AAMPO distributed notice of funding opportunities (NOFOs) and grant applications for the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program, the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). Applications were due on March 31, 2024. **The MPO received four (4) applications and they were scored by MPO staff using the criteria established in the NOFOs (see pages 13-15). The following table summarizes the applications received, the application score, and the recommendation for the award of MPO funds:**

Sponsor	Description	Program	FFY	Amount	Score	Award Funds?
CyRide	Vehicle Replacement (Electric Bus)	STBG	2028	\$400,000	92	Yes
City of Ames	Sixth Phase Deployment (Ames ITS Master Plan)	CRP	2027	\$235,000	90	Yes
City of Ames	Fifth Phase Deployment (Ames ITS Master Plan)	CRP	2026	\$700,000	88	Yes
City of Ames	Duff Ave (6 th St – 13 th St) & E 13 th St (Dayton Ave – McCormick Ave)	STBG	2028	\$1,800,000	62	Yes

MPO staff reviewed the received applications to ensure conformity to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and regional transportation planning goals and recommends fully awarding the requested amounts for all received project applications.

The AAMPO also received a request from CyRide (see Appendix E) to increase the amount of previously awarded STBG funding by \$152,050 for the following projects as shown:

TPMS ID	Funding Program	Description	FFY	Previous STBG Award	Requested STBG Amount
48396	STBG	CyRide: Vehicle Replacement	2025	\$225,000	\$377,050
52480	STBG	CyRide: Vehicle Replacement	2026	\$225,000	\$377,050
53499	STBG	CyRide: Vehicle Replacement	2027	\$225,000	\$377,050

This request was made due to the dramatic increase in the cost of battery electric buses. As such, staff recommends approving this request and incorporating the subsequent funding increases in the TIP.

A map and full list of programmed projects included in the TIP can be seen starting on page 22 (highway/trail projects) and page 26 (transit projects) in the attached TIP document.

After review and approval by the Transportation Policy Committee, the draft program will undergo a 30-day public comment period. During this time, the Iowa DOT will also review the draft program. Once final feedback is received and incorporated into the TIP, the final program will be presented to the Transportation Policy Committee again for public hearing and final approval on July 9, 2024.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Draft FFY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program and set July 9, 2024, as the date of public hearing.
2. Modify the Draft FFY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program and set July 9, 2024, as the date of public hearing.

MPO DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Transportation Technical Committee has reviewed the FFY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program and unanimously recommends approval. This plan was developed by staff in accordance with state and federal guidelines. All programmed projects conform with the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the MPO Executive Director that the Transportation Policy Committee adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Attachment A - Draft FFY 2025-2028 TIP.pdf](#)