

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CYRIDE
RADIO EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES**

BACKGROUND:

CyRide radio equipment is currently provided by Electronic Engineering Co. under the terms and conditions of the lease contract extended by Council on June 25, 2019. Radio equipment furnished under the contract includes portable and vehicle radios, base station radios, antennas and other related equipment. The total annual cost for radio equipment is approximately \$65,350 per year.

Local emergency responders occasionally call on CyRide to assist during times of crisis. CyRide buses are used to shelter and transport people during emergencies. The existing radio system is not compatible with the City of Ames and Story County's planned new P25 emergency communication system. CyRide wishes to join other City of Ames departments in the purchase of the new system so that critical communication is maintained during emergencies. The new radio system will also be an improvement over the existing system when used for routine daily communications between buses and base.

In the FY19-20 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), CyRide budgeted \$150,000 for radio replacement under the assumption that a lease option would be available. In February 2019, the City of Ames radio project manager informed staff that a lease option would not be part of the agreement between StoryComm and RACOM. A project budget of \$320,000 was developed based on preliminary pricing. This left a capital shortfall of \$170,000. In June 2019, it was announced that CyRide would be the recipient of a VW Settlement Grant award in the amount of \$170,640. The VW award could only be used for the purchase of new transit buses. Staff had been working on a new bus order which required a 15% local match. The Transit Board approved reallocating \$170,640 that was going to be used as the local match for the purchase of new buses to the new radio system at their June 13, 2019 meeting.

Following the June Board action, it was discovered that the actual purchase price for the system would be \$341,145. The extra \$21,146 in the cost of the project was due to pricing errors. CyRide staff was able to identify \$25,000 in the FY19 capital budget that was not spent. These funds were rolled into the FY20 budget. Because of the frequency of pricing changes that had been occurring, the Transit Board approved using up to \$25,000 in unallocated capital carried over from FY19 to purchase the radio system at their August 8, 2019 meeting. The City of Ames Legal Department has reviewed the RACOM agreement.

In summary, the breakdown of the funding for the radio system is as follows:

FY20 Budgeted Funds	\$ 150,000
FY20 Re-allocated Capital Funds	\$ 170,640
FY19 Unspent Capital Funds	<u>\$ 25,000</u>
	\$ 345,640
Less the Final Cost of Radio System	\$ 341,145
Potential Available Funding Overage	\$ 4,495

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award contract to RACOM Critical Communications of Marshalltown, IA in the amount of \$341,146 for the purchase of a new radio system for CyRide.
2. Reject the proposed contract and direct staff to modify the project to reflect other Council priorities.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Award of contract to RACOM Critical Communications of Marshalltown, IA will allow CyRide to replace the existing outdated radio system. Installation of a new system will enable CyRide to improve daily communications and enable critical communication with first responders during emergencies. The contract award of \$341,146 includes radio hardware and associated equipment installation.

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