



## Report to County Services Committee of Lee County Board

February 11, 2025 | 9:00 AM

### 1) RIDERSHIP DATA (November 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025)

	November, 2024	December, 2024	January, 2025	FY 25 Trend
RIDES	7,172	6,584	8,086	95,100
SERVICE HOURS	2,252	2,070	2,498	31,076
MILES OF SERVICE	63,387	57,305	69,706	759,388
FUEL COST	\$18,460.22	\$16,907.88	\$19,295.08	\$268,852.32

### 2) DEVELOPMENTS

#### a) Budget/Contracts for FY 2026 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)

(1) Funding Allocations for FY 2026 have been announced by IDOT and are as follows:

- (a) 5311 Contract: \$283,450
- (b) DOAP Contract: \$2,240,400
- (c) 5311F Contract (I-88 and I-39): \$2,029,606

#### b) Rural Winnebago County Transit Services

- i) Working on Intergovernmental Agreement with Winnebago County to provide rural transit.
- ii) Separate agreement being finalized for the contractual hiring of a person to be the PCOM (oversight) of the rural transit services being provided.
- iii) The contractual budget proposed by IDOT for this new rural service is as follows:
  - (i) 5311 Contract: \$207,864
  - (ii) DOAP Contract: \$798,728

#### c) Vehicle Procurement

- (1) RMTD will be receiving six (6) vehicles (2 minivans, 4 light duty buses) via IDOT's 2020 CVP Application. Delivery could be as early as March, 2025.
- (2) RMTD collaboration with IDOT on a federal proposal to the Low/No Emission Grants.
  - (a) RMTD will procure two (2) electric buses via this proposal.

#### d) Hydrogen Fuel Feasibility Study

- i) The Request for Proposals for a Project Lead Consultant for the Hydrogen Fuel Feasibility Study was published on Friday, January 3, 2025. Responses to the RFP were due in by 1:00 PM last Friday, February 7, 2025.
- ii) IDOT State Planning and Research Program has awarded \$300,000 to assess the feasibility of using hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and hydrogen fuel in rural Illinois.

#### e) Service Contract Discussions

- i) Initial discussions on potential service contracts have been had with Rochelle Community Hospital as well as OSF Saint Katharine. Both of these are in the very preliminary stages, with good content from the initial meetings.
- ii) A meeting is also being sought with Mercy Health, which opened an emergent clinic in the City of Dixon late in 2024.

#### f) Architectural/Engineering Firm / Oregon facility construction

- i) Pre-bid Concurrence paperwork has been submitted to IDOT for its review. Once concurred will allow for going out for the hiring of a General Contractor.
- ii) Larson and Darby, architectural firm out of Rockford, is the architect/engineering firm hired for the Oregon Construction project. This project is part of RMTD application under REBUILD 1

#### g) Transit Desert Grant / IDOT State Planning and Research

- i) This project will look at the general "transportation needs" of residents in Lee and Ogle Counties, specifically those areas of the counties more remote in nature

- ii) The initial meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was held Wednesday, January 8, 2025. The next meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee will likely be in March.
- iii) Next steps in the process, spearheaded by the NIU Center for Governmental Studies (NIU/CGS), will include interviews with key stakeholders.
- iv) NIU/CGS is also starting the review of existing data for transit deserts in the two-county region. A Public Survey is being developed by NIU/CGS with distribution in the near future.
- v) A series of Focus Groups will be established by NIU/CGS for the coming months.

**h) Auditing Services**

- i) RMTD and Wipfli, LLC have completed the annual Single Transportation Audit, as a requirement of RMTD's contract with IDOT.
- ii) The audit reviewed all transit funding sources for the period of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.
  - (1) Downstate Operating Assistance Program
  - (2) 5311 / 5311F for local and Intercity Bus operations
  - (3) CARES (Covid) funding

**i) IT Services**

- i) The transition from DC Computers to Sundog IT is complete. The agreement with Sundog is a three-year contract with two (2) additional one-year options.

**j) Pending Request for Bids / Intercity Bus**

- i) An upcoming bid opportunity to operate Intercity Bus services on I-88 and I-39 will be forthcoming in the next six (6) months, with the selected operator beginning on July 1, 2025.
  - (1) Greyhound Bus Lines / FLIX are the current operator on both the I-88 Intercity Bus Route between Chicago and Davenport, Iowa, as well as the I-39 (I-90, and I-74) Route between Chicago and Danville, IL.

**k) Request for Bids / Replacement Vehicles**

- i) RMTD has an initial draft of a Request for Proposals for two (2) (possibly three) Ford Transit type vehicles, and which has been shared with IDOT for their initial review. As of the date of this response there has been no additional feedback from IDOT on the RFP. This RFP will allow for the use of REBUILD 1 funding.

### **3) OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL RELATED DEVELOPMENTS**

**a) Capital Funding / Community Project Funding | Representative Darin LaHood**

- i) Funding includes construction of additional administrative space at Dixon Transit Center
- ii) Total amount of funding is \$2.9472 million to provide for planned expansion at the Reagan Transit Center in Dixon.

**b) Capital Funding / REBUILD Round 1**

- i) Funding provides for construction of new Oregon location
- ii) Furnishings and equipment for Oregon facility
- iii) Implementation of video surveillance cameras in 17 of RMTD's buses and minivans (completed)
- iv) Three (3) new buses (Ford transit type vehicles)

**c) Capital Funding / REBUILD Round 2**

- (1) RMTD Proposal will allow for the following:
  - (a) Two electric vehicles for use in the RMTD system
  - (b) Three (3) new offices at Reagan Transit Center and secured file room/storage room
  - (c) Develop new Conference Room between Reagan Transit Center and Mechanical Bay
  - (d) Geothermal and Solar technologies will be incorporated into complex

**d) Capital Funding / REBUILD Round 3**

- i) RMTD will receive \$62,500 for the purchase of 2 service vehicles