



Capital Improvement Plan

FY2017-2021

Adopted September 21, 2016

Purpose

The purpose of this Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is to provide a strategy, time table and estimated budget for capital needs over the next five years. These capital needs include rolling stock (i.e. buses and vans); on-street facilities and structures including bus shelters and bike racks; technology implementation; improvements and upkeep to our existing primary facility in Ketchum; development of a downtown transportation hub in Ketchum; and final move-in projects at our newly opened south valley maintenance and storage facility in Bellevue.

This CIP will be adopted annually in September in conjunction with adoption of the Mountain Rides' full annual budget. As a working document, the CIP will be updated regularly and will always be adjusted to look at the next immediate five years of capital needs. The CIP is a useful tool to communicate to Mountain Rides' various funding partners what capital needs of the organization are, and how much local matching funds will be required to complete the capital projects and achieve the goals of the CIP.

Project Categories to be Funded

Mountain Rides must fund many types of capital projects in order to be successful including:

1. **Bus stop improvements and park and ride lots:** Building supporting infrastructure for our transportation service is vital for the success of our system. Better bike and pedestrian facilities in combination with high quality passenger waiting shelters will result in more ridership and better return on investment on the service hours we operate. Over the next five years, Mountain Rides will continue to work to add more bus shelters and bus stop amenities like benches, lighting, and better signage to our system every year. With 26 bus shelters in our system, we also need to maintain these facilities over time. Another key capital investment is development of more park and ride lots throughout our system. Mountain Rides has park and ride spaces at the new Bellevue facility and serve the park and ride lot in Hailey. These need to be maintained and improved over time. New park and ride lots need to be considered in communities served by vanpool, like Shoshone.
2. **A transportation center in Ketchum:** A downtown Ketchum transportation center is another key capital investment that Mountain Rides, in partnership with the community, must develop in the coming years to better coordinate the overall bus system, by creating an

single point in downtown Ketchum for buses to transfer passengers among routes, as well as serve as a simple place for customers to go to figure out how to get anywhere in the Mountain Rides' system. This transportation center would include bus lanes and bus turnouts, passenger waiting area, and strong bike and pedestrian connectivity to downtown destinations. This project could also include public parking adjacent to the transit center. In order to be successful on this effort, Mountain Rides must partner with the public and private sectors to fund the facility.

3. **Rolling stock:** Mountain Rides operates roughly 750,000 to 850,000 miles per year, which results in the depreciation of 1-2 buses per year and 2-3 vans per year. Our vehicle mix includes vans, small buses, mid-duty buses, and heavy-duty buses. In order to continue to provide high-quality service that is attractive and comfortable, we must continue to replace and upgrade these vehicles over the coming years. In addition to replacement vehicles, we must also look at expanding our fleet of buses and vans to help us expand our services for new routes like Galena and airport connections. With uneven and unguaranteed federal funds for capital replacement, the in-house refurbishment of existing heavy duty buses is a strategy Mountain Rides will continue to use to meet our capital needs.
4. **Technology improvements:** In order to continue to grow services and ridership, we must have a strong backbone of technology to support our future. Mountain Rides will continue to develop, implement, and improve technology solutions for customer service and management. Currently, Mountain Rides has GPS tracking of vehicles through tablets on the buses that also track rider boardings. This technology is now be leveraged to implement more real-time traveler information electronic signage and a "where's the bus" phone app to show bus locations in real-time. Future technology projects include automation of passenger counts, electronic fareboxes, and automated stop announcements on the bus.
5. **Improvements to Ketchum facility:** Our existing facility that includes bus maintenance, offices, and apartments is in need of maintenance and upkeep over time. New paint, roof repair, new roll-up doors, and general upkeep are needed in order to maintain this asset over time. We are also looking at office upgrades that will help reduce energy consumption over time like ventilation upgrades and additional space.
6. **South Valley facility final projects and move-in:** With this facility now complete and open as of February, 2016, Mountain Rides will be making equipment additions in order to fully use the facility for maintenance and administration offices over the coming years. This facility will give Mountain Rides additional capacity that doesn't exist today at the Ketchum facility for office, storage, and maintenance space.

Funding Sources

In order to fund all of the projects in the coming years, Mountain Rides must utilize a variety of funding sources. For most projects, Mountain Rides plans to utilize 80% federal funding and 20% local match funding, which is the typical match ration for capital projects funded by the Federal Transit Administration:

- Rural formula funding 5339 for buses and bus facilities – The Idaho Transportation Department manages the process for applying for and receiving this source of funding from the Federal Transit Administration. This funding has increased for 2016-2019, so Mountain Rides is looking forward to receiving additional 5339 funds in the future.
- State Vehicle Improvement Plan funding – There is a small amount of funding that the state makes available to replace and improve public transportation fleets. Mountain

Rides has received some vanpool van funding through this program and will continue to apply for this statewide competitive pool of funds.

- TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) funding – Mountain Rides will consider funding more complex infrastructure through the nationally competed TIGER funding for the U.S. Department of Transportation pool going forward. A larger Ketchum downtown hub may be a good fit for TIGER funding, if there are future rounds of funding (this program may or may not continue, depending on upcoming national elections).
- Funding from local cities and county– Mountain Rides allocates funding received from its local funding partners to capital needs on annual basis as part of the local, annual budget requests to the cities of Ketchum, Sun Valley and Hailey, as well as Blaine County. Mountain Rides dedicates these capital funds for facility projects, maintenance of workforce housing units, and capital equipment purchases. These fund balances are currently adequate, but we continue to work to grow these balances over time.
- Private funds and miscellaneous grants – This includes any funding from employer partners, grants not known at this time, foundations, or private businesses who may wish to help Mountain Rides achieve its CIP goals.

Project List by Year

CIP Attachment A lists the various projects with their associated costs and estimated year for expenditure. Some projects span multiple years and some, like maintenance and upkeep projects, are more focused on the coming fiscal year. The costs are listed in the year they are estimated to be incurred. Some purchases like buses need to be made sooner due to long lead times. The project list also shows the total project funding, local funding and federal funding estimated to complete the project. This shows what must be funded by our own capital fund balances, through funding from our local partners, and what would be paid for from federal sources. This also shows the match needed for these federal funds.

CIP Success Factors

Successful CIP implementation is dependent on many internal and external factors, some of which we can affect and some of which are out of our control. In order to fund all of our capital projects, the following assumptions are built in:

- ✓ Municipal funding partners continue to support Mountain Rides with funds that can be used as match for capital projects
- ✓ We are able to keep our capital projects within estimated budgets
- ✓ FTA funding remains solid through the new FAST Act approved in late 2015
- ✓ ITD continues to support statewide applications for capital funding
- ✓ Mountain Rides continues to advance planning efforts for all of these projects
- ✓ Smaller grants are discovered and successfully applied for in the coming years
- ✓ We have stable enough operating funds that justify the capital expenses
- ✓ We have community support for the development of some of these capital projects

Completing the projects in this plan ensures that Mountain Rides continues to provide safe, reliable, convenient, and improving customer experience. CIP investments follow an attitude of State of Good Repair for asset planning and asset management.