ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY FORTY-SIXTH SENATE THIRTEENTH SESSION 11/9/16

BILL #4607 TIME SENSITIVE ALLOCATION FOR COST REDUCTIONS ON BIKE-SHARE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

SPONSORED BY: Peter James Seel, Chairperson

WRITTEN BY: Edward Kendall, Speaker Pro Tempore

COLLABORATED WITH: Hanna Johnson, Director, Department of Environmental Affairs

ENDORSED BY: External Committee; Daniela Pineda Soracá, President; Student Sustainability Center; Alternative Transportation Fee Advisory Board; Spencer Nolan, Director of Health; Erin Vargas, Director of Diversity; Duane Hansen, Senator, ALVS; Campus Bicycle Advisory Committee

ABSTRACT: This bill seeks to allocate sufficient funding to requisition eight bike-share stations through the Fort Collins bike-share system under the special university zip-bike partnership thereby realizing a cost savings of 76% over the term of the project.

WHEREAS

Colorado State University (CSU) is a platinum rated Bicycle Friendly University as assessed by the League of American Bicyclists based on stringent infrastructure and investment criteria; and,

WHEREAS

CSU was declared the first platinum rated Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education for its excellence in sustainability initiatives and culture; and,

WHEREAS

Quality, multi-modal options for transportation such as pedestrian, bicycle and transit opportunities have contributed considerably to these accreditations and the reputation of the University; and,

WHEREAS

Over the past years, bicycle traffic has been encouraged as an alternative means of transportation and hundreds of thousands have been invested into creating world class infrastructure for this use; and,

WHEREAS

CSU, during the Fall 2016 term, admitted the largest incoming class to date, and the physical development master plan predicts and increase in enrolment towards the University projection target of 35,000 students; and,

WHEREAS

With increased use, additional infrastructure must be provided to accommodate heavier use than in past years, for instance the increase in student ridership corresponds to the increased difficulty in finding bike parking at high traffic locations such as the Morgan Library; and,

WHEREAS

Hundreds of additional bike spaces have been added to accommodate this increase in ridership, however it is apparent that no single solution, such as more bike racks alone, can accommodate the problem as a whole; and,

WHEREAS

A multivalent approach that provides an increased diversity in transportation options to students could better handle the problems of the increasing transportation needs and limited resources; and,

WHEREAS

The bike share system in combination with existing and planned infrastructure provides increased space efficiency to ridership due to its shared use nature providing the most sustainable option for prolonged growth beyond FY18, FY19 and FY20 cycles; and,

WHEREAS

Additionally, increased ridership has resulted in increased waste as the amount of bikes abandoned by students per year, likewise increases; and,

WHEREAS

Students that come to campus not owning bikes already now have the option to not purchase a bike outright and instead rent at a marginal cost through the bike share system; and,

WHEREAS

Many times in Associated Students of Colorado State University (ASCSU) history, student representatives promised to investigate and implement a bike-share system on CSU campus; and,

WHEREAS

In 2016, the City of Fort Collins in coordination with Zip Bike implemented a citywide bike-share system with multiple locations across the City of Fort Collins; and,

WHEREAS

ASCSU has been in serious talks with Zip Bike and the CSU Alternative Transportation manager since 2015 to consider implementation of bike-share program on the CSU campus that would integrate with the larger Fort Collins Bike-Share program; and,

WHEREAS

The Alternative Transportation Fee Advisory Board (ATFAB) was established to investigate this and similar projects and to potentially request fees to fund their proposals through the Student Fee Review Board (SFRB); and,

WHEREAS

Bike-share has been proposed to ATFAB for their consideration for implementation in the Fiscal Year 18 fee review process; and,

WHEREAS

Through a newly launched program, the provider of the Bike-Share platform, Zip Bike, has established a nationwide plan to partner with universities to provide 8 stations at an extremely reduced cost that is upwards of 76% discounted from standard prices; and,

WHEREAS

This program is highly competitive due to the attractive nature of the proposal; however, CSU has been given unique preference due to our national status as a bike/eco-friendly university; and,

WHEREAS

To take advantage of this extremely time sensitive opportunity, implementation of this deal to secure eight stations at heavily discounted prices would need to occur during Fiscal Year 17 and so cannot be funded through ATFAB which is backordered for FY18; and,

WHEREAS

By acting early to secure these deals, ASCSU will be able to maximize cost benefits by reducing the overall cost of project implementation in comparison to if it pursued a FY18 option; and, WHEREAS

For comparison, to fund this project for eight stations this year would cost a total of \$29,500 while to do so at the FY 18 cost would be \$72,000 which in one year is more expensive than this project over its entire 4 years; and,

WHEREAS

The ASCSU Senate General Discretionary exists to fund time sensitive projects or innovative ideas for the betterment of students, especially when prompt action could result in overall cost-savings; and,

WHEREAS

Housing and Dinning Services (HDS) has offered to help supplement this cost through their sustainability fee they assess to students housed on-campus in HDS facilities; and,

WHEREAS

This contribution once known will be used to offset ASCSU costs so that excess money can be reallocated back into the Senate General Discretionary; and,

WHEREAS

Expansions to this project beyond the scope herein detailed will be the sole financial responsibility of ATFAB in congruence with their mission and ability to seek a fee if they so wish to continue or expand this project in future years; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY BE ENACTED

That the \$14,750 needed to requisition, in combination with cofounding, the eight stations outlined in the Zip Bike deal be pulled from the Senate General Discretionary wherever it may reside and be allocated to the Environmental Affairs budget under a distinct earmark; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY BE ENACTED

Tags: Bike-Share, Senate General Discretionary

That a co-sponsorship of at least \$7,375 be acquired from outside sources to supplement the project funding with preference towards more co-sponsorship such that the total co-sponsorship of any party other than ASCSU does not exceed 50%; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER BE ENACTED

This money be only used for the purpose explicitly outlined in this bill; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER BE ENACTED

That once this allocation is expensed for the purpose outlined in this bill, the expense authorizer notifies the Senate through an announcement at a regularly scheduled meeting, and that the Senate be informed about any excess funds, at which time the Senate may draft a bill to repatriate these funds back into the Senate General Discretionary account.

15-3-4

PASSAGE

DATE

11/16/2016

DATE

DATE