



VOTE
ABSTAIN

GOVERNANCE ACTION REVIEW

AMARU TREASURY WITHDRAWAL 2025





GOVERNANCE ACTION TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Governance Action Title	Amaru Treasury Withdrawal 2025
Governance Action Type	Treasury Withdrawal
Governance Action ID	gov_action1vrkk4dpuss8l3z9g4uc2rmf8ks 0f7j534zvz9v4k85dlc54wa3zsqq68rx0
Legacy Governance Action ID (CIP-105)	60ed6ab43c840ff888a8af30aled27b41e9f4 a91a89822b2b63d1bfc52aeec45#0
Authors	Arnaud Bailly, Damien Czapla, Pi Lanningham and Matthias Benkort
Governance Action Submission Date	24th Jun 2025
Governance Action Submission Epoch	566
Governance Action Expiration Date	28th Jul 2025
Governance Action Expiration Epoch	573
Proposal External Link	<u>Abstract on GovTool</u>
Governance Action Metada Link	ipfs://bafkreifw3qs7brjn4tdvyprnh2r343o erbdghasp5ws6ro55frbpll3dta
Anchor Hash	d2f633b044f33117ace7cde8c045fcc93006 0a6dbdd083f7491148a86a3c5ebd
Requested Budget	¥1,500,000



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INTRODUCTION

Governance Action Summary

This governance action proposes a treasury withdrawal of ₳1.5 million to fund the Amaru Node, a modular and interoperable block-producing node for Cardano, implemented in Rust. Submitted on June 24, 2025, it follows a previous Info Action, their respective approved budget and falls under the Treasury Withdrawal category.

Amaru is a multi-entity open-source effort coordinated by PRAGMA, involving maintainers from Sundae Labs, TxPipe, Blink Labs, dcSpark, and the Cardano Foundation. The proposal aims to reduce systemic risk by providing node diversity and includes smart contract-based disbursement and audit mechanisms. The budget is divided across five smart contract-controlled addresses, each managed by a designated maintainer.

About Agora

Agora is an independent initiative dedicated to improving the quality and decentralization of decision-making in the Cardano ecosystem.

Through its research arm, Agora Research Bureau, it produces open-access reports that combine research, curation, analysis, transparent rationale, and public documentation to support on-chain governance.

This report was developed by Agora Research Voltaire, the branch focused specifically on reviewing governance actions and on-chain voting.

Agora publishes open-access reports with transparent rationale, critical assessments, and methodological clarity — aiming to empower meaningful community participation and uphold the long-term sustainability of Cardano governance.

As a registered Voltaire dRep, Agora aims to provide critical assessments that complement on-chain metadata, offering deeper context and enabling meaningful public scrutiny.



GOVERNANCE ACTION REVIEW

Positive Aspects

Cardano currently relies on a single Haskell-based node. Amaru addresses this structural risk by offering a second, independently maintained Rust-based implementation. Even if initially underused, its presence enhances decentralization and fault tolerance.

The proposal is led by technically reputable contributors with clear roles and scope division. It incorporates structured fund disbursement, audit trails, metadata (CIP-100), and fallback procedures. Smart contracts are audited by MLabs and TxPipe. The fund will be governed by a multisig/script system and overseen by PRAGMA.

Negative Aspects

Despite improved transparency, the proposal lacks quantitative KPIs. There are no defined KPIs such as test coverage percentage, SPO adoption, or blocks produced. This absence limits accountability and makes it harder to assess tangible progress.

Likewise, documentation and onboarding for SPOs are not addressed. No integration guides or demo scenarios are included. For a critical infrastructure project, this weakens practical utility and ecosystem adoption. The scale of the request — \$1.5 million — demands a higher degree of clarity on expected outcomes. In the absence of success indicators, it becomes difficult to justify the potential return on investment.

Potential Impact

The proposal has long-term strategic value. It enhances network resilience, encourages modular infrastructure, and showcases smart contract-based governance. However, setting a precedent without KPIs could lower standards for future proposals and introduce reputational and treasury risks.

Comparisons with previous Amaru Info Action

Compared to previous Amaru Info Action, this treasury withdrawal action improves budget control and technical oversight. It builds on the Sundae Labs treasury model and adds features like credential rotation. However, like many Catalyst-era proposals, it still lacks clear success criteria and indicators (KPIs).



VOTE RATIONALE

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Agora acknowledges the strategic relevance of the Amaru initiative and the improvements in fund management and transparency.

In the previous Amaru Budget Info Action, Agora supported the initiative with constructive recommendations — including the introduction of quantitative KPIs and onboarding materials for SPOs. Unfortunately, these points were not addressed in the current governance action. This vote is recorded as abstain due to the absence of measurable KPIs and clear indication of what would be the onboarding documentation for SPOs.

Given that this Treasury Withdrawal involves the release of ₦1.5 million in funds, the lack of progress on those aspects raises legitimate concerns about evaluability, delivery risk, and return on investment. Proposals of this scale require clear success criteria that can be independently tracked and audited.

The abstention reflects a position of conditional support: acknowledging the initiative's technical strengths while signaling the need for stronger outcome definition and clearer accountability mechanisms in future requests.



CONCLUSION

This governance action addresses an important infrastructure gap in Cardano and brings technical credibility and transparency improvements. However, the lack of KPIs weakens the ability to evaluate its real impact. Given the size of the request, more rigor in defining outcomes is warranted.

For this reason, Agora chooses to abstain — supporting the concept, but signaling that future proposals of this scope must meet higher standards of accountability.



REFERENCES

Previous Budget Info Action ID

gov_action1h4ygjv0hj3lmafcm76rpdzcm8vsvj9k5wejn3npywxm3fesnqqw9kxxz

PRAGMA Maintainer Committee Framework

ipfs://bafkreiabxyva5lfm6zztg7tnktxvvbbucljrce7hlrp4p6hropqzfaip3y

Amaru Detailed Budget Proposal for 2025

ipfs://bafybeicyqwjcg4x52l4ml5ocjlqnproqdjgfbguxdge4saxxvu2hidzvpq

MLabs's Audit Report of the initial setup

ipfs://bafybeigwep6tank3l7sewgugsvhykcpy3efkl37bhoba6ukhgfdyg72i54

TxPipe's Audit Report of the initial setup

ipfs://bafkreifddb1t23n562x35lu4u3mvgafknldof74ync3gd2bbe3nr6rwecm



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Disclosure Statement

The author declares no direct affiliations, partnerships, or financial incentives related to the Governance Action discussed in this report.

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