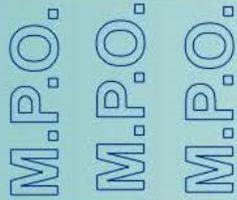


Overcoming Barriers

Strengthening Connections



Grand Forks - East Grand Forks Metropolitan Planning Organization

Ensuring Opportunities

Planning One Community

*“A community that provides a variety of complementary transportation choices, that are fiscally constrained,
for people and goods.”*

MPO Staff Report

Technical Advisory Committee: January 9, 2019

MPO Executive Board: January 23, 2019

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Recommend the approval of Draft Request for Quotes for the CAT/UND Merger Financial Study to the MPO Executive Board.

Matter of the CAT/UND Merger Financial Study.

Background: Cities Area Transit and University of North Dakota have been having continued discussions about merging the two systems. Essentially, the merger is conceptually considered that UND would contract with CAT to operate a public transportation service similar to the current UND Campus Shuttle system. It is hoped that the merger will take place by August 2019 so CAT can operate the routes at the beginning of the Fall Semester.

One of the key components is to document all of the costs associated with merging these two systems. Currently, the CAT system has a fully allocated cost accounting system in place in order to properly document the respective costs shared by Grand Forks and East Grand Forks. The proposed study would take this model and incorporate the anticipated UND shuttle data to recalculate the new cost allocations. This could then be used as a basis to contract with UND to provide the service.

Related to this is the cost to provide the rolling stock necessary. While Grand Forks and the MPO have submitted capital funding request to North Dakota for possible FTA funds contributing to the cost, the fact remains that at least three additional vehicles need to be available to operate the merged service. The study will also examine how the three vehicles will be purchased; either as brand new vehicles and the related cost shares or as used vehicles being used as temporary rolling stock until new vehicles can be purchased.

The MPO is seeking to request quotes rather than the more typical request for qualifications. The scope of work is fairly straight-forward and the budget cost is within the allowable limits to request quotes.

Findings and Analysis:

- The 2019-20 Work Program identifies we will undertake this activity
- The draft RFQ has been reviewed by CAT and UND staff
- The Work Program identifies that a consultant will be retained.
- The budget is \$40,000 with completion by June 30th..

Support Materials:

- Draft RFQ