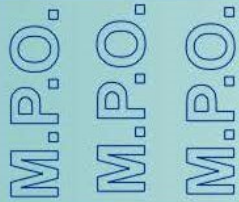


Overcoming Barriers

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: March 13 2019

MPO Executive Board: March 20, 2019

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Update on the GF Downtown Parking Study.

Matter of the GF Downtown Parking Study

Background: KLJ, with sub-consultant RDg, were retained to assist the City of Grand Forks and the MPO update the parking demand study completed in 2011. The City is drafting a Downtown Action Plan, which is focusing on redevelopment of key sites. These redevelopments may create different parking demand than previously anticipated. Therefore, the study is to review the demand for parking for the next 5 to 10 years as these potential redevelopments come online.

The scope is to also analyze the existing parking supply, how it is managed, and how improvements recommended in the 2011 report be implemented or modified.

A 3rd meeting of the Steering Committee was held in February. Attached are key slides that presented information on the impact future development could have on the parking supply and the alternatives to improve downtown parking. Under all three scenarios, there is adequate parking available. However, public parking approaches capacity under the 10-Year Redevelopment Scenario.

The redevelopment scenarios incorporated six redevelopment concepts that are either currently under construction (Selkirk Lofts on 4th Street), proposed (Pure Development including Hugo’s and Alerus), or concepts identified as likely to change in the Downtown Action Plan. Unless available from a site or concept plan, redevelopments assumed no on site parking. Public parking spaces did not change. This redevelopment will increase parking demand around 925 spaces on an average day, leaving nearly 400 open public parking spaces (82 percent occupancy) and more than 1,280 open total parking spaces (65 percent occupancy).

The redevelopment plus increased walking, biking, and transit scenario evaluated the parking

impacts with the redevelopment scenario and a lowered demand due to more people walking, biking, and using transit, leaving 440 open public parking spaces (80 percent occupancy), and 1,340 open total parking spaces (63 percent occupancy).

The redevelopment plus autonomous vehicles evaluated the parking impacts with the redevelopment scenario and a lowered demand due to the use of autonomous vehicles, leaving 575 open public parking spaces (74 percent occupancy), and 1,500 open total parking spaces (58 percent occupancy).

The Steering Committee also reviewed information on event traffic management and alternatives to improve the downtown parking. Key items were increased marketing, use of “time of day” parking ratios, and enforcement.

A public input meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 21st, at the Empire Theater starting at 4:00 until 7:00 pm/

Findings and Analysis:

- The Work Program identified an activity to update the 2011 Parking Report for Downtown Grand Forks.
- KLJ was retained to assist in the completion of the update.
- A sub-committee of the Downtown Action Plan Committee has been formed to assist us in the update; this sub-committee has been augmented by key staff from the City Departments, County and the School District.

Support Materials:

- Reports can be viewed at: <https://theforksmmpo.com/the-forks-mpo/>
- Key slides from recent Powerpoint