



## Grand Forks - East Grand Forks Metropolitan Planning Organization

### **MPO Staff Report** **Technical Advisory Committee: May 15, 2019** **MPO Executive Board: May 22, 2019**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve priorities of the Grand Forks Cities Area Transit 5339 & 5310 Grant application with the priority order given.**

Matter of Approval of priorities of the Grand Forks Cities Area Transit 5339 & 5310 Grant application.

**Background:** In March, the MPO, together with NDDOT, solicited applications for FTA 5339 & 5310 projects. The NDDOT has a deadline of May 23, 2019. All applications from the MPO area need to have MPO submittal to NDDOT through Black Cat; applications were due to the MPO by May 1<sup>st</sup>. This ensured the candidate projects could be vetted through the MPO in time to meet the NDDOT deadline. The only application that the MPO received for 5339 & 5310 projects was from Cities Area Transit (CAT). This staff report will list each FTA program separately below. There is a total of \$10.7 million in funding available for 5339, 5310, and 5311 combined.

The 5339 program focuses funding to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment, and to construct bus related facilities. CAT is looking at a funding request of \$744,392.

CAT 5339 funding request includes the following projects in priority order:

1. **Replacement of Roof:** This project involves re-roofing the existing bus storage area (22,000 sf). The roof of the building has been patched up in several places over the 34 years since it was built, and it is due for complete replacement. The total cost of the project is \$157,000. CAT is requesting \$125,600 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% match of \$31,400 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.
2. **Upgrade Oil Dispensing & Disposal System:** This project involves the following to bring CAT's oil dispensing and disposal systems to a state of good repair:

- a. Replace the buried waste oil tank with an above ground tank. This is an old buried tank and should be removed and replaced with an above ground, dual wall tank. Old tanks can be susceptible to damage and leakage into the ground if not replaced or resorted. The 34 year-old tank is due for replacement.
- b. Replace the existing oil dispensing tank system, with new high-pressure lines/hose reels, pumps and monitoring system. The existing lube lines are black pipe and do not meet current requirements for high pressure lines. This replacement would also include a monitoring system for the oil and lube dispensing system.

The total cost of the project is \$65,026. CAT is requesting \$52,020 in Section 5339 funding; the 20%, local match of \$13,006 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.

3. **Upgrade Lighting, Electrical & Fire Alarm System:** This project involves the following to bring CAT's lighting, electrical and fire alarm systems to a state of good repair:
- a. Replace the interior non-LED lighting fixtures in the bus storage: Half of the existing bus storage space has undergone replacement to LED, but half of it is still left. A full replacement to LED will increase efficiency and light quality in the bus storage and maintenance areas.
  - b. Upgrade the exterior lighting: The existing parking lot lights are high pressure sodium lights and there are several different styles on the site. Replacement to consistent LED fixtures will improve aesthetics, light quality, and security for the site.
  - c. Replace the existing electrical distribution (main service switchboard, transformers, and distribution panels). The main service is original to the building. The 208/120-volt branch circuit panel boards do not have spare capacity, and the step-down transformer enclosures out side are in poor condition due to rust.
  - d. Replace the obsolete fire alarm zone panel and devices with a code compliant addressable system. The existing building does not have a code compliant fire alarm system and should be updated to meet code.

The total cost of the project is \$152,000. CAT is requesting \$121,600 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$30,400 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.

4. **Parking Lot Improvements:** This project involves the following improvements to the parking area at the CAT Maintenance Facility:
- a. Replace 7 of the head-bolt posts. These stations are used by employees to plug in their vehicles during the winter, and most of these do not currently work and need to be replaced.
  - b. Add 12 parking stalls: Due to the growth of the transit system over the last 34 years and changes in operations at the existing building, there is a higher

demand for off-street parking. Adding 12 stalls (concrete paving, stripping, etc.) to the parking lot will help meet the current and future demands.

The total cost of the project is \$67,500. CAT is requesting \$54,000 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$13,500 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.

5. **Upgrade Shop Ventilation:** This project involves the following to bring the ventilation systems in the CAT maintenance and storage area to a state of good repair:
- a. Replace ductwork in the bus storage area to be code compliant. The size of the ductwork in the existing bus storage area is not large enough to meet the current requirements for proper air flow and distribution. Replacement would increase the size of the ducts to meet current code.
  - b. Replace (3) make-up air units for the bus storage/maintenance area. This equipment has exceeded its usable life (34 years-old) and should be replaced
  - c. Replace roof mounted exhaust fan. This equipment has exceeded its usable life (34 year-old) and should be replaced.
  - d. Provide code compliant air quality monitor and control. The building currently has very basic temperature control, if any. We recommend new temperature controls throughout, updating the sequenced of operation for code compliant ventilation, air quality monitoring and energy efficiency.
  - e. Replace the existing vehicle exhaust system. The underground vehicle exhaust system doesn't work in the maintenance bays. Replacement of the system is needed to remove vehicle exhaust from building up and preventing carbon monoxide when vehicles are started in the shop storage area and when vehicle repairs are being done. (The underground exhaust piping would be abandoned in place.)

The total cost of this project is \$139,950. CAT is requesting \$111,960 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$27,990 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.

6. **Exterior Maintenance:** This project involves the following to bring the building envelope to a state of good repair and improve energy efficiency:
- a. Replace the existing north Kalwall system with a vertical translucent panel system. The original (34 years) translucent panel system above the maintenance storage area is separating and leaking. The system was designed as part of a sloped roof and this has contributed to the deterioration. There are also connection/flashing issues as it meets the existing burnished block exterior wall. The replacement solution is a modern vertical translucent wal panel that will provide increased efficiency, more natural daylight, and mitigate the current water leakage and moisture issues.
  - b. Re-seal the existing burnished block on the building: The building sits on the site at a 45-degree angle, and most of the burnished block on the

exterior of the building has been exposed to the elements (sun and wind). This has caused the seal to wear and the block has started to fade in color. Resealing the block will provide protection for the block and bring back the original color.

- c. Re-caulk/repair deteriorated precast joints: The caulking joints between the exterior precast panels on the east/northeast side have not been touched on 34 years. Most of these vertical joints (every 8 feet) need to be replaced/repared so the interior of the wall/building can be protected from potential water penetration that would further damage the panels and also the building from heat loss due to missing caulking.
- d. Replace the existing maintenance bay windows: There are 6 high, 42” diameter round window openings in the precast panels on the east/northeast side that are 34 years old The glazing panels do not meet today’s low-e glazing standards, and the seal around the windows are peeling off causing water leaks and heat loss.
- e. Replace the overhead doors: The overhead doors are at least 15 years old and are made of solid panels. Replacement of these would include introduction some glazing in the panels so that there is more natural daylight being provided in the storage/fueling bays. The replacement would also include a safety sensing system so that the doors remain open when a bus is in the fuel or wash bay to prevent injuries from a door closing on someone or equipment.

The total cost of this project is \$98,965. CAT is requesting \$79,172 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$19,793 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.

- 7. **Auto Vehicle Location Equipment:** This project involves the purchase of two sets of equipment for CAT’s AVL system. This equipment will be installed in vehicles to meet the required ADA announcements, data collection, and GPS tracking across the CAT fleet. The total cost of this project is \$20,000. CAT is requesting \$16,000 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$4,000 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.
- 8. **Disc Brake Tool:** This project involves the purchase of tooling required to properly maintain disc brakes that are presently on new heavy-duty buses. This tooling equipment will prevent personal injury risks of back problems from excess heavy lifting of large equipment and parts. The total cost of this project is \$20,000. CAT is requesting \$8,840 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$2,210 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.
- 9. **Concrete for ADA Boarding:** This project involves the installation of concrete at four bus stops to allow for the placement of a shelter and ADA boarding area. The total cost of this project is \$11,050. CAT is requesting \$16,000 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$4,000 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.

10. **Bus Shelter Replacements:** This project involves the replacement of seventeen (17) bus shelters that were purchased in 1987 and have exceeded their useful life. The total cost of this project is \$136,000. CAT is requesting \$108,800 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$27,200 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.
11. **Shop Pickup Replacement:** This project involves the replacement of a shop pickup that was purchased in 2009 and has exceeded its useful life. The total cost of this project is \$25,000. CAT is requesting \$20,000 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$5,000 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.
12. **Staff car replacement:** This project involves the replacement of a staff car that was purchased in 2010 and has exceeded its useful life. The total cost of this project is \$18,000. CAT is requesting \$14,400 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$3,600 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.
13. **Shop Pickup:** This project involves the purchase of an additional shop pickup. This is necessary to support CAT staff in the performance of tasks related to the maintenance and repair of vehicles, facilities, bus shelters, and grounds. The total cost of this project is \$20,000. CAT is requesting \$16,000 in Section 5339 funding; the 20% local match of \$4,000 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.

The 5310 program focuses funding to Elderly and Individuals with Disabilities. Projects can be submitted by public transit providers, nonprofit agencies, social service agencies and others. All projects must show consistency with the locally adopted Human Services Public Transportation Coordination Plan in the current TDP. Those other than the public transit provider need to go through the transit agency in their area. CAT is looking at a funding request of \$196,157.

CAT 5310 funding request includes the following projects in priority order:

1. **Mobility Manager:** The Mobility Manager serves as a regional transit coordinator and is responsible for planning, marketing, education and outreach for Cities Area Transit. The Mobility Manager provides bus training for senior citizens and persons with disabilities and is the agency contact for local human service providers. The total cost for the Mobility Manager position (wages and benefits) is \$91,197. CAT is requesting \$72,971 in Section 5310 funding; the 20% local match of \$18,226 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.
2. **Replacement of ADA Minivan:** 2015 Dodge Grand Caravans #151, #152, #153, and #154 are nearing the end of its useful life of 4 years or 100,000 miles. The vehicles are scheduled to be replaced at a cost of \$38,500 each. CAT is requesting

\$123,200 in Section 5310 funding for four replacement vehicles: the 20% local match of \$30,800 will be paid out of the Grand Forks City Public Transportation budget.

**Findings and Analysis:**

- The TDP does list priority on State of Good Repair and Transit Asset Management. Meeting Federal Guidelines for transit service is always part of the State of Good Repair.
- 5339 Priorities 1 through 6 are to complete the current Transit Maintenance Facility remodel project. Listed in TDP as a 5339 candidate project.
- 5339 Priorities 7 and 9 to meet ADA standards.
- 5339 Priorities 8 and 10 were unfulfilled requests in 2019.
- 5339 Priorities 11 through 13 are listed in the TDP as candidate projects for 5339 funding. The replacement of vehicles is following useful life benchmarks.
- The Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan emphasizes the need for marketing and education. This work falls under the Mobility Manager's responsibilities.
- The replacement of ADA Minivans falls under the State of Good Repair, coupled with the need to meet Federal Guidelines to meet useful life benchmarks. Listed in the TDP as a 5310 candidate project.
- Staff recommends approval of the 5339 & 5310 application as being consistent with the TDP.

**Support Materials:**

- CAT Staff reports
- Section 5339 & 5310 Applications