

Overcoming Barriers

Strengthening Connections



Ensuring Opportunities

Planning One Community

**Grand Forks – East Grand Forks Metropolitan Planning
Organization’s Private Sector Procedure
Plan**

It shall be the procedure of the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), together with the Cities of Grand Forks, North Dakota, and East Grand Forks, Minnesota, to involve the private sector in the planning and provision of transit/paratransit service in the Metropolitan Area. 49 U.S.C. 5306(a) requires that plans and programs required for Federal transit assistance must encourage the participation of private enterprise to the maximum extent feasible. The MPO's Public Participation Plan provides the full extent of the procedure.

- I. The early and often involvement of private operators in local planning process, which must comply with rigorous planning and private enterprise requirements and the joint FHWA/FTA planning regulations (FTA C 9030.1C)
 - A. Early notification to private transportation providers and potential providers of proposed services and opportunities,
 - B. Early consultation opportunities for participating in the development of transit/paratransit plans,
 - C. Reasonable opportunity for private operators to offer their own service proposals for consideration.

- II. The early and often involvement of private operators in the development of each City's Program of Projects (POP), which are integrated with the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (49 U.S.C. 5307 (c) (1-7) (49 U.S.C. 5304) 23 C.F.R. 450.316(b)).
 - A. Make available to the private operator's information concerning the amount of funds available that will be programmed and the purposes the funds will be programmed for.
 - B. Develop a proposed TIP for activities to be financed, in consultation with private operators.
 - C. Publish the proposed TIP in sufficient detail and in such a manner as to afford private operators an opportunity to examine the proposed TIP and to submit comments on it and on the performance of the service.
 - D. Consider comments and views received from the private operators and if deemed appropriate modify the proposed TIP.
 - E. Make available the final TIP to the private operators.