

Comprehensive Policy Plan
"Circulation"

Policy Letter 302: City-wide Transit

BACKGROUND:

Fargo runs a regular, fixed route transit service with a goal to get as many people as possible where they need to go, when they need to be there and safely. Over the last couple years the service went from one downtown transfer location to transfer points at West Acres, the South High School area, and the North Broadway area.

Fargo Transit is working with the Planning Commission and Metro COG to coordinate meeting the transit requirements for developing subdivisions. Planning for bus turnouts and bus stops, plus building public parking lots to a standard that support the weight of the buses are two critical elements that need to be addressed. Additionally, a worksheet for developers to help evaluate the compatibility of their development to accommodate the City transit system has also been drafted with assistance from the Metro COG. To ensure City-wide Transit service is provided to residents, coordinated efforts must continue that plan for future development needs, plus evaluate and enhance the existing transit services.

City-wide Transit is important to the transit-dependent population in Fargo, as well as for residents seeking an alternate means of transportation. Public transportation must remain available and be offered throughout the City to ensure the opportunity to participate in all community functions and services.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Fargo Transit Department should establish a process for evaluating service boundaries and service extensions which includes criteria to determine the feasibility of providing service to new areas. Transit planning must include the evaluation of ridership, promotion and marketing.

CONCLUSION:

The transit system in Fargo must continue to be easy to access, be comfortable, affordable and take residents where they want to go. A lack of funding for Transit Department operations has caused shortfalls in the evaluation and tracking of ridership, plus the promotion and marketing of transit services needs to be emphasized. A recommendation is for the Metro COG to play an active role in Fargo's transit planning and evaluation as it relates to Land Use Development in the Fargo-Moorhead area.