



**DATE:** February 17, 2026

**TO:** Bismarck-Mandan MPO Technical Advisory Committee; Bismarck-Mandan MPO Policy Board

**FROM:** Kim Riepl, Executive Director, Bismarck-Mandan MPO *Kim Riepl*

**SUBJECT:** 2026 Transit Development Plan (TDP) Revised Request for Proposals (RFP)

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Approval of Revised Transit Development Plan RFP

### DETAILS

The Request for Proposals for the 2026 Transit Development Plan was presented in October 2025. TAC recommended approval; however Policy Board members voted to delay study commencement for three months pending service changes implementation by BisMan Transit. Implementation of service changes are now anticipated to occur on or about April 1, 2026.

The RFP has been revised to include date changes to the project schedule and the Scope of Work has been further refined but beyond that, the RFP has not been modified from what was presented in October.

- The TDP is an approximately 18-month study with a budget of \$180,000. It is programmed to begin in 2026 and conclude before year-end 2027. It is already included in the 2026-2027 UPWP, the active budget and work program of the MPO.
- BisMan Transit provides the full local match amount of \$36,000 and the BMT Board has already approved the full amount to be budgeted in both 2026 and 2027 for the study.
- Revisions to the Scope of Work on pages 12 and 13 include:
  - Specifying the evaluation of headway times and frequency, routes, and the flag system that exists now versus a designated stop system under *2.a Evaluate the effectiveness of the current fixed route system*
  - limited analysis of service and peer communities comparisons to specifically exclude the anticipated April 1, 2026 transit service changes as they will not have been effective for a sufficient period of time to provide an accurate analysis.
  - Added “Community Circulator Routes” “Mobility Hubs” and Flex Routing” to *3.b Evaluate alternative types of Transit services*

The Bismarck-Mandan MPO believes the revised Transit Development Plan RFP aligns with the best interests of BisMan Transit and the MPO jurisdictions likely to be impacted by recommendations resulting from the Plan and staff requests its approval.