City of Grand Island



Tuesday, March 20, 2018 Study Session Packet

City Council:

Linna Dee Donaldson Michelle Fitzke Chuck Haase Julie Hehnke Jeremy Jones Vaughn Minton Mitchell Nickerson Mike Paulick Roger Steele Mark Stelk

Mayor: Jeremy L. Jensen

City Administrator: Marlan Ferguson

City Clerk: RaNae Edwards

7:00 PM Council Chambers - City Hall 100 East 1st Street, Grand Island, NE 68801

Call to Order

This is an open meeting of the Grand Island City Council. The City of Grand Island abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is displayed in the back of this room as required by state law.

The City Council may vote to go into Closed Session on any agenda item as allowed by state law.

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

A - SUBMITTAL OF REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS

Individuals who have appropriate items for City Council consideration should complete the Request for Future Agenda Items form located at the Information Booth. If the issue can be handled administratively without Council action, notification will be provided. If the item is scheduled for a meeting or study session, notification of the date will be given.

B - RESERVE TIME TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

This is an opportunity for individuals wishing to provide input on any of tonight's agenda items to reserve time to speak. Please come forward, state your name and address, and the Agenda topic on which you will be speaking.



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 Study Session

Item C1

2018 City Tree Board Update

Staff Contact: Todd McCoy



City Tree Board Members

- Sob Loewenstein <u>President</u> term expires July 31, 2018
- Sryan Fiala Vice President -term expires July 31, 2020
- Steve Meyer <u>Secretary/Treasurer</u> term expires July 31, 2019
- Bob Thomas term expires July 31, 2018

Grand Island

- Leon VanWinkle term expires July 31, 2019
- Tarwin Wicht term expires July 31, 2019
- Barry Burrows term expires July 31, 2020



Sour Mission: To preserve, educate, and enhance the quality of life in the City of Grand Island by widely managing our community urban forest.

Monthly Meetings

Grand Island

- Second Tuesday at Noon
- City Hall, Public Works Conference Room

Projects

- 2017 Arbor Day Event at Engleman School
- South Locust Tree Assessment and Recommendations
- Members assisted with Hall County Veterans Memorial Park
 Tree Planting Project
- State Fair Fun Zone Tree Planting
- Grand Island Rotary Support

Grand Island

Hall County Tree Champion Program



Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan Development

- Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been detected in Nebraska
- **The set of the set of**
- Considerations...

Grand Island

- Impact to City budgets
- Tisposal of infected wood
- Tree replacement with diversity
- Public education



Grand Island

Tree Board Goals

ONE YEAR

- Continue Engleman annual tree planting
- Arbor Day Celebration
- Facebook posting tree info
- Update/Improve Tree Ordinance
- Advocate/promote Hall County Champion Tree programs
- When requested, assist/advise City on tree related issues

THREE YEAR

- Annual fall workshop
- City wide tree inventory
- Education at grade schools with trifold flyers
- Speak at groups, etc.
- GI TV Exposure
- Develop flyer for Sucks
 Lake Arboretum & Hall Co.
- Hold Tree Board Retreat
- Obtain 501c3 status
- Seek grants & other funding sources

FIVE YEAR

- **State Fair Booth**
- Speak at groups, schools, etc.
- Programs info regarding what, where and how to plant trees
- City Arboretum tours
- Educate our citizens on all things related to trees

Donations

Grand Island

Date	Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Current Balance
6/19/2017	Business Contribution	-	25.00	25.00
10/18/2017	Private Contribution		30.00	55.00
11/17/2017	Private Contribution		50.00	105.00
	Business Contribution		500.00	605.00
	Private Contribution		200.00	805.00
2/19/2018	Business Contribution		200.00	1,005.00

Article IV. Trees in Public Right-of-Way

§24-11. Trees as a Community Concern

The Mayor and Council, or their designated representative, hereby determine that the selection, planting, maintenance, and removal of trees within the public right-of-ways in the City of Grand Island substantially affects the degree of pedestrian and vehicular safety, the location and maintenance of utility services, tree maintenance costs, the incidence of tree diseases, and the general appearance and beautification of the City; that removal of trees due to disease, private development, or public works improvements has resulted in a loss of their important contribution to man and his- people and environment, and therefore it is determined that such selection, planting, maintenance and removal of trees in public right of ways are a community concern over which the City must exercise control.

§24-12. Property Owners Have Primary Responsibility

Abutting property owners have the primary responsibility of planting, maintaining and removal of trees within that portion of the public right-of-way known as the parking or terrace, but the City shall retain the right to recommend the variety and location of trees that may be planted, may implement a street tree planting program, and parks planting program, and control removal of existing trees.

§24-13. Recommended Trees

The following The City Tree Board has the authority to recommend trees to be placed in the public rightof-way. Specific trees are recommended by the City Tree Board for planting within public right-of-way because of their superior resistance to insects and disease, maximum ability to resist wind or storm breakage, desirable life spans, and minimal maintenance requirements. The full spread as indicated shall be used for spacing purposes: (A) In all zoning districts except in locations where overhead utility lines are present.

Variety	Spread
Maple: sugar, black, red, Norway	
Hackberry	40 feet
Honeylocust (thornless)	40 feet
Bradford Pear (Ornamental Pear Varieties)	25 feet
Oak: red, scarlet, English, bur, pin	40 feet
Linden: American, European, Littleleaf	
Linden: Redmond	25 feet
Ash: White, green	 40 feet
Ginkgo: maidenhair (male variety)	40 feet
Black Walnut	40 feet
Ponderosa Pine	25 feet
Austrian Pine	 25 feet
Scotch Pine	 25 feet
Ohio Buckeye	25 feet
Kentucky Coffee Tree	30 feet
Catalpa	30 feet
Japanese Pagoda Tree	40 feet

(B) In business and manufacturing zoning districts, and in other districts in locations where overhead utility lines are present:

Variety	Spread
Maple: Trident, hedge, amur, tatarian	20 feet
East Redbud	20 feet
Hawthorn: lavelle, Washington	20 feet
Carolina Silverbell	20 feet
Crabapple: fruitless	20 feet
Purpleleaf Plum	20 feet
Flowering Cherry	

Ash: European or mountain	20 feet
Saucer Magnolia	. 20 feet
Japanese Tree Lilac	
Amur Cork Tree	

Trees not included on the above recommended lists are prohibited within public right-of-way.

§24-14. Minimum Placement

The following standards for minimum spacing, location, area requirement and minimum size of seedlings shall be utilized for the placement of trees within the public right-of-way, greenways, and city parks: (1) Recommended trees shall not be planted closer than 20' the distance of their full spread, as set forth in §24-13, measured from center to center of each tree.

(2) Recommended trees shall not be placed closer than 40 feet from the corner of a curb at intersections or closer than $\frac{21}{2}$ three feet to the edge of a driveway or sidewalk.

(3) Recommended trees shall not be planted closer than the width of its full spread to a standard or pole, measured from the center of the tree to the center of the pole.

(4) Recommended trees shall not be planted when at least five six feet of space between curb and sidewalk or other obstruction is not available.

(5) Recommended trees shall generally be planted equidistant between the curb and street edge of a conventional sidewalk or equidistant between the property line and edge of a curb-type sidewalk, unless specifically directed differently on the required permit in order to avoid conflict with existing or proposed utilities.

(6) Recommended trees shall be planted in an area containing at least nine square feet of ground for each tree listed in §24-13(B) and no impervious material shall be placed nearer than thirty inches to the center of a tree listed in §24-13(A).

(7) It is suggested, but not mandatory, that for best results of successful tree growth and minimum tree mortality that trees with the following minimum heights be considered for planting in the public right-of-ways:

(a) Six feet to eight feet for those trees listed in §24-13(A);

(b) Five feet to six feet for those trees listed in §24-13(B).

(7) No tree shall be planted closer than 10 feet from any fireplug.

Injuring prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully, maliciously or wantonly cut down, destroy, by girdling or tapping, or otherwise injure any tree within the city, that is not owned by such person, unless permission to do so has been granted by the owner of such tree.

Roots obstructing sidewalks, sewers, etc.

Trees and shrubs growing upon the lot line partially on public ground and partially upon the abutting property, or wholly upon the abutting property, but so close to the lot line as to interfere with the making of any public improvement, or so that the roots thereof interfere with any sewer or drain, shall be deemed an obstruction under this chapter. Such roots may be removed by the City at the expense of the owner, after the owner shall have failed or neglected after notice to do so.

Clearance over streets and walkways.

Property owners are responsible for trees on their own property as well as trees on the public right away that abuts their property. Clearance over streets and walkways shall be the responsibility of the abutting property owner. A clearance of 8 feet must be maintained over walkways and a clearance of 14 feet must be maintained over streets and alleys.

§24-15. Unlawful to Top

It shall be unlawful, as a normal practice, for any person, firm, or municipal department to top any tree within public right-of-way. Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three

inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this section at the determination of the Parks & Recreation Director or his/her appointed representative. ANSI A300 pruning standards should be used.

Declared nuisances; removal generally.

Diseased trees that are dead or dying are hereby declared to be a public nuisance, and shall be removed by proper disposal methods recommended by the Nebraska Forestry Service.

Notice for removal.

If trees on private property are found to be infected or in a dead or dying condition, the City shall give to the owner, tenant, agent or occupant of the premises where the same are situated, written notice by publication or personal service of the existence of such disease or of the dead or dying condition of such trees or parts thereof and require the removal. Such notice shall also notify the owner of the premises that if such tree is not removed after twenty-one day notice, that such failure to remove shall subject the owner to a fine.

§24-16. Violation of Selected Trees

When in the judgment of the Parks & Recreation Director or his appointed representative(s) it has been determined that a violation exists due to any trees not specifically listed in §24-13 herein being within the public right-of-way, or that other trees are improperly planted or maintained as provided herein within the public right-of-way, action may be directed to correct the violation with all or part of the costs thereby incurred assessed to the abutting property owners.

§24-1716. Penalty

Failure to comply with any section of this Article shall be unlawful, and shall be punishable in accordance with §1-7 of the Grand Island City Code.

Article V. Tree Board

§24-1817. Tree Board Established; Membership

There is hereby created and established a Tree Board for the City, which shall consist of seven (7) members, citizens and residents of the City, who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council. The City of Grand Island Parks and Recreation Director and Hall County Extension Officer shall be an ex-officio members of the City Tree Board.

§24-1918. Term of Office of Members of Tree Board

The terms of the seven (7) persons appointed to the City's Tree Board shall be three (3) years, except that the term of two (2) of the members appointed to the first Board shall be for only one (1)year and the terms of two (2) members of the first Board shall be for two (2) years. If a vacancy shall occur during the term of any member, his or her successor shall be appointed for the unexpired portion of the term.

§24-2019. Compensation of Members of Tree Board

Members of the Tree Board shall serve without compensation.

§24-2120. Duties of Tree Board; City Tree Plan

It shall be the responsibility of the Tree Board to study, investigate, counsel, and develop and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal and disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets or in other public areas. The plan will be presented annually to the City Council and, upon the Council's acceptance and approval, shall constitute the official comprehensive city tree plan. The Board, when requested by the City

Council, shall consider, investigate, make findings, report and recommend upon any special matter or question coming within the scope of its work.

The duties and responsibilities of the Tree Board shall be as follows: (1) To beautify the appearance of the City of Grand Island by promoting and encouraging the responsible planting, care, replacement, and maintenance of trees in the City.

(2) To conduct fund raising activities, the proceeds of which shall be designated for the planting of trees, shrubs, and bushes.

(3) To plan and sponsor activities in celebration of Arbor Day.

(4) To provide educational materials and programs to the public concerning the planting and care of trees.

(5) To make recommendations to City Department Directors concerning landscape plans for any new or existing public facilities constructed by the City.

(6) When requested by the City Council, to consider, investigate, make finding, report, and recommend upon any special matter or question relating to trees.

§24-2221. Organization and Meetings of Tree Board

The Tree Board shall choose its own officers, make its own rules and regulations and keep a journal of its proceedings. A majority of the members shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 Study Session

Item C2

Presentation of Regional Transit Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study

Staff Contact: John Collins, P.E. - Public Works Director

Council Agenda Memo

From:	Allan Zafft, MPO Program Manager
Meeting:	March 20, 2018
Subject:	Presentation of Regional Transit Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study
Presenter(s):	Allan Zaff, MPO Program Manager Charley Falmlen, Transit Program Manager

Background

Since the mid-1970s, Hall County, using FTA Section 5311 Rural Transit Funding, has provided portal-to-portal services through Senior Citizens Industries, Inc. Over the years, this service has evolved into a full-scale, portal-to-portal transit service, providing transportation to all residents of Hall County through a combination of buses, vans, and discounted cab vouchers.

The City of Grand Island occupies the predominant portion of an area designated as an Urbanized Area (UZA) by the Bureau of the Census following the 2010 census. In 2013, the Grand Island Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (GIAMPO) was established to serve as the formal transportation planning body for the greater Grand Island metropolitan region. With the "Urbanized" designation, the City of Grand Island became the direct recipient to receive FTA Section 5307 Urban Transit Funding. The transition period to use 5311 funds in support of public transportation in the Grand Island Urbanized Area ended on June 30, 2016.

In July 2016, the City of Grand Island City Council approval an inter-local agreement where the City agreed to provide public transit services within Hall County and the City of Grand Island through contract services with Senior Citizens Industries, Inc. for an initial twelve month term. This contract is funded from 5307 funds, 5311 funds, and local matching funding sources via the City of Grand Island and Hall County. The 5307 funds are for public transit services in the Grand Island Urbanized area in Hall County, while the 5311 funds are for services in the rural areas in Hall County. Contracted costs for the first year are \$638,430.00, with a second year cost of \$657,583.68.

On February 28, 2017, via Resolution No. 2017-57, City Council approved an engineering services agreement with Olsson Associates, Inc. of Omaha, Nebraska in the amount of \$156,015.00 for a Regional Transit Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study. Such agreement allowed for an in-depth look at future public transportation services as a result of moving from a designated rural to urban community.

Discussion

The study has recommended the Fiscally Constrained Plan as the five year plan for the City of Grand Island and Hall County. The Fiscally Constrained Plan is based upon technical data analysis, the public engagement process for this study, and the realistic financial projections for the City for the next five years. This plan includes 24-hour Reservation, Demand Response Service (Status Quo) as the primary service for Grand Island and Hall County, van pool services in coordination with Enterprise, rideshare program, planning study for Intercity Bus Service to/from Kearney and Hastings, branding for the transit service (new look, new image, new name), and increase in transit marketing.

The study has also included an Illustrative Plan for the City of Grand Island and Hall County. This plan builds on the Fiscally Constrained Plan and transitions the transit service for the Grand Island urbanized area from Demand Response Service to Flexible Route Service. Due to the current budget constraints for the City, this option is not feasible for at least three years.

The study has included an implementation plan with steps for the next two years to continue the momentum for public transportation in Grand Island. These steps will be carried out by the City's Transit Program Manager. The initial steps include soliciting a new service contract, re-branding public transportation, inter-city service with Kearney and Hastings, and implementing rideshare & van pool.

Conclusion

This item is presented to the City Council in a Study Session to allow for any questions to be answered and to create a greater understanding of the issue at hand.



GRAND ISLAND – TRANSIT NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND FEASIBILITY STUDY

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION-MARCH 20, 2018

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND



ALLAN ZAFFT, MPO PROGRAM MANAGER

CHARLEY FALMLEN, TRANSIT PROGRAM MANAGER



Regional Transit Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study







Transit Needs Analysis

Allan Zafft, AICP **MPO Program Manager**





Hall County Board Agenda

- Report Summary
- Plans Moving Forward

 Fiscally Constrained Plan
 Illustrative Plan
- Next Steps







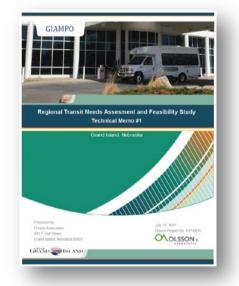
Transit Study

Importance

- Grand Island evolved considerably last 20 years
- Hall County Public Transportation has been under management of the City of Grand Island since July 2016
- Time for fresh look to reflect today's community

Focus of Study

- 1-5 year planning horizon
- Baby steps for future transit vision





Tasks Completed

Tech Memo 1

- Socio-demographic Analysis
- Market Analysis
- Transit Needs/Demand
- Transit Providers
- Peer Review

Tech Memo 2

- Future Transit Alternatives
- Operations Management

Tech Memo 3

- Fiscally Constrained Plan
- Illustrative Plan
- Implementation Plan

Draft Summary Final Report

Final Report



Focus Group Meeting



Public Engagement

1. Focus Group Meetings

- 3 Rounds of Meetings
- Multiple diverse groups represented

2. Public Open Houses

- April 5, 2017
- November 9, 2017

3. On-Site Visits

- Spring/Summer 2017
- College, JBS, Hornady
- Drivers/staff

4. Online Community Survey

- Spanish/English
- 267 responses

5. Transit Rider Survey

• June and August 2017





Open House at the Grand Generation Center



www.grand-island.com/GIAMPO

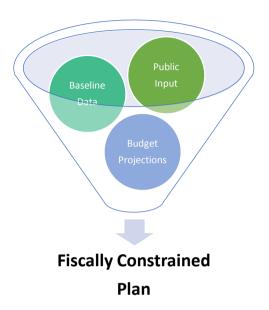


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Transit Alternatives Results

Recommendations

- Fiscally Constrained Plan
 - Contains Preferred Alternatives
- Illustrative Plan



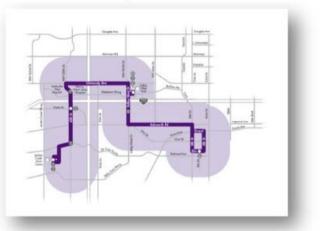


Primary Transit Modes

- 1. Demand Response
 - Passengers phone in for service, which routes directly to their pick-up/drop-off point.
- 2. Flexible Route Service
 - Passengers get on routed transit service at a designated bus stop. Transit service also deviates off of route to pick up/drop off riders.
- 3. Fixed Route Service
 - Transit operates on a system of fixed routes, which do not deviate.
 - A separate, complimentary, demand-response transit system exists for ADA-qualifying riders, which comes directly to their curb.



Sample Flex Route



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Fiscally Constrained Plan

- Continue Demand Response Service Status Quo
 - 24-hour reservation
 - Curb-to-curb service
 - Monday Friday
 - 6:00a 5:00p
 - 7 to 8 peak vehicles
 - \$490,000 annual operating budget
 - \$2 base fare







Fiscally Constrained Plan CHANGES

- 1. Branding new look, new image, new name
- 2. Increase transit marketing
- 3. FTA-orchestrated oversight of transit contract









Fiscally Constrained Plan CHANGES

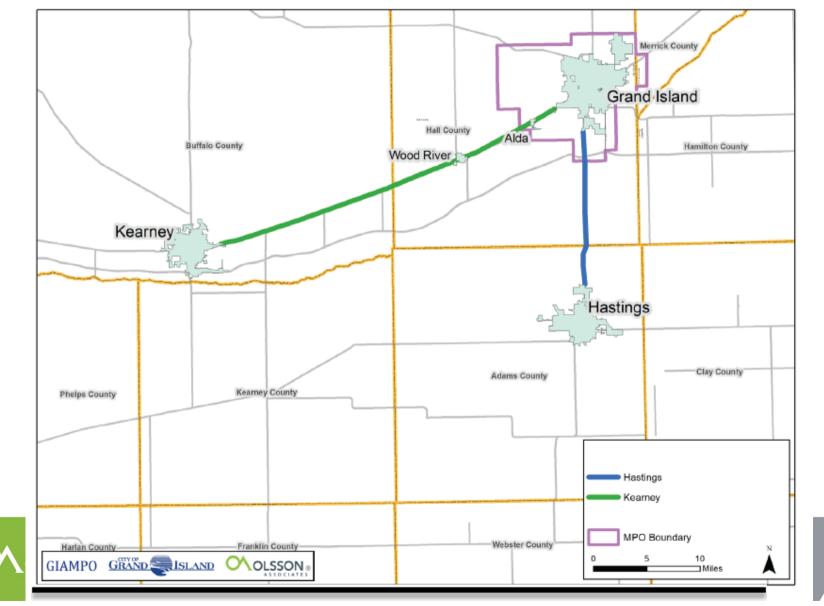
- 4. Begin planning work for Intercity Bus Service
 - To/from Grand Island and Kearney
 - To/from Grand Island and Hastings
 - Monday Friday, AM, PM, mid-day trip
 - Connections to intermodal facilities
- Operations Plan
- Park and Ride Study
- Marketing & coordination with connecting communities







Intercity Bus Service Map



Fiscally Constrained Plan CHANGES

- 5. Coordinate NDOT Vanpool Program coordination with major employers/ destination in Grand Island Region
- 6. Implement Rideshare Program
 - Purchase of Software
 - Market, promote, demonstrations
- 7. Transit Facility









Illustrative Plan

CHANGES

- 1. Build from Fiscally Constrained Plan
 - 1. New Brand name, image, logo
 - 2. Vanpool Program
 - 3. Rideshare Program
 - 4. Planning Studies
- 2. Flexible Route Service
- 3. Intercity Bus Service Implementation 2 routes







Flexible Route Service



	Today	Flexible Route Service
Service Days	M-F	M-F
Hours	6a-5p	6a-630p
Peak Vehicles	7	6
Annual Rev Hrs.	14,377	19,125
Annual Oper. Cost	\$490,000	\$682,549
Local Oper. Share	\$193,377	\$334,449
Ridership	35,000	102,000
Cost per Trip	\$14.10	\$6.69

	Operating	Capital (7 Veh)	Capital (Other)	Total Costs
Federal	\$348,100	\$392,000	\$481,200	\$1,221,300
State	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Local	\$334,449	\$98,000	\$120,300	\$552,749
Total	\$682,549	\$490,000	\$601,500	\$1,774,049

www.grand-island.com/GIAMPO





Study Session - 3/20/2018

Grand Island

Illustrative Plan

CHANGES

Implementation of Intercity Bus Service

- To/from Grand Island and Kearney
- $_{\rm O}$ To/from Grand Island and Hastings

Capital Plan

Implementation Plan







Regional Transit Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study





Transit Implementation

Charley Falmlen

Transit Program Manager





Implementation Plan

		2018	2019
Initial I	Initial Implementation Steps		
1	Research Rideshare software program options and develop RFP for purchasing the Rideshare software for implementation.		
2	Implement Rideshare software and coordinate with software develop- er staff to design software infrastructure relative to local and regional needs.		
3	Coordinate with Enterprise Vanpool program representative and estab- lishments such as JBS and Veterans Home.		
4	Finalize contract with vendor and rollout of Enterprise Vanpool program.		
5	Develop general marketing plan for community outreach and awareness for transit services.		
6	Continue coordination with NDOT on the Intercity Bus Service Plan.		
7	Coordinate with NDOT to develop RFP for Intercity Bus Service Operations Plan and Park and Ride Study.		
8	Coordinate with local agencies and establishments to fund the local match for the vehicles and other capital improvements for Intercity Bus Service.		
9	Develop Bid for service contract of transit operations.		
10	Develop RFP for transit facility preliminary planning.		





Next Steps

1. Service Contract Bid

 Document finished/editable – Release for bids in 2018



Document finished – Scheduled for spring 2018

3. Inter-City Service

- State of Nebraska Coordination
- RFP for Service currently in design
- Will be ready late spring/early summer 2018

4. Rideshare App & Van Pool

RFP set to be designed in Late 2018/Early 2019

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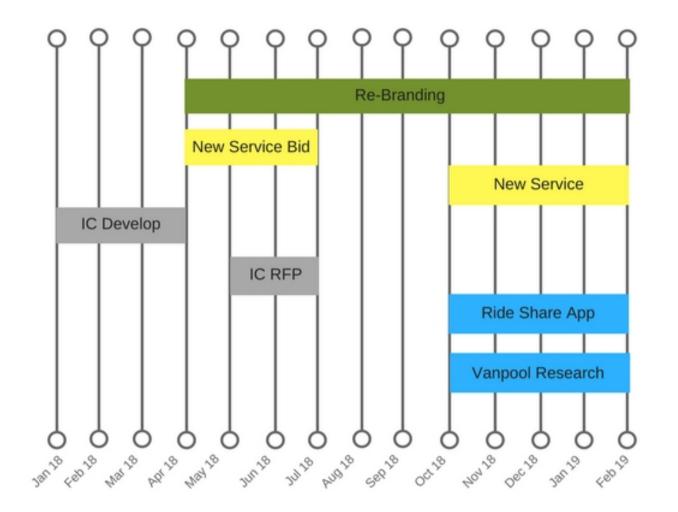
Grand Island





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Implementation Timeline





1. Service Contract Bid

According to the Fiscally Constrained Plan, the City is to enter into a status-quo service contract, with only minor changes to the service being offered.

- Continue basic parameters (service start-time, fare, etc) of current demand-response system.
- Contracting Options Include:
 - Operating Service Recipient owns vehicles. Contractor provides maintenance, staff and service.
 - *Purchase of Service* Recipient owns vehicles and provides maintenance. Contractor provides, staff and service only.
 - *Turn-Key* Contractor owns vehicles. Contractor provides maintenance, staff, service and vehicles.



Fiscally Constrained Plan

- Continue Demand Response Service Status Quo
 - 24-hour reservation
 - Curb-to-curb service
 - Monday Friday
 - 6:00a 5:00p
 - 7 to 8 peak vehicles
 - \$490,000 annual operating budget
 - \$2 base fare







2. Branding

- New name implementation
 - On buses
 - On brochures
- New website, establish social media



www.grand-island.com/GIAMPO



Study Session - 3/20/2018

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3. Inter-City Service

Routes based in Grand Island which will travel to and from Hastings and Kearney



Emphasis on Grand Island-centered Inter-Modal travel(bus and airport connections)

- Phase I Establish drop off/pick up sites, roll out of initial routes.
- Phase II Addition of stops along HWY 30 and HWY 281.



4. Rideshare App & Vanpool

- Rideshare App is very simple to implement purchase and go. Much marketing and publicity will be needed to establish working base of users
- Vanpool is a State program which the City will participate in. Vans are provided to employees to commute together to and from work. It will require extensive outreach to be conducted with industries/employers in town.





GRAND ISLAND – TRANSIT NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND FEASIBILITY STUDY

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION-MARCH 20, 2018

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND



ALLAN ZAFFT, MPO PROGRAM MANAGER

CHARLEY FALMLEN, TRANSIT PROGRAM MANAGER

