



PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY!

Look for this symbol



Public Input Opportunity

Transit Development Plan Public Outreach Effort

Metro COG, MATBUS, and SRF Consulting Group are currently in the process of updating the Transit Development Plan (TDP) for the Fargo-Moorhead Region. As part of the public participation component of the plan, we are reaching out all those in the community who do not ride transit. We are looking to answer two basic questions:

- Why don't you ride MATBUS?
- What would get you to ride MATBUS?

In order to reach out to non-riders, Metro COG and MATBUS will go to various locations in the Fargo and Moorhead communities

with a portable sign where the community can write responses to these questions on. This will better enable Metro COG and MATBUS to understand what the community thinks about current transit service and possible ways to attract transit ridership.

The comments received through this process will serve to direct the recommendations of the plan. We hope to learn your thoughts and feelings about MATBUS and different ways that transit service can benefit the region. As you are driving around town, please keep an eye out for these signs and take a second to share your thoughts with us.

Link FM



Link FM is a new circulator bus route that operates a loop within downtown Fargo and downtown Moorhead. Started in June 2015, Link FM provides service between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Anyone can ride free of charge. The intent of the service is to help reduce congestion and parking problems as well as help connect the two downtowns.

While initial ridership has been modest, transit officials believe the ridership will only increase. On July 15th, Link FM unveiled a new bus that is now used for the route. The catchy new bus design features a bright hip design and even includes speakers on the outside of the bus that will provide music as it travels. Link FM's motto is 'Fun, Fast, and Free'. For more information on Link FM, you can visit MATBUS's website link at www.matbus.com/linkfm.htm.

Valley Bicycle Summit

On Sunday August 30, Metro COG organized the annual Valley Bicycle Summit. The Valley Bicycle Summit is an event hosted annually to educate the public on bicycle safety and rules of the road. This was the fourth consecutive year of the Summit. The Summit is typically hosted as a booth along the Streets Alive route. The booth was set up at the end of the 'pop-up bike lane' at the corner of NP Avenue and 5th Street in downtown Fargo. This year's event included a spin wheel participants could spin for corresponding bicycle safety/rules of the road questions. All participants were put into a drawing to win one of two \$25 gift cards. Congratulation to Jade of Fargo and Cindy of Dilworth in participating and winning the gift cards.



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You receive this newsletter because you are identified as person and/or agency who is considered important to the implementation of Metro COG projects and programs. If you wish to discontinue receiving this newsletter or you wish to begin receiving this newsletter electronically, please contact Kate Wurtzler at: wurtzler@fmmetrocog.org

Bicycle Friendly Businesses

In November 2014 the Fargo-Moorhead Metro Area was designated as a Bronze Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists. This was the first such designation by the League of American Bicyclists in the FM area and the first designation in the state of North Dakota.

The League of American Bicyclists also designates universities and businesses for 'bicycle friendliness' if they apply and showcase the necessary qualifications. In August the first two businesses in the FM area were awarded Bicycle Friendly Business designation – Family Healthcare and the FM Community Bicycle Workshop. Currently these are the only businesses in the state of North Dakota to receive the designation.

The designation is categorized into one of four designations – Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. Family Healthcare received designation as a Bronze Bicycle Friendly Business.

Family Healthcare is a family-oriented primary care clinic that provides a variety of medical services for patients in the FM area. Family Healthcare is located in downtown Fargo



at 301 NP Avenue and employs 140 people.

The FM Community Bicycle Workshop was awarded Gold Bicycle Friendly Business designation. Currently there are only 137 Gold Bicycle Friendly Businesses in the nation. The FM Community Bicycle Workshop is a volunteer-run bicycle workshop and learning space committed to assist members of the community in repairing and recycling bicycles.



Congrats to these two businesses for receiving these exciting and honorable designations! For more information on the Bicycle Friendly Business program you can visit <http://bikeleague.org/bfa/awards#business>.