



CITY OF MARSHALL AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting Date:	Tuesday, May 25, 2021
Category:	NEW BUSINESS
Type:	INFO/ACTION
Subject:	Consider a MOU between the City of Marshall and Bird Scooters
Background Information:	<p>The City of Marshall was approached by Bird Scooters to bring a fleet of 50-75 electric scooters to Marshall at no cost to the city. Bird's mission is to make cities more livable and bring communities together by providing an affordable, environmentally-friendly transit alternative. The program would be administered on a trial basis during the Summer and Fall of 2021 and facilitated by a fleet manager hired directly by Bird.</p> <p>Staff has spoken with stakeholders both internally and externally on the proposal and supports pursuing the trial period. Internally, we have discussed several factors of the program including policing, safety, and utilization. Staff agreed that the trial period would allow us to determine if the program would be a good fit for the community long term.</p> <p>Externally we spoke with SMSU, UCAP, and MDBA. SMSU would support the project and feel the scooters would be helpful their on-campus student population. UCAP did not feel the program would have an impact on its transportation options. MBDA did not feel as though the program would benefit downtown businesses but were not opposed to moving forward with a trial period.</p> <p>Similar communities including Albert Lea and New Ulm recently adopted Scooter programs.</p>
Fiscal Impact:	None
Alternative/ Variations:	No alternative actions recommended.
Recommendations:	Council approve the MOU provided by Bird to begin trial period in the Summer of 2021.