

MEMO TO TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Agenda Topic on the Transportation Commission Agenda

Meeting Date:

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

September 14, 2020

From:	Caleb Hood, Planning Division Manager
Presenter:	Caleb Hood
Topic:	Shared Vehicles

Recommended Action:

Provide direction to Staff as we address the topic of shared vehicles with the City Council. Should the City proceed with releasing an RFP for shared vehicle vendors for 2021?

Background:

On Friday, December 13th, 2019 the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for shared vehicle (e-scooters) services for 2020. The RFP was sent to six known, potential vendors/contractors. One response was received. On January 23rd a 7-member scoring team met to discuss the proposal. The scoring team recommended that City Council not enter into a contract with any vendor at this time due to all of the construction and lack of destinations currently. The scoring team further recommended that the MDBA continue to monitor the climate and recommend back to the City when they believe another RFP should be issued. On January 28th, these recommendations were presented to the Mayor and City Council. The Council largely concurred with the scoring team's recommendation and further recommended that Staff be part of discussions around a regional management model for micro mobility.

In August, City Staff and MDBA President Lindsey Bowshire, met with representatives of Spin. Spin is currently one of the vendors in Boise and is interested in doing a pilot project in Meridian. There initial proposal is that the pilot not include any fees. Planning Staff discussed this potential pilot with Legal Staff. Staff's perspective is that the City's Ordinances and processes are not set up for a pilot, but rather a competitive proposal process with up to two vendors being awarded contracts. Staff would like the TC's recommendation on shared vehicle vendor options for 2021. This input will then be shared with the Council.

Note that Spin has been invited to the October TC meeting to address the Commission on their pilot proposal, so a recommendation to the Council could be delayed a month if needed. Lindsey Bowshire should also be at your October meeting to discuss this topic as well as the follow-up regarding alleyways from earlier this year. City Staff does not believe that the MDBA has discussed this topic recently and a deferral of a motion should allow the MDBA to discuss if they believe it is a good time to issue another RFP.