



TO: Paratransit Taxi Task Force Members

FROM: Sandy Kellner, Chief Administrative Officer & Fran Musci, Director of Paratransit

SUBJECT: Results of RFI for Same-day Ride Program

DATE: June 28, 2024

CC: Donna Brown-Martin, MCDOT; Jennifer Sarnecki, SEWRPC

In pursuit of a pilot program for same-day ride option for paratransit clients, MCTS, MCDOT (Milwaukee County Department of Transportation) and SEWRPC (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission) worked collaboratively with the Paratransit Taxi Task Force (Task Force) to capture the desired service characteristics. A Request for Information was used to augment that work. The RFI sought to determine the feasibility and process to implement a pilot program and was both publicly advertised and sent to all of the suppliers identified by the Task Force.

Six companies responded to the RFI: Via, WHC Mke, LLC dba zTrip, Uzurv, Sarah Car Care, Inc, Save Point Non-Emergency Disabilities Transportation LLC, and Uber Transit. Three suppliers indicated they could provide the desired services, although their RFI responses contained inconsistent information. Three could not provide the specified services. Based on the requested information provided in the RFI process, the Task Force finalized its desired program specifications. After finalizing program specifications and conducting a clarification process, it was determined that only one supplier, Via, could meet the Task Force's requirements.

Because of the exhaustive survey of the marketplace and a publicly advertised RFI process revealed there was only one supplier that could provide the desired services, it was determined that a separate bid or RFP (request for proposals) process would be unnecessary and moot. Therefore, the next steps involve MCTS staff working with Via representatives to finalize the contract terms. This process is underway. Meanwhile, the goal for a September 1st start-up date remains our target. Also, additional meetings with the Task Force will help to refine details on topics including but not limited to communication of the program, fares, etc.

On behalf of MCTS, we would like to thank all of the members of the Task Force and the Task Force sub-committee for the collaboration and input to get us to this point. Additionally, special thanks to Jennifer Sarnecki of SEWRPC who was instrumental in research and dissemination of information on same-day ride market alternatives.