



NEWS RELEASE

Thursday, August 27/2020 – Emerald Park, RM of Edenwold, Saskatchewan.

The RM of Edenwold has successfully worked together with 10 other area municipalities to adopt a comprehensive rideshare policy.

Rideshare allows travellers the ability to request on-demand transportation. Anyone can request a ride, increasing access to employment areas, medical appointments, shopping trips, family visits, and special events. It is particularly important to residents and businesses in rural areas needing transportation options.

Informed by research and working with their 10 initial partnering municipalities, the RM has adopted a rideshare bylaw that allows rideshare companies to quickly get a license and begin operating within the region. This reduces administrative hurdles for interested companies and allows residents to quickly gain access to new transportation options.

“We are glad to be working with the RM on this project,” says Walter Botkin, Mayor of Grand Coulee. “It gives us the opportunity to help our residents, ensuring we can help get people where they need to go, helping eliminate drunk driving by creating safe options and opening up our community to more opportunities.”

“To maximize the benefits across the region, we wanted to make it easy for our neighbours to accommodate rideshare,” explains RM of Edenwold Manager of Planning and Development, Jana Jedlic. “Under the provincial rules, each municipality can set up our own permitting processes and regulations. We recognized that this might be a lot of red tape for a company wanting to operate in a number of municipalities, so we worked with our regional partners to streamline the process. Our new bylaws allow for a major expansion to the rideshare network across the Regina region.”

The RM of Edenwold led this initiative because the RM is home to a large and diverse business sector, employing thousands. This transportation option helps business owners get employees to work.

“We have been talking to Uber and are looking forward to having rideshare services available soon especially for local businesses. This will be a reliable way for employees to get to their workplaces,” says Councillor Stan Capnerhurst. “It will also create opportunities for our residents looking to get into the city or other communities quickly and easily.”

“Rideshare in the community will be great! It will help to promote a safe way to travel to and from the city. It adds another option. It will also be helpful to our employees. There are times when people just need an alternate way to get somewhere” says Kevin Rossler, President of the White City/Emerald Park Business Association. “With this program, employees will have another option.”

The ten partner municipalities include: Lumsden, RM of Lumsden, Grand Coulee, Pense, RM of Pense, Pilot Butte, Balgonie, Belle Plaine, Buena Vista and the RM of Lajord.

Municipal leaders looking for more information on the program can contact the RM of Edenwold office at 306-771-2522.

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