

# Farmers' Market Request for Proposal

Presented By Mark Lanzrath

Thank you for the opportunity to present my “vision” for the improved Farmers’ Market. Though I am not a developer, Chris Newlin contacted Kate Gunja and informed me “I talked to Kate the other night and she said you can submit your design if you would like. From what you told me the other night it sounds interesting and its elements need to be considered for this project.” I look forward to seeing this concept that the city could build presented to the Community Development Committee side by side with the developer proposals.

The first element is the Marty Street Option as shown in the 2018 Market Study. The area shown in green can be modified to include year-round enclosures at either end, vendor spaces with garage type doors or open stalls. The decision on the mix can be made by staff based on projected usage. This basic design was included in the CIP.

The second element is to convert the city owned parking lot across the street on Marty into an outdoor plaza. This area can be designed as an event space, as well as an area for vendors to set up, as has been done this year at the Matt Ross Community Center. News articles indicate that many of the vendors prefer this open-air setup. Patrons indicate that they enjoy the airiness this provides, versus the covered stall experience. In a post Covid-19 world this is important to many patrons who wish to maintain a “safe space”, and may very well dictate whether they come to the Farmers’ Market.

Next is an option. One that would complement the above proposal. The city could purchase the two lots on the west side of Floyd that are adjacent to the city owned lot on Marty. There is a gentle slope that goes down to Floyd. This could be terraced as shown in the illustration below from the College Blvd. walkability study. Incorporating this would allow future expansion of the “corridor” to the area between Metcalf & Floyd. It would also provide some “green” area in the heart of downtown for all to enjoy.

