

Management Committee

Meeting date: September 22, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 22, 2021

Subject: Voluntary Vision Insurance Plan, Contract 21P083

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: FM14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy

Staff Prepared/Presented: Terri Bopp, Benefits Manager; 651-602-1370;
Marcy Cordes, Chief Labor Relations Officer; 651-602-1582

Division/Department: Regional Administration/Human Resources-Benefits

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 21P083 with Vision Service Plan (VSP) to provide voluntary vision services for all eligible Council employees in an amount not to exceed \$1,600,000.

Background

The current contract with VSP expires December 31, 2021, at the end of a three-year contract.

Rationale

A Request for Proposals was issued on April 26, 2021. A pre-proposal meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications and responded to plan holder inquiries. There were four registered plan holders, two suppliers, one subcontractor and one plan room.

Proposals were evaluated on the following criteria: quality of the proposal, qualifications of the proposer, experience of the proposer, and price of the proposal. The Council received one proposal to be evaluated for the consideration of award. An adequate competition evaluation was completed and determined there was no indication that the Council's specifications were restrictive.

The evaluation panel reached the consensus that the proposal submitted by VSP is the most advantageous to the Council and recommends for award. The execution of a goods or services contract in excess of \$500,000 requires Council approval.

Office of Equal Opportunity

The Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) thoroughly reviewed this procurement for opportunities to include MCUB firms. OEO did not set a goal on this contract as the scope of work is singular and limited to providing group voluntary vision insurance plans only. OEO searched for firms that could be solicited for interest in proposing on the contract directly. OEO's search results determined there are no MCUBs that provide group vision insurance plans.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Authorization to enter into a contract with VSP for voluntary vision services supports the Thrive outcome of Stewardship by providing the vision services at a low cost over the next five years.

Funding

Funding for voluntary vision services is available through employee premium payroll deductions.

Known Support / Opposition

None