

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 26, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 11, 2013

Subject: Authorization to Enter into an Agreement with Anoka County to Operate Trunk Highway 65 Commuter Express Service and Purchase Buses

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into agreement with Anoka County for Metro Transit to operate Trunk Highway 65 commuter express service and to execute a Purchase Order with Motor Coach Industries (MCI) for seven coach buses on contract 08P114 with an estimated cost of \$3,855,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Adam Harrington presented background information supporting the action. Tom Humphrey presented information on how buses were to be procured.

Motion for approval made by Councilmember Schreiber, seconded by Councilmember Elkins, and unanimously approved by the Transportation Committee.

This will move forward as a consent item on the full Metropolitan Council agenda on September 11, 2013.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 26, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 11, 2013

Subject: Authorization to Enter into Agreement and to Execute a Purchase Order to Operate Trunk Highway 65 Commuter Express Service

District(s), Member(s): Edward Reynoso (Dist 9), John Đoàn (Dist 10), All

Policy/Legal Reference: Metropolitan Council Procedure 3-3c (Requires Council Approval over \$250,000)

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
 Vince Pellegrin, Chief Operating Officer, 612-349-7511
 Jan Homan, Deputy Chief Operations-Bus, 612-349-7514
 Rob Milleson, Director Bus Maintenance, 612-349-5008
 Thomas Humphrey, Deputy Director, 612-349-5006
 Adam Harrington, Asst Director Route & System Planning
 612-349-7797

Division/Department: Metro Transit, Maintenance, Service Development

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into agreement with Anoka County for Metro Transit to operate Trunk Highway 65 commuter express service and to execute a Purchase Order with Motor Coach Industries (MCI) for seven coach buses on contract 08P114 with an estimated cost of \$3,855,000.

Background

Anoka County, in coordination with and support by Metro Transit, has been awarded \$6,630,762 of federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) for program year 2013 to operate new commuter express service (Route 865) between a newly constructed 400-space park and ride near County Road 14 and Trunk Highway 65 in Blaine and downtown Minneapolis. This project includes four components:

TH 65 Express Project	Total Cost	CMAQ portion	Anoka County Match
Land Acquisition (complete)	\$953,000	\$762,400	\$190,600
Park and Ride construction (2014)	\$1,330,000	\$1,064,000	\$266,000
Seven coach buses (purchase 2013)	\$3,854,711	\$3,080,000	\$774,711
Express service over 3 years (fall 2014 start)	\$2,349,235	\$1,724,362	\$624,873

This service will also demonstrate market potential in East Bethel and Ham Lake by extending new Route 865 to two joint use parking lots leased by Anoka County at Family of Christ Lutheran Church, 16345 Polk Street NE, Ham Lake, and East Bethel Movie Theater, 18635 Ulysses Street NE, East Bethel.

By agreement with Anoka County, Metro Transit will operate Route 865 at the conclusion of demonstration (as marked by the expenditure of CMAQ operating funds or three years) as part of the regional transit system subject to regional performance standards.

If extension of service into Ham Lake or East Bethel is warranted and desired after the grant period, those communities must enter the Transit Capital Levy District.

Metro Transit will maintain the newly constructed park-and-ride lot at Paul Parkway and Ulysses Street in Blaine, and will work with Anoka County to transfer ownership of facility and property to Metro Transit within the first year of operations.

Rationale

Purchase of seven coach buses is included in the Metro Transit Capital Improvement Plan, and a Contract Initiation Memo (CIM) has been approved. Notice to Proceed for Motor Coach Industries (MCI) is needed in October 2013 to ensure delivery of vehicles to Metro Transit by summer 2014 in preparation for service in fall 2014.

Funding

Service Operations and buses will be funded using federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant, and remaining match from Anoka County.

Known Support / Opposition

This collaborative project is supported by Anoka County.