

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 10, 2021

Subject: Metro Mobility Demand West (20P192) and East Zone (20P199) Contracts

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract with Transit Team, Inc. to provide the Metro Mobility Demand West Zone service from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026 with an option to extend one additional year in an amount not to exceed \$203,188,899.

And, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract with First Transit, Inc. to provide the Metro Mobility Demand East Zone service from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2026 with an option to extend one additional year in an amount not to exceed \$163,578,272.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Metropolitan Transportation Services Metro Mobility Senior Manager Christine Kuennen presented this item in its entirety. Following presentation of the item, Ms. Kuennen offered to answer any questions. There were no questions or comments from Council Members.

Motion by Chamblis, seconded by Gonzalez. Motion carried.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 25, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 10, 2021

Subject: Metro Mobility Demand West (20P192) and East Zone (20P199) Contracts

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurement of Goods and Services over \$500,000.

Staff Prepared/Presented: Christine Kuennen, Senior Manager Metro Mobility, 651-602-1689

Jody Jacoby, Director of Purchasing Metropolitan Council, 651-602-1144

Gerri Sutton, Assistant Director MTS, 651-602-1672

Nick Thompson, Director of MTS, 651-602-1754

Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services

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Background

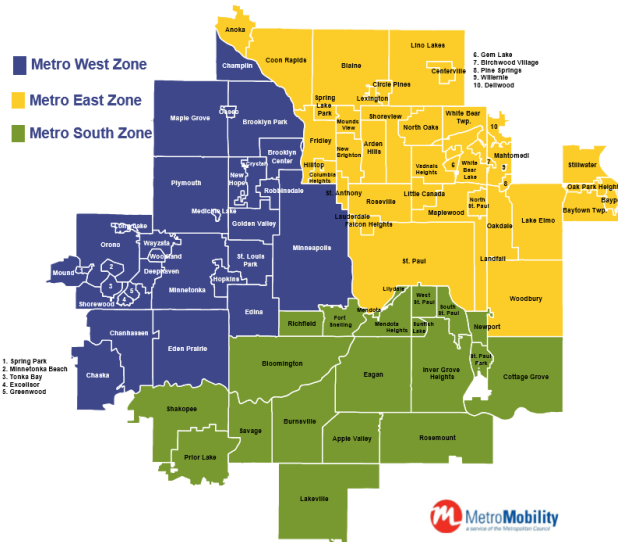
Metro Mobility is a shared ride, demand response public transportation service for certified riders who are unable to use regular fixed-route buses due to a disability or health condition.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) every public entity operating a regular-route system must provide complementary paratransit service to individuals with disabilities who are unable to use regular-route. This federally mandated service must be provided within three-quarters of a mile of any all-day, local bus or rail route in the Twin Cities with comparable service levels.

In addition, Minn. Stat. 473.386 requires the Metropolitan Council to provide greater access and door-through-door transportation for the elderly, people with disabilities, and others with special transportation needs within the Transit Taxing District.

The Metro Mobility Demand service area has three geographic zones (Metro West, Metro East and Metro South) that are served by providers under separate contracts. The current Metro West and Metro East zone contracts each terminate this year, in June and August respectively. These contracts will provide a continuity of services for the entirety of the Metro West and East Zones.

TRIP PROVIDER SERVICE AREAS



Rationale

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised and posted on the Council website in compliance with Council policies and procedures. Proposers were permitted to submit a proposal for each of the East and West Service zones. For purposes of service redundancy, a single provider cannot be awarded both zones.

Two proposals were received for the West Zone and evaluated by a five-member panel consisting of staff from Metro Mobility, MTS Contracted Services, Washington County, and the Minnesota Council on Disability.

One proposal was received for the East Zone and evaluated by the same five-member panel. The panel evaluated and ranked all technical proposals based on the following factors:

- **Quality of the Proposal;** completeness in addressing the requirements, workplans and schedule, demonstrated grasp of the work required for this project.
- **Qualifications and Experience of the Proposer;** general qualifications, specialized qualifications, directly related professional competence, successful completion of similar projects with the Council or others.
- **Overall Compliance with the RFP** in areas such as workforce hiring, training and retention, management and administration, financial and technical capabilities, maintenance practices.

The panel then evaluated the financial submittals and cost proposals for each zone.

Transit Team had the highest rated financial submittals, a highly rated technical proposal, and the lowest proposed cost for the West Zone. The proposed pricing is within the budget and appears to be fair and reasonable. Additionally, Transit Team's proposal demonstrated a strong approach to customer service in a paratransit environment and strong workforce retention program.

First Transit was the only proposer for the East Zone. Their technical proposal, cost proposal and financial submittals were evaluated and determined to meet, and in a number of areas exceed, the requirements of the RFP. The proposed pricing is within the budget and appears to be fair and reasonable. Additionally, First Transit demonstrated a strong approach to small business inclusion and reducing barriers through its proposed subcontractor Sun Transit, LLC. Sun Transit is a Minnesota

based firm included in the Council's MCUB Program as a Council certified DBE, who will provide utility services such as fueling, bus washing, and janitorial services for the East Zone under this contract.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Metro Mobility supports the outcomes and principals of Thrive MSP 2040 by promoting prosperity and livability in our region through the delivery of safe, reliable and equitable public transportation service.

Funding

Funding for this service is included in the operating budget.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.