

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 8, 2021

Subject: Metro Transit Uniforms, Contract 21P063

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 21P063 with Galls, LLC to supply uniform items for Bus Operators, Rail Operators and, other represented employees in an amount not to exceed \$3,750,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Metro Transit Acting Director, Bus Transportation Steve McLaird presented this item. Metropolitan Council Procurement Director Jody Jacoby added that Procurement staff connected with Galls, LLC to talk about the Council's interest in subcontracting some of this work to targeted vendors and Galls, LLC indicated they are more than willing to work with Council staff to incorporate some MCUB subcontracting options into the contract. Jacoby continued that OEO provided a MCUB vendors from the directory to Galls, LLC, who upon the execution of this contract will continue to work with Council staff on this effort. Zeran asked that because we have agreements with ATU to provide these uniforms, are we in jeopardy of not fulfilling this contractual agreement. McLaird responded that the current contract originally ended December 2020 but that it was extended through the end of September 2021. McLaird confirmed we do have contractual agreements with ATU/TMSA and we are approaching the total contract amount and time limit, so if the contract wasn't to pass Council approval staff would have to find some alternatives. McLaird added that October/November/December are the heaviest months of purchasing and because we are aggressively trying to hire bus operators and it's important new staff have uniforms when they step on the bus.

Motion by Zeran, seconded by Sterner. Motion carried.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 23, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 8, 2021

Subject: Metro Transit Uniforms, Contract 21P063

District(s), Member(s): All

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

Staff Prepared/Presented: Steve McLaird, Acting Director Bus Transportation, 612-349-7572

Division/Department: Bus Transportation/Metro Transit

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 21P063 with Galls, LLC to supply uniform items for Bus Operators, Rail Operators and, other represented employees in an amount not to exceed \$3,750,000.

Background

Metro Transit requires a new contract for supplying operator uniforms to replace the expiring uniform contract. In accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, Metro Transit provides an annual uniform allowance (currently \$350 per operator) to each of the 1,500 operators, and provides each newly hired operator an initial uniform issue. The contract also supplies uniform items in much smaller volumes to dispatchers, coordinators, instructors, rail maintenance and supervisors.

The uniform to be supplied under the new five-year contract for operators will not change. The uniform items to be supplied by the Contractor are as follows: shirts, pants, jackets, caps, sweaters, shorts, and approved miscellaneous items. The contractor is required to provide a store in Minneapolis and in St. Paul for operators to access sizing, fitting, and ordering services.

Office of Equal Opportunity

OEO thoroughly reviewed this procurement in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. A goal was not set upon results of the analysis.

Rationale

A Request for Proposals was issued on May 18, 2021. A pre-proposal meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications and responded to plan holder inquires. There were five plan holders, and three identified as small, women, minority, veteran, or disadvantaged business enterprises. Proposals were due on June 15, 2021, and two proposals were received to be evaluated for the consideration of award.

The following criteria was used in the evaluation of proposals; proposer quality, proposer qualifications, experience, price and the ability to meet current and future needs. The evaluation panel recommends Galls, LLC as the proposer most advantageous to the Council.

The award and execution of a professional/technical services contract exceeding \$500,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action furthers the Thrive Outcomes of Prosperity and Stewardship. Investing in the uniform needs of Metro Transit Bus Operators, Rail Operators, and other represented employees provides economic competitiveness that



attracts and maintains a talented operator workforce. By entering into a contract for uniform needs, the Council is regulating and mitigating the financial resources associated with uniform expenses. The uniform contract will regulate price increases for the term of the contract.

Funding

Annual expenditures are estimated at \$750,000. Actual expenditures will depend on the number of new operators hired and on operator expenditure of their uniform allowance. Funding is available in Metro Transit's annual operating budgets with the approval of Ed Petrie, Finance Director. These funds are included in the 2021 – 2026 Metro Transit operating budgets.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no know opposition to the proposed action.