

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: February 27, 2023,

For the Metropolitan Council: March 8, 2023

Business Item: 2023-52

Purchase of 18 Accessible Minivans – Metro Mobility, Contract 23P030

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| District(s), Member(s): | All |
| Policy/Legal Reference: | FM 14-2 Expenditures for Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy; Minn. Statute § 471.345 |
| Staff Prepared/Presented: | Charles Carlson, Executive Director MTS (651) 602-1761 Gerri Sutton, Director, MTS Contracted Services (651) 602-1672 Paul Colton, Fleet Manager MTS Contracted Services (651) 602-1668 |
| Division/Department: | Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS) |

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Contract 23P030 with Creative Bus Sales for up to 18 accessible minivans in an amount not to exceed \$1,350,000. This action is contingent upon Council approval of the authorized capital program amendment on March 8 through business item 2023-35 JT March 8.

Background

The 18 accessible minivans will be used in Metro Mobility service and aligns with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). These minivans will be distributed to the four garages operating Metro Mobility service. This purchase will serve as a pilot project to test this type of equipment both in terms of service operability and a fleet maintenance level. This type of vehicle has a four-year useful life.

Purchase of the accessible minivans will assist MTS to continue maintaining a state of good repair for its fleet. Due to a continued parts supply chain issue, and a 70% reduction in small bus chassis production, MTS has had difficulty over the last two years receiving its order of buses which is now up to 410 buses.

Rationale

The Metropolitan Council is using the State of Oklahoma's cooperative agreement to purchase these minivans. The Council is an eligible public agency that may use this agreement. The Council has statutory authority under Minnesota Statutes Section §471.345 to utilize such cooperative service agreements. The execution of a goods contract of more than \$500,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This purchase supports safe and reliable transit infrastructure now and into the future for transit passengers throughout the region (sustainability) and enhances the quality of life in the region by allowing for transportation options at the community and regional level (livability).

Funding

Regional Transit Capital (RTC) will be used as the funding source for these vehicles. These funds are requested for approval into the Council's Authorized Capital Program in item 2023-35 JT, as recommended by the Transportation Committee on February 13, 2023 and scheduled for Council approval on March 8, 2023.

Small Business Inclusion

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not establish a Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) goal as this contract will be procured utilizing the State of Oklahoma's cooperative agreement.

