Business Item: 2023-286 SW
MTS Purchase of 25 Metro Mobility Buses through Sourcewell Contract

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
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Division/Department: Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action
That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Contract 23P237 with North Central Bus Sales for up to 25 replacement buses in an amount not to exceed $3,750,000.

Background
This procurement of 25 replacement buses aligns with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Purchase of these small buses will allow MTS to continue maintaining a state of good repair for its Metro Mobility fleet. The buses that are scheduled for replacement exceeded their useful life in 2022.

Rationale
Using the Sourcewell Contract, a national cooperative agreement for public entities, allows the Council to purchase from other manufactures that aren’t on the State of MN Contract, thus increasing competition in the small bus industry. 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
Funding for this purchase is available in project 36240 in the Council’s Authorized Capital Program.
**Small Business Inclusion**

The buses are being procured with local funds and utilizing the Sourcewell Contract which is a national cooperative agreement for public entities. Therefore, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not assign a Metropolitan Underutilized Business (MCUB) goal.