

Committee Report

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: May 12, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: May 14, 2025

Business Item: 2025-109

Purchase of Vontas Transit Master (OnRoute) Systems

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole source contract 25P103 with Vontas to provide thirty-nine OnRoute systems that includes installation, licensing and configuration in an amount not to exceed \$897,685.

Summary of Transportation Committee Discussion/Questions

Metropolitan Transportation Services Contracted Services Senior Project Administrator Jodi Janssen and Fleet Manager Paul Colton presented this item. There was one question from Council member Vento regarding clarification on the quantity of units purchased. Phase one of the project showed 11 units for SWT, but there are only 10 units. A spare bus that will not be getting the Vontas OnRoute system was inadvertently counted in the business item.

Motion by Vento, seconded by Osman. Motion carried. Non-consent to Council.

Business Item

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Purchase of Vontas Transit Master (OnRoute) Systems

District(s), member(s):	All
Policy/legal reference:	FM 14-2 – Expenditure for Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
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 Jodi Janssen, Sr. Project Admin, MTS Contracted Services 651-602-1103
Division/department:	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole source contract 25P103 with Vontas to provide thirty-nine OnRoute systems that includes installation, licensing and configuration in an amount not to exceed \$897,685.

Background

MTS has been using the Transit Master (OnRoute) system since 2009, joining the larger Metro Transit system that has been using this technology since the mid-2000's. System capabilities include driver schedule adherence assistance, continual vehicle location data for dispatchers, emergency response notifications, providing real time information to customers through NexTrip, and storing historical passenger count data. This system is a critical piece of the fixed route infrastructure that will support 2025 expansion of SouthWest Transit and Metro micro, as well as 2025/2026 Network Now fixed route expansion.

Under this project, there are three phases that correspond to the service implementation dates for these three fixed route services over a two-year period.

- Phase one is for SouthWest Transit and includes 11 Transit Master systems.
- Phase two is for Metro micro and includes 17 Transit Master systems.
- Phase three is for MTS Network Now and includes 12 Transit Master Systems.

Rationale

The execution of a goods and services contract exceeding \$500,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive lens analysis

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens, this purchase provides ongoing reliable and safe transportation to all SouthWest Transit, Metro micro, and MTS transit riders regardless of race, ethnicity, economic means or abilities.

Funding

Regional Transit Capital funding will support this contract. Funds are available through the Council's Authorized Capital Program under projects 36338 and 36339.

Small business inclusion

This contract is being procured through a sole source. Therefore, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not assign a Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business.

