

# Committee Report

Transportation Committee



Committee meeting date: May 12, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: May 14, 2025

## Business Item: 2025-115 SW

METRO Green Line Extension Railcar Mover, Contract 24P298R

### Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole source contract 24P298R with Rion Equipment to provide railcar mover equipment in an amount not to exceed \$572,320.

### Summary of Transportation Committee discussion/questions

Jim Alexander, METRO Transit Green Line Extension Project Director, presented the item. There were no questions or comments from Council members.

Motion by Osman, seconded by Johnson. **Motion carried.**



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<b>District(s), member(s):</b>	District 3 (Carter), District 6 (Lilligren), District 7 (Osman), District 8 (Cameron)
<b>Policy/legal reference:</b>	FM 14-2 Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
<b>Staff prepared/presented:</b>	Lesley Kandaras, General Manager, 612-349-7513 Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, 612-349-7507 Jim Alexander, Project Director, 612-373-3880 Nic Dial, Deputy Project Director, 612-373-3974
<b>Division/department:</b>	Metro Transit/METRO Green Line Extension Project Office

### Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole source contract 24P298R with Rion Equipment to provide railcar mover equipment in an amount not to exceed \$572,320.

### Background

The Metropolitan Council (Council) requires a specialty vehicle (aka railcar mover) to move Light Rail Vehicles (LRVs) for use in system integration testing on the Green Line Extension, LRT Project and for future use as an emergency recovery vehicle.

The railcar mover is required as the traction power system used to operate the LRVs will not be fully energized prior to initiating testing the system. Testing is planned to commence later this year and will continue until revenue service begins in 2027.

Rion Equipment serves as the exclusive regional distributor for Shuttlewagon, the manufacturer of the only vehicle staff identified, after a thorough market search, that meets the requirement to provide the required tractive effort to move LRVs.

### Rationale

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

### Thrive lens analysis

The Council adopted Imagine 2050 on February 12, 2025, which builds on policy direction in the following Thrive MSP 2040 outcomes:

Stewardship: Transit investment provides an opportunity to reinvest and grow the capacity of our communities, with more inclusive development and intentional investment. It encourages businesses to invest in communities, which means access to resources, community amenities, jobs, and other community assets.

Equity: Connections to other METRO lines and countless local bus routes will bring people to jobs, jobs to communities, and access to communities across the region.

Livability: The METRO Green Line Extension will add 14.5 miles to the existing Line, which connects downtown Minneapolis, downtown Saint Paul, and places in-between. This segment connects Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, and St. Louis Park to both downtown Minneapolis and Saint Paul, and major destinations at the University of Minnesota and the State Capitol.

Prosperity: The METRO Green Line Extension reflects strategic investment in regional infrastructure that will promote economic competitiveness and create prosperity for the region. Despite being under construction, the METRO Green Line Extension has already seen \$3.1 billion of investment within a half-mile of the line. Another \$738 million of investment is planned.

Sustainability: As many as 700,000 more people will be living, working, and moving around the Twin Cities region by 2040. As a result, a robust transportation system is needed to provide the region with choices and more mobility.

### **Funding**

The cost for this contract is a METRO Green Line Extension Project (61001) eligible cost. Funds are available in the Project (No. 61001) budget and included in the Council's authorized capital budget.

### **Small business inclusion**

This contract is being procured through the sole source process. The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) does not review sole source contracts for DBE sub-contracting opportunities.

