

Committee Report

Transportation Committee



Committee meeting date: June 23, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: July 9, 2025

Business Item: 2025-143

Procurement of 128 Biodiesel Forty-Foot Transit Buses, Contract 25P113

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council (“the Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise bus purchase options utilizing the State of Washington’s Master Contract 06719-01 with Gillig LLC to purchase (128) 40-foot buses for the Council’s regular route services in an amount not to exceed \$ 122,085,767.45.

Summary of Transportation Committee discussion/questions

Metro Transit Bus Maintenance Technical Support Assistant Director Jeremiah Riter presented this item. Carter, Tyronne asked about the lifecycle of buses. Riter shared that buses past their useful life are sold at auction through Minnesota Surplus Services.

Motion by Pacheco, seconded by Carter, Tyronne. Motion carried.



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District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Lesley Kandaras, General Manager, 612-349-7513 Brian Funk, Deputy GM/Chief Operating Officer, 612-349-7514 Bruce Cardon Deputy Chief Operations Officer Maintenance, 612-349-7516 Abel Mumbi, Bus Maintenance Director, 612-349-5006 Jeremiah Riter, Bus Maintenance Assistant Director, 612-349-5005
Division/Department:	Metro Transit/Bus Maintenance

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Background

The Council executed Joint Powers Cooperative Agreement #22I002 with the State of Washington Department of Enterprise Services for the usage of their master contracts for cooperative purchasing of rolling stock. This agreement allows the Council to purchase rolling stock.

Rationale

The execution of a goods contract in excess of \$500,000 requires Council Approval. The Council does not currently have an active forty-foot bus contract. The State of Washington released RFP 06719 which is a multi-vendor cooperative agreement that is open to all transit agencies. Council Procurement staff have reviewed the Washington agreement for FTA compliance and concur that all FTA requirements have been satisfied. Staff must receive Council approval for items and services that are estimated to be more than \$500,000. The benefits of using the Washington agreement for the procurement rather than a separate procurement include: schedule, cost, value, federally compliant, and competitive pricing.

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 advances Thrive outcomes through the lens of promoting regional Livability, Sustainability and Prosperity for everyone, by continuing to serve residents who depend on transit

Funding

Funding for this purchase is included in the 2025 Budget Amendment 1st Quarter 2025-110 JT approved by the Metropolitan Council on March 26, 2025.

Small Business Inclusion

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) does not review procurements of transit vehicles for the purpose of establishing a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal. Transit Vehicle Manufacturers are required to submit a DBE goal methodology directly to FTA. Only those transit vehicle manufacturers listed on FTA's certified list of Transit Vehicle Manufacturers, which includes Gillig, are eligible.

