

T Transportation Committee

Meeting Date: April 9, 2012

Metropolitan Council Meeting: April 25, 2012

Business Item

Item: 2012-119

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	April 1, 2012
Subject:	Authorization to Amend Contract 11P032A for Premium Same Day and Peak Demand Overflow Service
District(s), Member(s)	All Council Members
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurement of Goods and Services over \$250,000
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651-602-1754) Micky Gutzmann, Director of Purchasing (651-602-1741) Gerri Sutton, Assistant Director MTS (651-602-1672) Paul Colton, Senior Manager Metro Mobility (651-602-1668)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services / Metro Mobility

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to amend Contract 11P032A with Taxi Services Inc. for an additional \$690,000 and an amended total of \$840,000.

Background

The Metropolitan Council entered into a two-year agreement with Taxi Services Inc. in July 2011 after issuing an Invitation to Do Business. Compensation is based on metered rates established for the taxi industry by local regulation. The procurement process invited all taxi companies that met the Council's requirements to enter into an agreement. Two companies, Green and White Taxi and Taxi Services Inc., expressed interest and met the Council's requirements. Taxi Services Inc. entered into an agreement with the Council; Green and White later declined interest in the program. The amount earmarked for Green and White was transferred to Taxi Services Inc. through Amendment 1 on February 1, 2012.

The agreement allows Metro Mobility to use taxis to ensure that all rides requested can be delivered. The contract with Taxi Services, Inc. includes two programs: Premium Same Day service (PSD) and Peak Demand Overflow (PDO). PSD is a customer-initiated request to use a cab for same-day rides, at a premium price, when Metro Mobility is not able to accommodate the request. PDO is contractor-initiated and allows providers to transfer non-ADA rides to the cab company in order to meet all of the demand during peak periods. Customers are charged the standard Metro Mobility fare when using PDO service.

Rationale

PDO service was implemented in mid-December 2011. When the contract maximum was established the amount of PDO service necessary to meet demand and alleviate service quality issues was unknown. For First Transit, one of the Council's private contractors delivering Metro Mobility service, ridership has grown by 8.76% in the past year prompting the need for extensive use of taxi cabs. Moving rides to PDO has improved on-time performance and reduced average ride times. Metro Mobility staff

intends to complete an in-depth analysis when more data is available to compare costs and service quality and determine whether it is more advantageous for the Council to purchase additional Metro Mobility vehicles and increase contract hours or continue using the PDO program to meet the increasing demand for service.

Funding

Funding is available in the Metro Mobility 2012 operating budget through the use of budgeted contingency funds.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.