

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: April 22, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of: May 8, 2013

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**Subject:** Metro Mobility Transit Assistance Agreements FY2013-2015 with DARTS

**District(s), Member(s):** District 11, 12, 13, 15, 16

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minnesota Statute 473.384, Financial Assistance to Transit Service; Minnesota Statute 473.386, Special Transportation Services

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651) 602-1754  
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Paul Colton, Senior Manager Metro Mobility (651) 602-1668

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

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### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole source contract with DARTS, to deliver Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit service, in an amount not to exceed \$8,376,120 for the term July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015.

### Background

The Council is authorized by legislation to enter into and administer financial assistance agreements with transit providers in the metropolitan region. Under the terms of this agreement, DARTS is required to maintain full compliance with all Council policies and with state and federal laws and regulations that may apply. DARTS currently provides Metro Mobility transit service in Dakota County utilizing 35 small buses provided by the Council.

### Rationale

The Metropolitan Council is responsible for ADA compliance in the metropolitan area and funds all ADA dial-a-ride services through Metro Mobility. Approval of this item will extend the current contractual relationship with DARTS for an additional two years. It is estimated that DARTS will provide 360,000 passenger trips over the two-year term. The end of this agreement aligns with the end of the Metro Mobility Demand contracts (June 30, 2015) and will be included in the competitive procurement process in 2015.

### Funding

Funding for this proposed 2013 - 2015 transit service contract is included in the approved 2013 Metropolitan Council Unified Operating Budget and will be budgeted in the 2014 and 2015 Unified Operating Budget.

### Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this request.