

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: **October 14, 2013**

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of **October 23, 2013**

Subject: Authorization to Lease MCI Buses to St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: None

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, MTS Director (651-602-1754)
Micky Gutzmann, Procurement & Contracts Director (651-602-1741)
Gerri Sutton, MTS Asst. Director (651-602-1672)
Paul Colton, Manager, Fleet Services (651-602-1668)

Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to lease two 2001 model year MCI coach buses to St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission.

Background

The St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission has requested assistance in providing two commuter coach buses necessary to operate the Northstar Link service between St. Cloud and the Big Lake Northstar Station.

Rationale

The Council's Fleet Management Procedures, adopted by the Council and dated April 2012, program the replacement of coach buses at fourteen years beginning with model years 2003. The buses to be transferred with this approval are 2001 models, have been grandfathered into a twelve year replacement cycle, and are eligible for disposal per adopted Council procedures. These buses have an estimated market value of \$75,000-\$150,000 per bus.

The vehicles will be leased to St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission under the terms of an agreement which obligates the lessee to properly maintain and operate the vehicles and assume all associated costs. St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission intends to use the buses for another 5 years upon which they will be returned to the Council for proper disposal.

St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission has committed to solely using these buses for the Northstar Link service and public transit service. Council staff supports the Northstar Link Commuter Bus service and believes the transfer of these vehicles supports the Council's desire to operate a successful commuter rail system.

Funding

There is no funding involved in this transfer.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.