

**Transportation Committee**

Meeting Date: November 10, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of: November 12, 2014

**Subject:** Contract for Dakota County Transit Link Service  
**District(s), Member(s):** All  
**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Policy 3-3A Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods and Services; Council Policy 3-3C Emergency Expenditures  
**Staff Prepared/Presented:**  
Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651)602-1754  
Micky Gutzmann, Director Contracts and Procurement (651)602-1741  
Gerri Sutton, Asst. Dir. Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1672  
John Harper, Manager Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1744  
Sheila Williams, Project Administrator (651)602-1709  
**Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)**

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with Midwest Paratransit Services (MPS) for Transit Link dial-a-ride service in Dakota County from November 10, 2014 through May 29, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$557,000.

**Background**

Council staff exercised its right under the terms of contract 09P176 with DARTS to terminate the agreement with a 60-day notice. Notice was issued to DARTS on September 10, 2014 and MPS will provide the service starting on November 10, 2014 under the provisions allowed through an emergency declaration authorized by the Regional Administrator. The Council is in the process of procuring a contract for Dakota County Transit Link service scheduled to begin June 1, 2015. MPS agreed to provide service in Dakota County until a contractor is selected through the procurement process.

**Rationale**

MPS currently provides Transit Link service in Hennepin, Washington and SE Ramsey Counties under contracts secured through a 2010 competitive procurement process. MPS has the infrastructure in place, including a garage, drivers and reservations staff, allowing them to deliver the Dakota County service area rides with no disruption for the customer. Council staff believes it is in the Council’s best interest to contract with MPS to provide Transit Link service in Dakota County through May 2015.

**Funding**

Funding for this service is included in the 2014 annual operating budget.

**Known Support / Opposition**

No opposition to this action is known.

