

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: February 9, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 11, 2015

**Subject:** Small Bus Purchase

**District(s) Member(s):** District 3 – Munt; District 4 – Van Eyll

**Policy/Legal Reference:** State of Minnesota 2015 Cooperative Vehicle Procurement contract release; and Council Procedure 1-2c Sustainability in Fleet Procedure

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651) 602-1754

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

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase agreement with Høglund Bus (MnDOT Contract 88294) for up to four expansion buses in an amount not to exceed \$370,000.

### Background

SouthWest Transit (SWT) has planned four new local routes to serve four distinct areas in its communities of Eden Prairie, Chanhassen and Chaska. These routes will operate primarily in the mid-day connecting neighborhoods with trip generating locations as well as SWT transit stations offering residents connections to other transit routes. Service is anticipated to start in the fall of 2015 with the arrival of the buses.

### Rationale

These small buses will operate on new local routes and seat up to 14 passengers. The smaller buses are a more cost effective and a suburban friendly option compared to larger transit buses. These buses may also provide local service connecting residents to the Southwest LRT line in the future.

This procurement utilizes the State of Minnesota Cooperative Vehicle Procurement process is managed by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and is compliant with all State and Federal regulations. The contract expires on December 31, 2015.

### Funding

Regional Transit Capital (RTC) funds will be utilized for these small buses and is included in the approved 2015 Capital Budget.

### Known Support / Opposition

This vehicle purchase has the support of SWT. There is no known opposition.