

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: March 9, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 25, 2015

Subject: Approval of the award of a Sole-Source Contract for Upgrading Fixed Route Go-To Card Readers (Contract No. 14P184)

District(s), Member(s): All Council Members

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurement of Goods and Services over \$250,000

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Division/Department: Metro Transit and Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole source contract award with Cubic Transportation Systems for the upgrade of all regional bus fixed route Go-To card readers in the amount not to exceed \$5.3 million.

Background

The work of this project includes the hardware and software development necessary to replace current fixed route Go-To card readers on all regional buses. This contract includes the procurement of 1,650 devices to meet ongoing operational and immediate expansion needs. There are over 520,000 Go-To cards in active use today. Go-To cards accounted for over 39 million bus rides in 2014, almost 60% of total rides.

The current fixed route Go-To card readers were procured and installed in 2003 as part of the initial Cubic system implementation. These devices usually have a five-to-seven year lifespan. The current equipment over 11 years old with decreasing reliability and increased maintenance costs. Additional units of the current design are no longer manufactured due to required parts no longer being manufactured.

The new Go-To card readers will allow seamlessly replacing the current equipment while also incorporating new features and increased reliability. The new units allow for future incorporation of new fare collection technologies such as mobile phone payments and more frequent wireless data updates, increasing customer convenience. Enabling that future functionality would be a separate project not included as part of this development effort.

Rationale

By replacing and updating fixed route Go-To card readers, regional transit will be ensuring that over 520,000 Go-To card users can continue to use their Go-To cards to board and pay on all regional buses.

Funding

Funding is available for this contract in Metro Transit project 67210 and Metropolitan Transportation Services project 35789 and is contingent upon approval of Business Item 2015-031 *Authorization to Amend the 2015 Unified Budget – Carry Forward Amendment*.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.