

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 9, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 18, 2015

Subject: Authorization to Award Contract for Operator Uniforms

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Metropolitan Council Expenditures Policy

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager
 Vince Pellegrin, Chief Operating Officer
 Jan Homan, Deputy Chief of Operations-Bus
 John Humphrey, Deputy Chief of Operations-Rail
 Christy Bailly, Director of Bus Operations
 Brian Funk, Director Rail Operations
 Steve McLaird, Deputy Director of Bus Operation

Division/Department: Metro Transit

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with Uniforms Unlimited, Inc. to supply uniforms for Bus Operators, Rail Operators and other represented employees in accordance with Council specifications for a five-year term.

Background

Metro Transit requires a new contract for supplying operator uniforms to replace the expiring uniform contract. In accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, Metro Transit provides an annual uniform allowance (currently \$300 per operator) to each of the 1,700 operators, and provides each newly hired operator an initial uniform issue. The contract also supplies uniform items in much smaller volumes to dispatchers, coordinators, instructors, rail maintenance and supervisors.

The uniform to be supplied under the new five-year contract for operators will not change. The basic operator uniform items are white shirts with gray pinstripes, dark gray pants, sweaters, polo shirts, shorts, caps, turtleneck shirts, ties, and a standard uniform jacket. The contractor is required to provide a store in Minneapolis and in St. Paul for operators to access sizing, fitting and ordering services.

Uniform suppliers in the metropolitan area were invited to solicit their interest and invitations to bid were advertised.

Rationale

One bid was submitted, by Uniforms Unlimited, Incorporated. Applying the bid prices to the estimated annual usage, the Uniforms Unlimited bid results in an estimated annual cost of \$700,993. Uniforms Unlimited is the current contractor, and has provided satisfactory service to Metro Transit

Funding

Annual expenditures are estimated at \$750,000. Actual expenditures will depend on the number of new operators hired and on operator expenditure of their uniform allowance. Funding is available in Metro Transit's annual operating budgets.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.