

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: February 11, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 27, 2019

**Subject:** Metro Mobility Sedan Replacement

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** State of Minnesota Cooperative Vehicle Procurement contract release number A-175 (5); and Council Procedure 1-2c Sustainability in Fleet Procedure

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Nick Thompson, Director MTS (651) 602-1754  
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**Division/Department:** Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase agreement with Midway Ford (State of MN Contract 134736) for up to 24 replacement Sport Utility Vehicles (SUVs) in an amount not to exceed \$750,000.

### Background

Over the past 13 years, Metro Mobility has operated a small number of sedans or SUV's in the Metro Mobility fleet. Currently there are 31 SUVs in operation. This procurement of 24 Ford Flex SUVs aligns with the fleet replacement schedule and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). All SUVs are scheduled to be delivered by May 2019 for Metro Mobility service.

### Rationale

The purchase of these SUVs allows for a reliable fleet and quality transit service. Vehicles of this type have allowed Metro Mobility to transport passengers who have been identified with severe pain to have a more comfortable ride than what the fleet of Metro Mobility buses is able to provide. Several benefits of the SUV fleet is greater flexibility in passenger pick up and drop-offs because of their smaller size and weight. Because the SUVs have all-wheel-drive capability, they are very reliable in winter weather.

This procurement will use the State of Minnesota's automobile contract which allows the Council to purchase vehicles at a competitive price. The Council will receive a Government Pricing Concession of \$2,147 per vehicle for a total savings of \$51,528.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

This purchase supports safe and reliable transit infrastructure for persons with disabilities (equity) and enhances the quality of life in the region by allowing individuals who use the Metro Mobility service to remain living at home and maintain a higher level of independence (livability).

### Funding

Regional Transit Capital is the funding source for this project. This project was brought in to the capital budget with Council approval of Business item 2017 - 195 Authorization to Amend Unified Budget.

### Known Support / Opposition

This project is supported by the TAAC (Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee).