

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 14, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of January 23, 2019

**Subject:** Small Bus Regular Route Transit Service Contract

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

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurement of Goods and Services over \$500,000

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Nick Thompson, Director MTS (651) 602-1754

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Rebecca McBride, Sr Project Admin (651) 602-1722

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

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract with First Transit, Inc. to provide regular route transit service from June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$11,622,310.

### Background

Metropolitan Transportation Services provides regular route transit service under contract with private companies. These services are competitively procured using a series of multi-year contracts which allows the potential for multiple vendors to propose on and operate transit service on behalf of the Council. This specific contract package includes all day local service seven days a week in a variety of communities in the metro area including St Paul, Minneapolis, Roseville, Falcon Heights, St Louis Park, Minnetonka, Hopkins, Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center, Crystal, and Robbinsdale.

### Rationale

A Request for Proposals (FRP) was advertised and posted on the Council's website and all known transit operators were directly invited to participate. Two proposals were received and evaluated by an evaluation panel consisting of staff from Metropolitan Transportation Services, Metro Transit, and MNDOT. In the review of the proposals, four criteria were used: proposal quality, proposer qualifications, proposer experience, and proposal weighted price. Price was approximately equal in importance to a combination of the other criteria. The Evaluation Panel concluded that the proposal submitted by First Transit Inc. is the most advantageous to the Council.

The proposal and contract structure allow the Council to adjust service during the term using pre-established rates. The value of the base service level is approximately \$10.0M and the requested contract value of \$11.6M allows for the service hour increases up to 20%.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

This item supports various Thrive outcomes as follows:

- Stewardship – efficient and effective use of the public's financial resources.

- Sustainability – reducing the amount of air emissions produced by reducing the number of vehicle on the road.
- Prosperity – maintaining the transit system infrastructure which gives our region a competitive advantage over other regions and makes us more attractive to businesses and job creators.
- Livability – providing transportation options which enhances mobility and the quality of life in the region.

### **Funding**

Funding for this service is budgeted in the Metropolitan Transportation Services annual operating budget.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition.