

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 24, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 10, 2019

**Subject:** Authorize Execution of Contract Options with Gillig LLC Utilizing the Commonwealth of Virginia's Gillig Bus Contract – 11 buses

**District(s), Member(s):** Dist. Dist. 4 – Deb Barber; Dist. 15 – Phillip Sterner; Dist. 16 – Wendy Wulff

**Policy/Legal Reference:** 2018-237 - 2018 Budget Amendment – 3rd Quarter

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Nick Thompson, 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 exercise bus purchase options utilizing the Commonwealth of Virginia's Contract E194-75548 MA2274 with Gillig LLC, to purchase nine replacement transit buses and two expansion buses in an amount not to exceed \$5,951,000.

### Background

The Council does not currently have an active forty-foot bus contract with a vendor. Metro Transit staff and Procurement are in the process of releasing a Request for Proposals for forty-foot transit buses. It is anticipated that a vendor will be recommended in the 4th Quarter of 2019.

### Rationale

This purchase includes nine replacement vehicles that will be operated by MVTA and two expansion buses that will be operate by MVTA in the Cedar Avenue Corridor serving the University of Minnesota, and will replace forty-foot low floor buses that will reach the minimum useful life threshold in December 2019. Given the 13-month lead time to order and build the buses, the Council and MVTA would expect to receive the buses in September 2020.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

This purchase enables provision of a reliable transportation alternative for commuters, expands service options to the University of Minnesota (sustainability) and enhances the quality of life in the region by reducing traffic congestion (livability).

### Funding

Purchase of these buses is in the approved Capital Plan and will use federal funds and local funds. The MVTA replacement bus project was approved by the Council as part of the 2018 3rd Quarter Amendment – Business Item 2018-237.

The two expansion buses are part of a federal CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality) expansion bus grant (MN-95-X015) specific to the Cedar Avenue Corridor.

**Known Support / Opposition**

Support - MVTA