

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 25, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 10, 2021

Subject: 2022 Metro Mobility Bus Purchase

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: FM 14-2 Expenditures for Procurement of Goods and Services

Staff Prepared/Presented: Amy Vennewitz, Acting Director MTS (651) 602-1058

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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 North Central Bus Sales for up to 91 replacement buses and 20 expansion buses in an amount not to exceed \$9,812,000.

Background

The purchase of 91 replacement buses and 20 expansion buses aligns with the bus replacement schedule and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

This procurement will use the State of Minnesota's small bus contract which allows the Council to purchase small buses at a competitive price and meet all FTA requirements. The current State Contract expires on December 31, 2021, and the Council is taking advantage of current pricing. It is anticipated that bus prices in 2022 will have a significant increase due to continued supply chain issues and availability of supplies.

Rationale

The purchase of these buses will continue to provide a reliable fleet for the Metro Mobility program and help ensure quality transit service for persons with disabilities. The buses that are scheduled for replacement have exceeded the Council's replacement cycle of five-years and 175,000 miles. The purchase of expansion fleet will assist Metro Mobility with anticipated growth in ridership post-pandemic.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This purchase supports safe and reliable transit infrastructure now and into the future for transit passengers throughout the region (sustainability) and enhances the quality of life for individuals with disabilities, allowing for transportation options (livability).

Funding

Funding for these vehicles will come from 5307 federal formula funds and Regional Transit Capital. This bus project is approved in the current Capital Improvement Plan.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this purchase.