

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: December 12, 2022

For the Metropolitan Council: December 14, 2022

Business Item: 2022-333 SW

Subject: Cubic Smart Card Validators for Gold and B Line Bus Rapid Transit Contract 22P325, 22P326

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM 14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Wes Kooistra, General Manager (651) 602-1723 Edwin Petrie, Director Finance (612) 349-7624 Dennis Dworshak Sr Manager, Revenue Operations (612) 349-7364
Division/Department:	Metro Transit

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole source contract 22P325, 22P326 with Cubic for Smart Card Validators for use as offboard fare payments on the Gold and B Bus Rapid Transit Lines in an amount not to exceed \$2,100,000.

Background

Ahead of launching the A Line in 2016, Revenue Operations, in consultation with internal stakeholders, determined the best strategy for fare payment collection along BRT corridors includes using the Cubic smart card validator (SCV). All current BRT lines operated by Metro Transit, including A, C, D and Orange lines, successfully use SCVs for 60-70% of the fares paid.

A minimum of one SCV is required at each station platform to allow customers to validate smart cards. The identical device is in service on the Green, Blue, and Northstar lines. BRT lines require SCVs because it is the only device that is compatible with the existing system consisting of bus smartcard validators, rail validators and the back-office system called Nextfare Central System. There are no other vendors that provide an identical device and software configuration.

Rationale

The execution of a goods contract in excess of \$500,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Offboard fare validation of smartcards provides customers the option to purchase fare products in advance based on their individual situation. Metro Transit continues to ensure all regional customers will continue to have flexibility in how they pay their fares.

Funding

Funding is included in projects Gold Line 75060 and B Line 62802.