

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: December 11, 2023

For the Metropolitan Council: December 13, 2023

Business Item: 2023-279 SW

2023 MTS Small Bus Purchase

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM 14-2 Expenditures for Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy; Minn. Statute § 471.345
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Charles Carlson, Executive Director MTS (651) 602-1761 Gerri Sutton, Director, MTS Contracted Services (651) 602-1672 Paul Colton, Fleet Manager MTS Contracted Services (651) 602-1668
Division/Department:	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Contract 23P238 with North Central Bus Sales for up to 16 expansion buses not to exceed \$2,500,000; and Contract 23P239 with Hogleund Bus for up to 28 replacement buses in an amount not to exceed \$4,400,000 for a total procurement value not to exceed \$6,900,000.

Background

Procurement of 28 replacement buses and 16 expansion buses aligns with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Purchase of these small buses will allow MTS to continue maintaining a state of good repair for its fleet. The 28 Transit Link buses that are scheduled for replacement will exceed their useful life in 2023. The 16 expansion fleet buses will assist Metro Mobility by providing additional fleet to keep up with anticipated program changes.

Rationale

The State of Minnesota released Contract B-347 (5) which is a multi-vendor cooperative agreement for purchasing small buses. The Council has statutory authority under Minnesota Statutes Section §471.345 to utilize such cooperative service agreements. The execution of a goods contract of more than \$500,000 requires Council approval.

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 in the region by allowing for transportation options at the community and regional level (livability).

Funding

Funding for the 28 Transit Link vehicles will come from a mix of federal and regional transit funds available in project 36281 in the Council's Authorized Capital Program. Funding for the 16 Metro Mobility buses will come from regional funds available in project 36272 in the Council's Authorized

Capital Program.

Small Business Inclusion

With regards to the contract for 28 replacement buses for Transit Link vehicles, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) did not establish a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal for this procurement. Transit vehicle manufacturers are required to submit DBE programs plans directly to FTA. The FTA maintains a list of approved transit vehicle manufacturers and the Council may only purchase transit vehicles from that list.

For the contract for 16 expansion buses for Metro Mobility, the buses are being procured with local funds and utilizing the State of Minnesota Contract B-347 which is a multi-vendor cooperative agreement for purchasing small buses. Therefore, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not assign a Metropolitan Underutilized Business (MCUB) goal.

