

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: June 24, 2024

For the Metropolitan Council: July 10, 2024

Business Item: 2024-134

MTS Small Bus Purchase, Contract 23P238 - Amendment 1

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, Contracted Services MTS (651) 602-1672 Paul Colton, Manager, Fleet Services MTS (651) 602-1668
Division/Department:	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment to contract 23P238 with North Central Bus to increase the number of buses purchased from 16 to 197 increasing the contract by \$28,638,764 for a cumulative not to exceed amount of \$31,117,724.

Background

The Council approved Business Item 2023-279 for the purchase of 16 small buses from North Central Bus on December 13, 2023. This procurement utilizes the State of Minnesota's 2023 small bus contract which allows the Council to purchase small buses at a competitive price and meet all FTA requirements.

Since the time of the original Council approval of this contract, through effective negotiations with North Central Bus and the bus manufacturer, MTS staff was able to shift 179 Metro Mobility and 2 Maple Grove Transit buses from the planned 2024 contract to the 2023 contract saving significant money per unit. All buses in this amendment are scheduled to be built by the end of 2024.

With a favorable build schedule. The Council continues to move forward with these bus purchases to provide a reliable fleet for Metro Mobility and other transit programs to ensure quality transit service for customers. This purchase will complete the backlog of replacement Metro Mobility and Maple Grove fleet that are overdue per Council fleet policy. The buses that are scheduled for replacement will have exceeded the Council's replacement cycle of five years and 175,000 miles.

Rationale

Council Policy requires amendments exceeding 10% of the original authorized contract value be approved by the Council for services contract if the cumulative value exceeds \$500,000. 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.

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

The additional funding for these vehicles will come from Regional Transit Capital, Sales Tax and Federal Funds. These bus projects are included in Business Item 2024-110 JT 2024 Budget Amendment – 2nd Quarter.

Small Business Inclusion

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.

