

# Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: September 9, 2024

For the Metropolitan Council: September 25, 2024

## Business Item: 2024-203

Bus Hardware Upgrade Phase II, Contract 24P223

<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	FM 14-2 Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Lesley Kandaras, General Manager, (612) 349-7513 Brian Funk, Deputy General Manager, COO, (612) 349-7514 Michael Heuchert, Assistant Director, Bus Admin (612) 349-7570 Rick Paulson, Project Manager (612) 349-7346
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Metro Transit

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole source contract 24P223 with Vontas to provide mobile device terminals for bus upgrades in an amount not to exceed \$724,793.

### Background

Metro Transit's current hardware has reached its end of life. Upgrading buses with the compatible generation onboard computers called Intelligent Vehicle Logic Units (IVLU's) allows Transit Control Center (TCC) Supervisors to provide better direction to operators and for operators to have more accurate, organized, and detailed messages and detour information.

This upgrade also allows the Bus Technology Systems group and Radio Communication group easier management of diagnostics, lowering the failure rate of buses and providing more accurate data for TCC and reporting. These upgrades include Messages that can be better organized/ categorized/ filtered on the bus mobile display screen; Detour Routing/Service Adjustment information and optional Regular Route turn-by-turn navigation; Enhanced diagnostics and issue reporting capabilities (TransitMaster and other systems on the bus).

The Council is dependent upon a stable, secure, transit-services system in order to conduct its daily business. This hardware upgrade will allow ongoing operational stability.

A sole source is required so that the IVLU's continue to work with the Council's existing software, TransitMaster. TransitMaster is a proprietary system provided to the Council by the contractor Vontas.

### Rationale

The execution of a goods and service contract exceeding \$500,000 requires Council approval.

### **Thrive Lens Analysis**

The transit support services agreement is needed to continue the critical transportation services this hardware allows the software to provide across the region. This supports the Thrive outcomes of stewardship and sustainability.

### **Funding**

Local capital funding for this item is in Metro Transit Project 68800 TransitMaster Mobile HW Replace/Migration.

### **Small Business Inclusion**

This contract is being procured through a sole source. Therefore, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not assign a Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business goal.

