

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: November 25, 2024

For the Metropolitan Council: December 11, 2024

Business Item: 2024-261

Metro Mobility Premium On Demand Service, Contract 24P119

- 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:** Charles Carlson, Executive Director MTS (651) 602-1761
Gerri Sutton, Director Contracted Transit Services (651) 602-1672
Andy Streasick, Assistant Director, Metro Mobility (651) 602-1416
- Division/Department:** Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts 24P119A-C to provide Metro Mobility Premium On Demand service in an amount not to exceed \$19,524,500, with initial contract awards amounts as follows:

Organization	Contract Number	Contract Amount
Uzurv	24P119A	\$2,500,000
Transportation Plus	24P119B	\$2,500,000
Carepool	24P119C	\$2,500,000

Contract expenditures will be driven by customer demand and contracts will be amended to add the unallocated \$12,024,500 in Council authorization as necessary to respond to customer’s selection of service provider.

Background

The Council subsidizes an on-demand alternative, called Premium On Demand service, for Metro Mobility certified customers who self-select the option for some or all of their trips. The standard payment structure for Premium On Demand service is the first \$5 is paid by the customer plus costs in excess of \$25. The legislature established a pilot to expand the availability of on-demand service beginning September 2023. With the service expansion in 2023, the Council subsidy (previously capped at \$20 per trip) increased by surcharges ranging from \$25 - \$55 for trips that occur during the expanded pilot program hours.

Premium On Demand service is competitively procured using multi-year contracts with private companies. A Request for Proposals was issued on June 6, 2024. A pre-proposal meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications, and responded to plan holder inquiries. There were thirty-six registered plan holders, twenty-three prime service providers, seven subcontractors, three consultants, three plan rooms, and eleven plan holders identified as minority, woman, small, veteran, or disadvantaged business enterprises.

On July 9, 2024, the Council received six proposals for the consideration of award.

An evaluation panel consisting of staff from Metropolitan Transportation Services, Dakota County and Minnesota Council on Disability evaluated the proposals using the following criteria: proposal quality, proposer’s qualifications and experience, proposer’s capabilities and ability to deliver the service, and proposal price. In an effort to provide options of service to customers, the panel recommends multiple contract awards to the referenced list of proposers as having all the required attributes and to be the most advantageous to the Council.

Rationale

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

Thrive Lens Analysis

Metro Mobility supports the outcomes and principals of Thrive MSP 2040 by promoting prosperity and livability of our region through the delivery of a safe, reliable, efficient and equitable public transportation service. Offering additional lower cost service options to our customers further promotes these initiatives.

Funding

Funding for this service is included in the annual operating budget.

Small Business Inclusion

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) thoroughly reviewed this procurement for Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) opportunities in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations as well as contract specifications. Upon conclusion of OEEO’s research and analysis, no MCUB goal was set

