

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: November 25, 2024

For the Metropolitan Council: December 11, 2024

Business Item: 2024-331

Signature Authority for FFY 2022 Section 5307 Bus Acquisition for the University of MN

District(s), Member(s):	7 - Yassin Osman, 10 - Peter Lindstrom, 14 - W. Toni Carter
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM 15-2 Grant/Loan Approval Policy, FM 14-2 Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arin Knutson, Sr. Grant Administrator, MTS (612) 349-7643 Nicole Clapp, Grants Manager MTS Finance & Admin. (651) 602-1723
Division/Department:	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to execute a grant agreement with the University of Minnesota, a federal subrecipient of the Metropolitan Council, for the acquisition of three (3) replacement 40-foot, Gillig hybrid electric buses in the amount of \$3,000,000.

Background

As the designated recipient for federal transportation funding in the region, the Council provides financial assistance to the University of Minnesota for transit improvements and may manage federal funding for the University through subrecipient grant agreements. The grant agreement proposed through this business item would enable the University of Minnesota to use their Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 funding to purchase three (3) replacement 40-foot, Gillig hybrid electric buses.

Rationale

Council action is required for the Regional Administrator to execute agreements over \$500,000. The requested action will allow the Regional Administrator to execute the grant agreement with the University of Minnesota. The Metropolitan Council may award grant funds to meet specific public purpose needs.

Thrive Lens Analysis

These projects promote stewardship, equity, sustainability, and livability by furthering access to transit.

Funding

Funding for the acquisition of three (3) University of Minnesota replacement buses is provided through Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 funds (49 U.S.Code 5307). Funding is provided for capital costs at an 85-percent federal share, and 15-percent local share, which is being provided by the Council with regional funds. The project is included in the Council's

Authorized Capital Program as project 36275.

Small Business Inclusion

The University of Minnesota is an independent transit agency. Non-federal pass-through grant funding shall be spent by the University of Minnesota according to their adopted procurement policies. Federally funded projects will follow the Council's established procedures for small business inclusion, including review of all subcontracts exceeding \$50,000 and assignment of DBE goals where relevant and/or required.

