

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: January 13th, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: January 22nd, 2025

Business Item: 2025-21

Procurement of Small Buses, Contract 25P210

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 Jodi Janssen, Sr. Project Admin MTS Contracted Services (651) 602-1103
Division/Department:	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate execute contract 25P210 with North Central Bus Sales utilizing Sourcewell Contract #063020-BBB for twenty-one expansion and ten replacement small buses in an amount not to exceed \$5,256,050.

Background

This procurement of thirty-one replacement and expansion buses will align with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) contingent upon approval of Business Item BI2025-02 JT. Purchase of these small buses will allow MTS to continue maintaining a state of good repair for its Metro Mobility and Fixed Route fleet. This purchase includes:

- 19 expansion buses for Metro Mobility
- 2 expansion buses for Fixed Route (Network Now service)
- 10 replacement buses for Fixed Route (Network Now service)

Ten fixed route buses scheduled for replacement exceeded their useful life in 2022. The purchase of nineteen expansion buses for Metro Mobility will help meet demand for service and facilitate improved service quality.

Using the Sourcewell Contract #063020-BBB, a national cooperative agreement for public entities, allows the Council to purchase from other manufacturers that aren't on the State of MN Contract, thus increasing competition in the small bus industry. The Council has statutory authority under Minnesota Statutes Section §471.345 to utilize such cooperative service agreements.

Rationale

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

Thrive Lens Analysis

This purchase advances the Thrive Outcomes of Sustainability and Livability by providing safe and reliable transit infrastructure now and into the future for transit passengers throughout the region and enhancing the quality of life in the region by allowing for transportation options at the community and regional level.

Funding

Funding for this purchase will come from Regional Transit Capital (local funds). This bus project is contingent on approval of the project in the Council's Authorized Capital Program through business Item BI2025-02 JT.

Small Business Inclusion

The buses are being procured through the use of a cooperative agreement. Therefore, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not review it for sub-contracting opportunities.

