

# Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee meeting date: July 14, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: July 23, 2025

## Business Item: 2025-179

St Paul and Anoka County (SPaAC) Transit Service, Contract 25P010

<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>	Charles Carlson, Executive Director MTS (651) 602-1761 Gerri Sutton, Director, Contracted Services (651-602-1672) John Harper, Manager, Contracted Transit Service (651-602-1744) Rebecca McBride Senior Project Administrator (651-602-1709)
<b>Division/department:</b>	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

### Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 25P010 with Transdev North America for regular route service under the St. Paul and Anoka County contract in an amount not to exceed \$56,200,000.

### Background

The Metropolitan Transportation Services provides regular route transit service under contract with private companies. These services are competitively procured using a series of multi-year contracts which allows the opportunity for vendors to propose and operate transit service on behalf of the Council. This specific contract package includes service primarily in the east metro and Anoka County.

A Request for Proposals was issued on March 6, 2025. 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 twenty-one registered plan holders including nine prime proposers, three subcontractors, and eight plan holders identified as minority, woman, small or disadvantaged business enterprises. On April 16, 2025, the Council received one proposal for consideration of award. Staff did not find any indication that the Council's specifications were restrictive and determined there was adequate competition for this project.

An evaluation panel consisting of staff from Metropolitan Transportation Services, Metro Transit, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation 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.

The evaluation panel reached consensus that the proposal submitted by Transdev North America is advantageous to the Council and recommend for award. The proposal and contract structure allow the Council to adjust service during the term using pre-established rates. The value of the base service level is approximately \$46.9M and the requested contract value not to exceed \$56.2M allows for revenue hour increases of up to 20% as permitted by contract terms.

### **Rationale**

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

### **Thrive lens analysis**

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens, this item supports several outcomes. This service is provided in portions of the region otherwise not served by transit, which furthers Stewardship by increasing the average number of jobs reachable by transit and Equity by connecting additional residents to opportunities. Financial Stewardship is also furthered because this contract provides a lower cost solution for a lower productivity transit service.

### **Funding**

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

### **Small business inclusion**

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) assigned a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 2% for this solicitation. OEEO determined that the firm being recommended for award has met the DBE requirements of this contract.

