

# Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: May 12, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: May 28, 2025

## Business Item: 2025-24

Procurement of 5 Transit Vans utilizing the State of North Dakota Contract 25P212 - SWT

<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	District 3: Tyrone Carter; District 4: Deb Barber
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	FM 14-2 Expenditures for Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy; Minn. Statute § 471.345
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	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
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

### Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute contract 25P212 with North Central Bus & Equipment, Inc. for 5 replacement transit vans in an amount not to exceed \$650,000. This purchase is contingent upon the approval of a joint powers agreement (JPA) between the Metropolitan Council and the State of North Dakota Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The approval of the JPA is scheduled to be presented to Management Committee and then Metropolitan Council, same week, on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Background

This procurement of 5 replacement transit vans will operate in SouthWest Transit Prime on-demand service. Purchase of these transit vans will allow SWT to continue maintaining a state of good repair for its fleet.

### Rationale

Using the State of North Dakota Contract allows the Council to purchase vans that are not available through the State of MN Contract. Doing so eliminates the need to create our own procurement or having a sole source purchase. The Council has statutory authority under Minnesota Statutes Section §471.345 to utilize such cooperative service agreements. The execution of a goods contract of more than \$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 purchase supports safe and reliable transit infrastructure now and into the future for transit passengers throughout the region (sustainability) and enhances the quality of life in the region by allowing for transportation options at the community and regional level (livability).

### **Funding**

Funding for this purchase will come from Regional Transportation Sales and Use Tax. This bus project is included in the Council's Authorized Capital Program under project 36333 and was approved as part of the capital amendment Business Item BI2025-02 JT.

### **Small business inclusion**

The buses are being procured with local funds and utilizing the State of North Dakota van contract. Therefore, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not assign a Metropolitan Underutilized Business (MCUB) goal.

