

T Transportation Committee
Meeting date: August 10, 2009
Council meeting: August 26, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION	
Date:	August 5, 2009
Subject:	35W BRT Lakeville Express Service
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Metropolitan Council policy 3-2-2, Minnesota Statutes, section 473.446
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director of MTS (651-602-1754) Gerri Sutton, Assistant Director of Contracted Transit Services (651-602-1672) John Harper, Supervisor of Contracted Transit Services (651-602-1744) Bruce Dreier, Project Administrator (651-602-1708)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

Having taken into consideration the evaluation panel report of findings and conclusions, the Council determines that:

1. It is not more advantageous to contract with a private vendor for the 35W BRT Lakeville Express Service;
2. No further consideration will be given to the two private vendor proposals; and
3. The Council's transit operations division is directed to provide the 35W BRT Lakeville Express Service described in the Request for Proposals.

Background

In May 2008, the Council approved an agreement that extended the Council's transit levy to include the City of Lakeville. Transit facilities and service in Lakeville had been previously planned as part of the 35W BRT corridor. The Urban Partnership Agreement (UPA) provided most of the funding for the new Lakeville park-and-ride at Kenrick Ave. and new buses for the new service to downtown Minneapolis.

Also, in September 2008, the Council authorized the Regional Administrator to apply to the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) for funding to begin capital and operating projects. The 35W BRT Lakeville Express Service is one of the approved projects. The Council will apply to CTIB for 50% of the ongoing operating expenses related to the 35W BRT Lakeville Express Service.

On June 12, 2009 the Council issued a RFP for the operation of the 35W BRT Lakeville Express Service. Technical proposals and price proposals were received from First Transit, Inc. and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority. In addition, an internal competitive price proposal was received from Metro Transit.

The Council established an evaluation panel consisting of Metropolitan Council Regional Administration and Metropolitan Transportation Services staff, a representative from Dakota County/CTIB, and a representative from the City of Lakeville to evaluate the proposals received in response to the RFP and to report its findings and conclusions to the Council.

Rationale

All three providers were deemed qualified to provide the service. The evaluation panel concluded that the Metro Transit price proposal was the lowest received and that it is most advantageous for the Council to direct Metro Transit to operate the 35W BRT Lakeville Express Service.

Funding

The 35W BRT Lakeville Express service is included in the 2009 annual operating budget and proposed 2010 budget.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition