

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 9, 2009

Council Meeting: November 18, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: October 29, 2009

Subject: Contract Authorization for Rush Line Pass Through Agreement

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures - Procurement of Goods and Services Over \$250,000

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651)602-1754
Gerri Sutton, Asst. Dir. Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1672
John Harper, Supervisor Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1744
Bruce Dreier, Project Administrator (651)602-1708

Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action/Motion

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an agreement with Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority to pass through federal funding in an amount not to exceed \$419,222 for demonstration peak express coach bus service from Forest Lake & Columbus to downtown St. Paul.

Background

The Rush Line Task Force seeks to operate a demonstration express coach bus route along a portion of the Rush Line corridor (Downtown St. Paul to Hinckley) for a period of one year, with the option to extend a second year. The Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority (RCRRA) will manage the demonstration service.

Rationale

The Rush Line Corridor project had federal funds designated for the project, but restricted to construction. These funds will be provided to the Council for the expansion of the Maplewood Mall park and ride, located in the Rush Line corridor. The Council is providing an equivalent amount of other federal funds eligible for transit operations to the Rush Line project.

Funding

Funding for the Council's contribution to this service is budgeted in the 2009 Unified Operating Budget amendment approved by the Council at the November 4, 2009 meeting. Anoka, Chisago, Ramsey and Washington counties have committed contributions to the operating cost of the service for the first year.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.