Transportation Committee

Meeting date: February 14, 2011

Council meeting: February 23, 2011

**ADVISORY INFORMATION** 

Date: February 4, 2011

Subject: Authorization to Purchase Fareboxes

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, MTS Director (651-602-1754)

Micky Gutzmann, Acting Director Contracts and

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Gerri Sutton, Assistant Director MTS (651-602-1672) Alex Curtiss, Manager, Fleet Services (651-602-1487)

Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

## **Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to purchase 28 new Cents-A-Bill Fareboxes with TRIM units from GFI Genfare, Inc. on a sole source basis in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.

### **Background**

Twenty-eight fareboxes are needed to equip both expansion and planned replacement buses for regional providers over the next two years. All fixed route transit services in the region use GFI Cents-A-Bill Fareboxes and TRIM units to collect cash and process magnetic card fare media. The GFI system is not compatible with fare collection equipment manufactured by other vendors which requires this purchase to be sole source from GFI.

#### Rationale

Most fareboxes used in the region have been in service for 15-20 years. The age and condition of the equipment requires significant resources to maintain, are susceptible to on-street failures resulting in lost revenue and justifies the investment in new units from a cost-benefit perspective.

# **Funding**

These 28 new Fareboxes will use Regional Transit Capital bonds already approved within the Transportation Division's Authorized Capital Program.

## **Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition.