

# T Transportation Committee

**Meeting date: October 10,2011**

**Metropolitan Council Meeting: October 26,2011**

## **ADVISORY INFORMATION**

<b>Date:</b>	October 3, 2011
<b>Subject:</b>	Authorization to Award Contract for the Council Subsidized Vanpool Program
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurement of Goods and Services over \$250,000
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Arlene McCarthy, Director of MTS (651-602-1754) Mickey Gutzmann, Acting Director of Purchasing (651-602-1741) Gerri Sutton, Asst Director Contracted Transit Services (651-602-1672) John Harper, Manager Contracted Transit Services (651-602-1744) Lynette Zauner, Principal Contract Administrator (612-349-5087) Randy Rosvold, Senior Project Administrator (651-602-1710)
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

### **Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with Enterprise Leasing Company of Minnesota, LLC, to provide the Council’s subsidized vanpool program from March 1, 2012 to February 28, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$2,798,000.

### **Background**

Vanpooling is a nationally recognized Travel Demand Management (TDM) strategy that provides cost effective transportation options for non-traditional commute trips. The region’s vanpool program began in 2000 as a demonstration project. More than 130 vanpools have been formed since the start of the program and currently 180,000 annual trips are provided by 61 active vanpools.

In recent years, the program has grown to include commuters from western Wisconsin and greater Minnesota who are commuting into the metro area. In 2010 the Council entered into joint powers agreements with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the State of Wisconsin, which allows the Council to extend the program to adjacent counties.

### **Rationale**

Proposals were publicly solicited through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process and more than two dozen firms were directly invited to participate. In addition, the RFP was posted on the Council’s procurement website. Two proposals were received and evaluated by a five member evaluation panel consisting of staff from Metro Transit Rideshare, Anoka County Transportation Management Organization (TMO) and MTS.

The panel evaluated and ranked each proposer’s technical ability and then evaluated the cost for each proposer. The evaluation panel concluded that Enterprise Rideshare, with a

technical ranking of Good and the lowest proposed cost for the five year term of \$2,798,000, is the most advantageous vendor for the Council.

### **Funding**

This program is included in the annual operating budget and is funded through a combination of participant fares, federal 5307 formula funds, Motor Vehicle Sales Tax (MVST) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

Minnesota Department of Transportation and State of Wisconsin show support for this program through their joint powers agreements with the Council. In addition, this program is supported by regional Transit Demand Management (TDM) partners. This action has no known opposition.