

Transportation Committee

Executive Summary

Item: 2007-142

Consent

Meeting date: Metropolitan Council May 23, 2007

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	May 7, 2007
Subject:	Authorization to Award Contract For Coach Buses
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Transportation Policy Plan, 2007 Capital Improvement Program
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651-602-1754) Gerri Sutton, Asst Director - Contracted Transit Services (651-602-1672) Andrew R. Krueger, MTS Fleet Manager (651-602-1808) Chris Gran, Director of Purchasing – Metro Transit (612-349-5060)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action/Motion

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with Motor Coach Industries for three coach buses, to be utilized by regional transit providers, in an amount not to exceed \$1,468,000.

Overview and Funding

In January, the Metropolitan Council issued a joint Request for Proposals with SouthWest Transit Commission for 45-foot coaches. Motor Coach Industries (MCI) was the only vendor to formally respond to the Request for Proposals. Upon evaluation it was determined that the proposal was responsive and the price competitive with recent orders placed by the Council.

These 57 passenger coaches will replace 40-foot, 39 passenger buses that are currently operated by Lorenz Bus Service under contract with the Metropolitan Council on routes serving the north metro (860, 262, 275, & 255). These routes have been operating at or near capacity with growing ridership. The MCI Coaches will allow increasing the capacity per trip by 38% when compared to a 40' low floor transit bus. Additionally, the useful programmed life of these vehicles is 16 years compared to 12 years for standard 40-foot transit buses.

Funding for this capital project is in the 2007 Capital Improvement Program approved on December 13, 2006. The cost for these express coaches is \$488,000 each. Total not to exceed amount of this purchase is \$1,468,000.