

T Transportation Committee
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 4,
2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date October 27, 2009
Prepared:
Subject: Authorization to Exercise Contract Options with Motor Coach Industries

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise purchase options on contract #08P114 with Motor Coach Industries (MCI) to purchase three coach buses in an amount not to exceed \$1,641,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Committee members voiced questions about whether the Council was trying to save money on this purchase, or was actually intending to "go green". Brian Lamb and Arlene McCarthy answered the questions. Chair Meeks asked a question regarding the costs of coach buses, and thought they were more expensive than hybrid buses. The coach buses are considerably less money than hybrid buses. The motion then carried to approval.

Hearing no objection, Chair Meeks stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

T Transportation Committee

Business Item

Item: 2009-381

Meeting date: October 26, 2009

For Metropolitan Council meeting: November 4, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	October 16, 2009
Subject:	Authorization to Exercise Contract Options with Motor Coach Industries
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Procurement Policy; Council Contract #08P114
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, MTS Director (651-602-1754) Chris Gran, Director of Purchasing – Metro Transit (612-349-5060) Gerri Sutton, Assistant Director MTS (651-602-1672) Alex Curtiss, Manager, MTS Fleet Services (651-602-1487)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise purchase options on contract #08P114 with Motor Coach Industries (MCI) to purchase three coach buses in an amount not to exceed \$1,641,000.

Background

The Council awarded contract #08P114 to MCI in January 2009. The contract includes the purchase of 26 forty-five foot buses with options of up to an additional 86. Staff must receive Council approval prior to the exercise of options.

Maple Grove is in need of three replacement buses and prefers that MTS and Metro Transit staff lead the procurement process. Council staff will work with Maple Grove to match vehicle specifications with their service needs. The base price on this contract for a diesel bus is \$504,925. Per the terms of the agreement, pricing on option buses is subject to a Producer Price Index escalation.

MCI has informed Council staff that the 2010 EPA emissions standards will not apply to these coaches if the order is placed by November 21, 2009. MCI has indicated that it intends to schedule production of this coach in early 2010 so that it will purchase the engine package in 2009 and therefore the new standards will not apply to the coach.

Rationale

Maple Grove needs to replace three buses which have reached the end of their useful life per Federal Transit Administration regulations. This investment reflects the Council's commitment to maintain and preserve regional transit investments and is in alignment with the objectives of the unified capital programming process.

Funding

The purchase of these replacement vehicles is an authorized project in the 2009 Capital Improvement Plan. These replacement vehicles are funded with Regional Transit Capital.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.