

T Transportation Committee
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 18,
2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date November 10, 2009
Prepared:
Subject: Procurement of Metro Mobility Vehicles

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute purchase agreements with Hoglund Bus Company Inc. (State of MN Contract 440473) for up to seven buses in an amount not to exceed \$478,500; and with Elk River Ford (State of MN Contract #439865) for up to eighteen automobiles in an amount not to exceed \$540,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Paul Colton, Metro Mobility Senior Manager, presented the item. Questions were asked by Council member Peterson regarding whether or not hybrid cars were considered as part of the automobile purchase. Staff responded that hybrids were considered and researched, but that the current hybrid autos did not provide enough passenger space for all customers or adequate storage space for mobile devices such as walkers. The vehicles that will be purchased have greater interior room and manufactured with heavy duty components such as heavy duty suspension, cooling system, brakes, transmission etc. allowing for greater longevity and decreased maintenance costs. Council member Scherer noted that these vehicles are used in the taxi industry for the same reasons that staff cited.

Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously. Hearing no objection, Vice-Chair McFarlin stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

T Transportation Committee

Item: 2009-396

Meeting date: November 9, 2009

Council meeting: November 18, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	November 5, 2009
Subject:	Procurement of Metro Mobility Vehicles
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	State of Minnesota Cooperative Vehicle Procurement #438835
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651)602-1754 Chris Gran, Director of Purchasing – Metro Transit (612)349-5060 Gerri Sutton, Asst. Dir. Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1672 Paul Colton, Sr. Manager – Metro Mobility (651)602-1668
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS) - Metro Mobility

Proposed Action

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Background

This procurement is in alignment with the vehicle replacement schedule established for Metro Mobility. All of the vehicles will be gasoline-powered utilizing a 10% ethanol fuel mix and delivered in the second quarter of 2010. The bus chassis will be manufactured by Ford and the bus body will be manufactured by Turtle Top. The autos will be Ford Crown Victoria sedans.

Rationale

The purchase of these buses is in alignment with the planned fleet replacement cycle allowing for a reliable Metro Mobility vehicle fleet. All twenty-five buses scheduled for replacement will have mileage between 250,000 and 325,000 when retired. Purchasing off the state contract is consistent with past fleet purchases and meets procurement requirements.

Currently, only 30% of all Metro Mobility rides require the use of a lift. Customers that do not need an accessible bus have the ability to use a sedan for their transportation needs and will increase customer satisfaction while reducing maintenance, fuel and capital costs. This purchase will increase the proportion of automobiles in the Metro Mobility fleet from 5% to 9%.

Funding

Funding for this purchase was included in the November 4, 2009 approval of Council action item 2009-327, titled "2009-2014 Capital Improvement Program and Capital Program and Budget Amendment". These buses and autos will be funded with Regional Transit Capital.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition