

# Transportation Committee

Executive Summary

Item: 2007-103

Meeting date: March 26, 2007

## ADVISORY INFORMATION

<b>Date:</b>	March 16, 2007
<b>Subject:</b>	Contract Amendment for Route 720
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	1 - Roger Scherer 2 - Tony Pistilli
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Policy 5: Tailoring Transit Services to Diverse Market Conditions Northwest Metro Transit Restructuring Study
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Arlene McCarthy, Director of Metropolitan Transit Services (651)602-1754; Gerri Sutton, Deputy Director of Contracted Transit Services, (651)602-1672; John Harper, Supervisor of Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1744; Jody Jacoby, Project Administrator (651)602-1709 Brian Lamb, General Manager Metro Transit (612)349-7510 Julie Johanson, Asst. General Manager (612)349-7514 John Levin, Director of Service Development, (612)349-7723 Adam Harrington, Manager Route and System Planning, (612)349-7797 Cyndi Harper, NW Metro Transit Plan Project Manager, (612)349-7723
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Metropolitan Transportation Services Metro Transit Service Development

### Proposed Action/Motion

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a West Metro Transit Redesign contract amendment with Laidlaw Transit Services for operation of the new Route 720 in an amount not to exceed \$240,000.

### Issues

A new suburban local bus route, Route 720, will operate between Starlite Transit Center in Brooklyn Park and various retail and service destinations along the Elm Creek Parkway corridor in Maple Grove. Route 720 will be a demonstration route operating for at least one year. The route will provide hourly service seven days a week.

This route is a cooperative partnership among the Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County, Maple Grove Transit and Laidlaw Transit Services. The first year of operation will be contracted by the Metropolitan Council through the West Metro Transit Redesign contract. If the route is successful, the partnering agencies will determine the best way to continue service.

### Overview and Funding

Route 720 was developed as part of the Northwest Metro Transit Restructuring Plan and is included in the "future scenarios" chapter. This route concept was widely embraced by all affected communities, and addresses the shared desire to improve connections between low-income residents and jobs in the rapidly developing Elm Creek corridor of Maple Grove.

There is no budget impact. An existing Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) federal grant through Metropolitan Council will be used to provide 50% of the operating costs. Hennepin County has agreed to provide the 50% local match required for this grant (after fare revenue has been subtracted).