

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 13, 2007

ADVISORY INFORMATION	
Date:	August 2, 2007
Subject:	Contract Amendment with DARTS to operate route 417
District(s), Member(s):	13 – Richard Aguilar, 15 – Daniel Wolter
Policy/Legal Reference:	Transportation Policy Plan 6a: Transit Service Options
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651)602-1754 Gerri Sutton, Asst. Dir. Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1672 John Harper, Supervisor Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1744 Bruce Dreier, Project Administrator (651)602-1708
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action/Motion

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract amendment with Dakota Area Resources and Transportation for Seniors (DARTS) to provide regular route transit service in the West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, and downtown St. Paul areas from October 1, 2007 to December 1, 2007 in an amount not to exceed \$14,250 for the term.

Issue(s)

- MTS staff will be combining Route 417, the South County Circulator and Route 219 into one service contract to be competitively procured through a Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP will be released during August 2007 and the new contract will commence on December 2, 2007.
- Current contract expires September 30, 2007.

Overview and Funding

Route 417 began June 1998 and provides peak period service in Mendota Heights and West St. Paul. This route replaced inefficient big-bus service operated jointly by Metro Transit and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority. The current service utilizes a small 18-passenger bus to run two AM peak and two PM peak trips into and out of downtown St. Paul, operating along West 7th St., Smith Ave., and Dodd Rd. DARTS has operated route 417 since its inception.

Funding for this service is included in the 2007 operating budget.