

# Transportation Committee

Executive Summary

Item: SW 2007-347

Meeting date: October 22, 2007

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting – October 24, 2007

## ADVISORY INFORMATION

**Date:** October 9, 2007

**Subject:** Authorization to Award Contract for Two Rivers Area Transit Service

**District(s), Member(s)** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures - Procurement of Goods and Services Over \$250,000

**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)  
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 with Laidlaw Transit Services to provide Two Rivers Area Transit Service from December 1, 2007 to November 30, 2012, in an amount not to exceed \$ 9,818,344.

## Issue(s)

The current contracts for operation of Route 219, Route 223, Route 417, Route 364, and South Washington County Dial-A-Ride expire on November 30, 2007. These small pieces of service were combined and competitively procured under a new title; Two Rivers Area Transit Services.

## Overview and Funding

The Council contracts for operation of Two Rivers Area Transit Service, which consists of Dial-a-Ride and Regular Route transit service. Dial-a-Ride service operates in the communities of Cottage Grove, Newport, St. Paul Park, Woodbury, Stillwater, Oak Park Heights, and Bayport. Regular Route services are provided in the communities of Cottage Grove, Newport, Downtown St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Roseville, Little Canada, Maplewood and North St. Paul.

Requests for proposals were advertised in the State Register and in Passenger Transport. RFPs were also directly mailed to 16 transportation firms. Three proposals were received and evaluated by a five-member evaluation panel consisting of staff from MTS, Metro Transit Service Development, Metro Transit Finance and Administration, and Anoka County Transit. The panel evaluated the proposals on the following criteria:

- experience
- size and scope of experience related to the required service
- driver training and selection
- management, administrative, financial, and technical capabilities
- vehicle maintenance practices
- reporting capabilities,
- compliance with RFP requirements
- cost

Proposals were received from Laidlaw Transit Service, Human Resources Inc., and MV Transportation. The Evaluation Panel concluded that the proposal submitted by Laidlaw Transit Services Inc., with the highest technical score and lowest cost proposal, is the most advantageous to the Council. The Laidlaw Transit Services proposal rated high in driver selection/ training, and technical capabilities.

The prices proposed (based on a weighted average) for the five-year contract are as follows: Laidlaw Transit Service at \$9,471,842; Human Services Inc. at \$9,931,325; and MV Transportation at \$10,780,589. Laidlaw's average hourly proposed cost over the five-year contract is \$ 57.36; the currently hourly contract rate is \$49.25. Funding for this service is budgeted in the annual operating budget.