

T Transportation Committee
Meeting date: November 23, 2009

Metropolitan Council Meeting: December 9, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: November 17, 2009
Subject: Authorization to Purchase 11 Sixty-Foot Articulated Transit Buses
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Council Procurement Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, Metro Transit General Manager, 612-349-7510
Vince Pellegrin, Chief Operations Officer, 612-349-7511
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Chris Gran, Director Purchasing, 612-349-5060
Division/Department: Metro Transit Bus Maintenance

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an agreement for the assignment of eleven (11) articulated buses from King County Metro Transit and with New Flyer of America for the purchase of eleven articulated buses in an amount not-to-exceed \$7,000,000.

Background

Metro Transit plans to replace 40 articulated buses that will achieve 12 years of age in 2010. These buses are included in the current Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Twenty-nine of these replacement buses will be purchased under a current contract with New Flyer. The contract does not allow for any more than 29. The remaining 11 buses will be purchased as a piggyback order under a contract between King County, Washington and New Flyer.

Piggybacking on King County's contract is the most advantageous option for the procurement of only 11 buses. This procurement will support the Council's needs while meeting FTA procurement requirements.

New Flyer has informed Council staff that the 2009 rather than the 2010 EPA emission standards may be applied to these 11 buses and the previously approved 29 articulated buses. New Flyer has already purchased the engines needed for all 40 buses and can install these in the Council's buses in compliance with EPA regulations at a significantly reduced cost. Initial estimates indicate a reduction in cost of approximately \$21,257 per bus.

Rationale

The procurement of these 11 buses provides timely replacement of buses that are 12 years old in accordance with the Council's fleet plan and Federal Transit Administration regulations.

Funding

The price of these buses will be established according to the escalation clause in the contract. The 2007 purchase price of **\$559,450** per bus will be the base price-of-a-bus and the price will be further modified by the inclusion of elements of the Metro Transit articulated bus specification. The funding for the replacement of these vehicles is in authorized project 61611 in the 2009 Capital Improvement Plan.

Known Support/Opposition

There is no known opposition to the proposed action.