

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 25, 2010

For Metropolitan Council meeting: February 10, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	January 19, 2010
Subject:	Authorization to Purchase Small Buses
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	State of Minnesota Cooperative Purchasing Venture
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, MTS Director (651-602-1754) Gerri Sutton, Assistant Director MTS (651-602-1672) Alex Curtiss, Manager, Fleet Services (651-602-1487)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Service (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute purchase agreements using the State of Minnesota Cooperative Purchasing Venture to purchase small buses with the following vendors in a total amount not to exceed \$1,600,000:

- Hogle Bus Co. Inc. for nine buses; and
- North Central Bus Sales for thirteen buses.

Background

The vehicles purchased under these agreements will replace existing small buses that either meet or exceed their useful life as established by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The State Department of Administration recently issued a Request For Proposals (RFP) for small, medium and large size transit buses and is in the process of entering into agreements with multiple contractors for vehicle purchasing in 2010. The contracts will be fully executed by February 1, 2010 and the Council will utilize this purchasing option.

Rationale

The buses requested in this action will replace existing fleet and will be assigned to Transit Link dial-a ride services. These buses will replace twenty-two regional fleet vehicles assigned to DARTS, Carver County, MTS, Scott County and H.S.I. This capital project was included in the 2009-2014 Capital Improvement Plan and amended into the Authorized Capital Program under Council action item #2009-121 on May 13, 2009.

Funding

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) was awarded just over \$19 million in 5311 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds in early 2009. The Council applied for replacement buses to deliver dial-a-ride service in the non-urbanized portion of the seven county area. MnDOT awarded the Council \$1.6 million to purchase twenty two small or medium sized buses to deliver Transit Link service.

There is no local match required on ARRA grants. Replacement of these vehicles is in the Authorized Capital Program.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.