

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: May 10, 2010

Council meeting: May 26, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: May 3, 2010
Subject: Authorization to Amend Transit Link Service Contract for Washington/SE Ramsey County
District(s), Member(s): District 11 – Hilker, District 12 - Broecker
Policy/Legal Reference: Council policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurement of Goods and Services over \$250,000
Business Item 2009-432
Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651) 602-1754
Gerri Sutton, Asst. Director Contracted Transit Services (651) 602-1672
John Harper, Supervisor Contracted Transit Services (651) 602-1744
Sheila Williams, Project Administrator (651) 602-1709
Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Service (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to amend contract 09P177 with Midwest Paratransit for an additional \$600,000 for an amended total of \$6,543,430.

Background

Midwest Paratransit Services is under contract with the Council to deliver Transit Link service in Washington and southeast Ramsey County through February 2015. The demand for Transit Link service in Washington County is considerably greater than anticipated and resources allocated to deliver the service are inadequate.

Because Washington County receives primarily only peak express fixed route service, few riders transferred from dial-a-ride to fixed route service as was the case in Hennepin and Dakota County. The former dial-a-ride programs in SE Ramsey County and Washington County provided many peak-oriented standing order work trips that were grandfathered into Transit Link, thus leaving a very limited amount of space available for demand riders at those times of the day. During the last two weeks in April, trip denials averaged more than 26 per day.

Rationale

The requested amendment allows for an additional ten hours of service each day for the remainder of the contract. This added capacity will significantly reduce denials, provide space for demand riders during the morning and afternoon rush hours and improve the overall service quality.

Funding

Funding is available in the current budget to support the additional revenue hours. The budget for this service was based on an estimated rate of \$55.00/hour for year one. The actual contract first year rate is \$46.92/hour.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.