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| T | Transportation Committee | **Business Item**  **Item:** 2011-151  Consent |
| **Meeting date: May 23, 2011**  **Metropolitan Council Meeting: June 8, 2011** |  |

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| ADVISORY INFORMATION | |
| Date: | May 13, 2011 |
| Subject: | Procurement of Metro Mobility Vehicles |
| District(s), Member(s): | All |
| Policy/Legal Reference: | State of Minnesota Cooperative Vehicle Procurement Release B-347(5) and Regional Fleet Management Procedures |
| Staff Prepared/Presented: | Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651)602-1754  Micky Gutzmann, Director of Purchasing (651)602-1741  Gerri Sutton, Asst. Dir. Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1672  Paul Colton, Sr. Manager – Metro Mobility (651)602-1668 |
| Division/Department: | Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS) - Metro Mobility |

# Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase agreement with Hoglund Bus Company Inc. (State of MN Contract 444438) for up to six (6) buses in an amount not to exceed $405,000.

# Background

The demand for Metro Mobility rides increased by more than six percent over the past two years, and continues on an upward trend, driving the need for additional vehicles. The six vehicles in this request increase the overall size of the Metro Mobility fleet and preserve the Council adopted spare ratio for Metro Mobility of ten percent. Five of the vehicles requested will be gasoline-powered buses delivered in the third quarter of 2011. One of the vehicles will be a gas/electric hybrid bus purchased with remaining federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding and will be delivered in the fourth quarter of 2011.

**Rationale**

Metro Mobility’s core providers, Transit Team and First Transit, operate small buses that often exceed 300,000 miles before being retired. Given the extensive wear these vehicles endure, the preservation of an adequate number of spares is paramount to service reliability. Council policy calls for a Metro Mobility spare ratio of at least ten percent. Currently, on high demand days, the spare factor drops down to seven percent. Six additional buses allow for greater service flexibility and reduced risk of in-service failures.

Purchasing off of the state contract is consistent with past fleet purchases and meets Council, state and federal procurement requirements.

# Funding

Funding for this purchase is included in the Council’s2011 Unified Capital Program as amended on April 27, 2011. This purchase will utilize federal ARRA funds in the amount of $62,228 which represents 49% of the hybrid vehicle cost. The purchase of the electric hybrid bus will close out the Council’s ARRA grant for purchasing ten electric hybrid buses. The remaining $342,772 in funding for the hybrid bus and the five gas-operated vehicles will be financed from Regional Transit Capital funds.

**Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition.