

T Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 13,
2008

Item: 2008-203

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: August 6, 2008

Subject: Authorization to Exercise Contract Option to Purchase 11 Articulated Transit Buses

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise an existing contract option with New Flyer of America, Inc., to purchase 11 sixty-foot, articulated low-floor transit buses in an amount not-to-exceed \$6,500,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Committee Member Hilker asked why diesel-powered buses are being purchased instead of hybrid buses. Staff responded that these buses will be used for express service involving park and ride lots, for which diesel buses are more efficient than hybrid buses.

T Transportation Committee

Business Item

Item: 2008-203

Meeting date: July 28, 2008

For Metropolitan Council meeting: August 13, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	July 21, 2008
Subject:	Authorization to Exercise Contract Option to Purchase 11 Articulated Transit Buses
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Procurement Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager (612-349-7510) Vince Pellegrin, Chief Operating Officer, Bus & Rail (612-341-5612) Julie Johanson, Deputy Chief Operating Officer-Bus (612-349-7514) Jan Homan, Director of Vehicle Maintenance (612-349-5000) Chris Gran, Director of Purchasing (612-349-5060)
Division/Department:	Metro Transit

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise an existing contract option with New Flyer of America, Inc., to purchase 11 sixty-foot, articulated low-floor transit buses in an amount not-to-exceed \$6,500,000.

Background

The Council awarded a contract to New Flyer of America in December 2006 for 10 sixty-foot, low-floor articulated transit buses. The contract includes an option for the Council to purchase up to 55 additional articulated buses. The Council exercised a contract option to purchase 15 buses in October 2007; 40 option buses remain.

Rationale

The 11 articulated buses requested in this action would be used for expansion service generated by the future Guardian Angels Park-and-Ride along I-94 in Oakdale (service scheduled to start March 2009) and the 95th Avenue Park-and-Ride along I-35W in Blaine (construction of approximately 500 additional parking spaces is scheduled for completion in September 2009).

Funding

The price of the option buses will be established according to the escalation clause in the contract. The 2006 purchase price of \$565,107 per bus will be adjusted based on the Producer Price Index. The exact adjusted price of these option buses will be established when the option is exercised.

Funding for the purchase of the five buses to support the Guardian Angels Park-and-Ride would use Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funds and is available in Metro Transit Project 61613. Funding for the purchase of the six buses to support the 95th Avenue Park-and-Ride would use Urban Partnership Agreement funds and is available in Metro Transit Project 63740.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.