

T Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 9,
2009

Item: 2009-430

Consent

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date November 24, 2009
 Prepared:
 Subject: ADA and Transit Link Dial-a-Ride Transit Assistance Agreements

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute intergovernmental agreements for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit service and Transit Link Dial-a-Ride service with two transit providers not to exceed the following amounts:

Anoka County Traveler	\$2,745,100
Smart Link (Carver/Scott County)	\$2,561,900

The agreements shall be effective for the period January 1, 2010 through July 31, 2011.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Chair Meeks asked about the term of the Hennepin County Transit Link Contract. Ms. Sutton responded that the Hennepin Transit Link Contract was competitively procured so the agreement is for a five year term. Chair Meeks wondered why the term of these agreements is eighteen months. Ms. Sutton responded that the Demand Metro Mobility contracts have a term date of June 30 and that this would put all ADA contracts on the same mid-year cycle. In addition, Transit Link is in a transitional period and so this term will help staff better understand how well the approved funding formula works before longer term contracts are established.

Council Member Steffan asked staff to confirm that Anoka County would be providing the service in northern Ramsey County. Ms. Sutton said that Anoka County will be providing Transit Link service in northern Ramsey County. Ms. Steffen asked if the Ramsey County service would be paid for out of the Anoka Counties allocation. Ms. Sutton stated that the approved funding formula allocated money for Ramsey County in addition to the amount allocated for Anoka County. Ms. McCarthy stated that there is a commitment by the Coordination Advisory Committee (CAC) to monitor the demand for service and to determine whether funding will be distributed differently in the long term.

Council Member Steffen asked about the status of the upcoming Anoka County RFP and how the Ramsey service would be handled so that funding would be available to serve the northern part of Anoka County. Ms. Sutton responded that MTS staff will be working with Anoka County to develop the RFP for a new contract beginning in July 2010. Anoka County has the highest hourly rate in the region today for dial-a-ride service and Council staff believes that there are structural changes that can be made within the RFP to secure better rates. Ms. Sutton also stated that the agreement would be set up to assure that Anoka County funding was not supporting service in Ramsey County.

Motion was made, seconded and passed. Hearing no objection, Chair Meeks stated that this item could move to the full Council as a Consent Item.



Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 23, 2009

Business Item

Item: 2009-430

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: November 16, 2009

Subject: ADA and Transit Link Dial-a-Ride Transit Assistance Agreements

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute 473.384, Financial Assistance to Transit Service
Minnesota Statute 473.386, Special Transportation Services

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651) 602-1754
Gerri Sutton, Ass't Dir. Contracted Transit Services (651) 602-1672
Paul Colton, Senior Manager Metro Mobility (651) 602-1668
John Harper, Supervisor Contracted Transit Services (651) 602-1744
Dana Rude, Project Administrator (651) 602-1663

Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

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Background

The Council is authorized by legislation to enter into and administer financial assistance agreements with transit providers in the metropolitan region. Each of the programs is required to maintain full compliance with all Council policies and with all state and federal laws and regulations that may apply.

Anoka County and Smart Link (Carver/Scott County) provide ADA dial-a-ride service under contract with the Council using small and medium sized buses in their respective counties. In addition the Council will pay Carver, Scott and Anoka Counties to provide Transit Link dial-a-ride service. Carver/Scott County elected to directly operated Transit Link Service and Anoka County will provide administrative oversight and utilize a competitively procured service provider to deliver service in Anoka County and Northwest Ramsey County.

Rationale

All ADA services in the Metropolitan area are funded through Metro Mobility. Metro Mobility is responsible for ADA compliance for the region. The ADA component of these contracts is projected to cost the Council \$1,131,000 in Anoka County and \$861,050 in Scott County through the first half of 2011. The remaining contract balance of \$3,314,950 is split with \$1,614,100 going to Anoka County and \$1,700,850 to Scott/Carver to provide Transit Link Services over the same eighteen month period.

Known Support/Opposition Issue(s)

There is no known opposition to this request.