

T Transportation Committee
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 24,
2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date March 9, 2010
Prepared:
Subject: Procurement of Metro Mobility Vehicles

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute purchase agreements with:

1. Hogle Bus Company Inc. (State of MN Contract 442667) for up to four buses in an amount not to exceed \$272,800; and
2. Elk River Ford (State of MN Contract 439865) for up to twenty cars in an amount not to exceed \$440,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

The question was asked regarding what Metro Mobility will do with the 18 automobiles. Staff replied that all of the automobiles will be placed in service. Staff also explained that approximately 70% of the riders are ambulatory compared to 30% who use a mobility device. Staff believes that there are efficiencies that can be gained by operating a portion of the car fleet in Metro Mobility demand service.

Motion by Scherer, seconded by Hilker and passed unanimously.

Hearing no objection Vice-Chair McFarlin stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

Meeting date: March 8, 2010

Metropolitan Council Meeting: March 24, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: March 1, 2010

Subject: Procurement of Metro Mobility Vehicles

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: State of Minnesota Cooperative Vehicle Procurement #438835 and B-347(5)

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651)602-1754
Chris Gran, Director of Purchasing – Metro Transit (612)349-5060
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

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Background

Eighteen of the vehicles in this request will replace vehicles scheduled for retirement. The remaining six vehicles are an expansion of the Metro Mobility fleet and are necessary to accommodate the increase in demand for services. All of the vehicles will be gasoline-powered and will be delivered in the second quarter of 2010.

Rationale

The purchase of eighteen cars is in alignment with the 2010 capital plan and will replace eighteen cars that are owned by the current contractors and have been in service since July 2005. Replacement of these vehicles coincides with the new demand contracts scheduled to begin on July 1st and signifies the first time that all vehicles used to deliver Metro Mobility service are owned by the Council. The change to Council ownership shifts the asset cost from the operating budget to the capital budget.

For the urban core service area (Hennepin and Ramsey counties), the current Metro Mobility fleet is 293 vehicles with a spare ratio just under 8%. This compares to spare ratios of between 18%-20% for large fixed route providers in the region. Six expansion vehicles will allow Metro Mobility to satisfy increases in demand for service, avoid ADA denials per federal requirements, and sustain an acceptable level of service quality.

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

Funding

Funding for this purchase was included in the November 4, 2009 approval of Council action item 2009-327, titled "2009-2014 Capital Improvement Program and Capital Program and Budget Amendment". These buses and autos represent the last of the Metro Mobility vehicle purchases under the Council's current Authorized Capital Program (ACP).

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition