

**T** Transportation Committee  
Metropolitan Council meeting of October 27, 2010

**Date**

**Prepared:** September 27, 2010

**Subject:** Authorization to Purchase 25 Sixty-Foot Articulated Transit Buses

**Proposed Action:**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase agreement with New Flyer of America using State of Minnesota Contract No. 442668 for the purchase of 25 replacement articulated buses in an amount not to exceed \$17,059,622.25, contingent on satisfactory results from the Pre-Award Buy America Audit.

**Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:**

Council member Scherer asked what happened to retired buses and Chuck Wurzinger answered that they are sold.

Council member Scherer also mentioned that the recently discussed Council Bus Procurement Policy indicated that transit buses should be kept in service for 14 years, and he asked if the articulated buses that would be replaced were being retired early. Arlene McCarthy responded that the 14-year service expectation applied to coach buses and that a 12-year service life applied to 40' and 60' transit buses. Brian Lamb explained that coach buses are used in less severe service than transit buses.

Chair McFarlin asked if other transit authorities use the state contract to purchase buses, and Chuck Wurzinger responded that smaller cities such as Mankato are able to use it for this purpose.

**T** Transportation Committee  
Meeting date: October 11, 2010

Metropolitan Council Meeting: October 27, 2010

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

**Date:** October 5, 2010  
**Subject:** Authorization to Purchase 25 Sixty-Foot Articulated Transit Buses  
**District(s), Member(s):** All  
**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Procurement Policy  
**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Brian Lamb, Metro Transit General Manager, 612-349-7510  
Vince Pellegrin, Chief Operations Officer, 612-349-7511  
Julie Johanson, Deputy Chief Operations Officer –Bus, 612-349-7514  
Chris Gran, Director Purchasing, 612-349-5060  
Jan Homan, Director Bus Maintenance, 612-349-5000  
Chuck Wurzinger, Asst. Director Bus Maintenance, 612-349-5007  
**Division/Department:** Metro Transit Bus Maintenance

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase agreement with New Flyer of America using State of Minnesota Contract No. 442668 for the purchase of 25 replacement articulated buses in an amount not to exceed \$17,059,622.25, contingent on satisfactory results from the Pre-Award Buy America Audit.

**Background**

Metro Transit is replacing 25 articulated buses in mid-2011. Ten of these buses will be 12 years of age at replacement and the remaining 15 will be 13 years of age at replacement. New Flyer of America was awarded a contract with the State of Minnesota, and this contract is available to the Council as a member of the State's Cooperative Purchasing Venture program. The estimated contract price is \$682,384.89 per bus and this is fair and reasonable based on comparison to recent prices paid by the Council for articulated buses considering inflation and new equipment installed on the buses.

**Rationale**

This investment reflects the Council's commitment to maintain and preserve regional transit investments and is in alignment with the objectives of the unified capital programming process.

**Funding**

Funding for these replacement articulated buses is contained in the 2010-2015 Capital Improvement Plan in project 61611.

**Known Support/Opposition**

There is no known opposition to the proposed action.