

T Transportation Committee
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 26,
2011

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: October 11, 2011
Prepared:
Subject: Authorization to Award Contract for the Council Subsidized Vanpool Program

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with Enterprise Leasing Company of Minnesota, LLC, to provide the Council's subsidized vanpool program from March 1, 2012 to February 28, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$2,798,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Staff presented a brief overview of the Commuter Vanpool Program RFP process and evaluation team recommendations. Questions were asked about impacts of the economic downturn impacting program involvement, status of active vanpools and share of funding provided by partner agencies. Staff provided history about how and why the Joints Powers agreements with Minnesota and Wisconsin came about and provided jurisdiction for the regional vanpool program to serve commuters coming into the region from outlying areas.

Motion by Reynoso seconded by Munt, Motion passed.

The business item will move to the full Council as a consent item.

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 10, 2011

Metropolitan Council Meeting: October 26, 2011

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: October 3, 2011
Subject: Authorization to Award Contract for the Council Subsidized Vanpool Program
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurement of Goods and Services over \$250,000
Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director of MTS (651-602-1754)
Mickey Gutzmann, Acting Director of Purchasing (651-602-1741)
Gerri Sutton, Asst Director Contracted Transit Services (651-602-1672)
John Harper, Manager Contracted Transit Services (651-602-1744)
Lynette Zauner, Principal Contract Administrator (612-349-5087)
Randy Rosvold, Senior Project Administrator (651-602-1710)
Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with Enterprise Leasing Company of Minnesota, LLC, to provide the Council's subsidized vanpool program from March 1, 2012 to February 28, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$2,798,000.

Background

Vanpooling is a nationally recognized Travel Demand Management (TDM) strategy that provides cost effective transportation options for non-traditional commute trips. The region's vanpool program began in 2000 as a demonstration project. More than 130 vanpools have been formed since the start of the program and currently 180,000 annual trips are provided by 61 active vanpools.

In recent years, the program has grown to include commuters from western Wisconsin and greater Minnesota who are commuting into the metro area. In 2010 the Council entered into joint powers agreements with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the State of Wisconsin, which allows the Council to extend the program to adjacent counties.

Rationale

Proposals were publicly solicited through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process and more than two dozen firms were directly invited to participate. In addition, the RFP was posted on the Council's procurement website. Two proposals were received and evaluated by a five member evaluation panel consisting of staff from Metro Transit Rideshare, Anoka County Transportation Management Organization (TMO) and MTS.

The panel evaluated and ranked each proposer's technical ability and then evaluated the cost for each proposer. The evaluation panel concluded that Enterprise Rideshare, with a technical ranking of Good and the lowest proposed

cost for the five year term of \$2,798,000, is the most advantageous vendor for the Council.

Funding

This program is included in the annual operating budget and is funded through a combination of participant fares, federal 5307 formula funds, Motor Vehicle Sales Tax (MVST) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds.

Known Support / Opposition

Minnesota Department of Transportation and State of Wisconsin show support for this program through their joint powers agreements with the Council. In addition, this program is supported by regional Transit Demand Management (TDM) partners. This action has no known opposition.