

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee meeting date: December 08, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: December 17, 2025

Business Item: 2025-307

Voestalpine LVT Block Procurement, Contract 25P323

District(s), member(s):	All
Policy/legal reference:	FM 14-2, Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
Staff prepared/presented:	Lesley Kandaras, General Manager, Metro Transit, 612-349-7513 Nick Thompson, Deputy GM Capital Programs, 612-349-7507 Jim Harwood, Director, Metro Transit Eng & Con, 612-349-7339 Wyatt Jackson, Principal Engineer, Metro Transit Eng & Con, 605-359-4436
Division/department:	Metro Transit, Engineering and Construction

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute sole source with Voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak LLC in an amount not to exceed \$5,562,950.

Background

The Blue Line State of Good Repair Phase 3 project (alternatively known as Renew the Blue) includes removal and replacement of corroded rail and Low Vibration Track (LVT) blocks in the Lindbergh Tunnel. The LVT blocks in the tunnel have been in place since Blue Line was constructed in 2001 and have become worn and corroded over time. The Council will need to procure 16,000 blocks ahead of the Construction contract to ensure the blocks are manufactured and delivered for the proposed shutdown work in April 2027. A Sole Source request with Voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak LLC was approved on July 17, 2025.

Rationale

The execution of professional services contract exceeding \$2,000,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive lens analysis,

The Council adopted Imagine 2050 on February 12, 2025, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens, this action advances the outcomes of Prosperity, Equity, and Sustainability through investment in high-quality transportation options that make the region more economically competitive through increased workers' access to employment, and support to employers by increasing available workforce with affordable, convenient transportation; distributing transit resources throughout the region and improving access to jobs, educational opportunities, and health services to diverse communities; and ensuring the region's existing transit resources are maintained in a state of good repair, thereby providing efficient and reliable service.

Funding

Funding for this project has been authorized by the Council in the following Projects:

- Capital Project #61104: Local funds of \$5,562,950.

Small business inclusion

This contract is being procured through a sole source. Therefore, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not assign a Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) goal.

