Business Item

Transportation Committee

Committee meeting date: August 10, 2026 **For the Metropolitan Council:** August 26, 2026

Business Item: 2026-144

Transit Link Service for Scott and Carver Counties, Contract 26P221

District(s), member(s):	All
Policy/legal reference:	FM 14-2 Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate
Staff prepared/presented:	Charles Carlson, Executive Director MTS (651 602 1761) Sheila Holbrook-White, Manager- Transit Link and Metro Move Programs (651 602 1618) Sheila Williams, Senior Project Administrator- Transit Link (651 602 1709)
Division/department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 26P221 with Transit Team for Transit Link services in Scott and Carver County in the amount not to exceed $20,259.200 through July 31,2030.

Background

Transit Link is a shared-ride, public dial-a-ride service for the Twin Cities metro area where regular route transit service is infrequent or unavailable. It is available for trips that cannot be accomplished on regular transit routes alone. Metropolitan Transportation Services provides Transit Link dial-a-ride services under contract with private companies, either directly contracted or through intergovernmental agreements with area counties.

The Council issued a Request for Proposal to provide Transit Link services in portions of Scott and Carver Counties where regular route service is unavailable on February 6, 2025. On March 19, 2025, the Council received two proposals for consideration of award. An evaluation panel was assembled, met, and reached consensus that the proposal submitted by Transit Team was the most advantageous.

On June 25, 2025, the Council authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Contract 25I018, an Interagency Agreement with Scott County for Transit Link service in Scott and Carver Counties. The Interagency Agreement's tasks included the direct management of Transit Team for a performance period of September 1, 2025- July 31, 2030.

Scott County intends to terminate its Interagency Contract with the Council and reassign the current contract with Transit Team to the Council for its direct oversight and management. To conform to other contracts managed through the Council, the agreement will be renamed Contract 26P221. This action authorizes the assignment of Contract 26P221 to the Council to support and directly administer Transit Link services in Scott and Carver Counties

Rationale

Council Policy requires agreements with expenditures valued at greater than $2,000,000.

Thrive lens analysis

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens, this item advances several key outcomes. This contract will support uninterrupted transit service in portions of the region otherwise not served by transit, which furthers Stewardship by increasing the average number of jobs reachable by transit and Equity by connecting additional residents to opportunities. Financial Stewardship is also furthered because this contract provides a lower-cost solution for a lower-productivity transit service.

Funding

No adjustment is being made to the contract amount. Funding for this service was included and will continue to be included in the operating budget.

Small business inclusion

The Office of Civil Rights and Small Business Programs assigned a 2% DBE goal during the initial RFP solicitation in February 2025. The vendor selected through that RFP process met the DBE requirements. Those DBE requirements are still applicable under the proposed action.