

# Business Item

Management Committee



Committee meeting date: April 22, 2026

For the Metropolitan Council: May 13, 2026

## Business Item: 2026-75

Virtualization Platform Renewal, Contract 26P087

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>District(s), member(s):</b>   | All   |
| <b>Policy/legal reference:</b>   | FM 14-2, Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy; Minn. Stat. § 471.345 |
| <b>Staff prepared/presented:</b> | Gretchen White, Chief Information Officer, Information Services (IS), 651-602-1443                          |
| <b>Division/department:</b>      | Regional Administration/Information Services  |

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 26P087 with Peller Technologies d.b.a. Paragon Development Systems to renew VMware Cloud licensing and support services for an amount not to exceed \$2,600,000.

### Background

The Council relies extensively on Broadcom's VMware platform to support its core technology infrastructure and critical business operations. VMware's virtualization products allow operations to run multiple "virtual" computers on one physical machine both on premise and in our cloud environments. These platforms ensure the stability, security, and performance required for delivering essential public services throughout the region.

The IS Department is requesting a five-year renewal term from June 1, 2026, through June 31, 2031.

To procure this software subscription, the Council will utilize State of Minnesota released Contract T-653(5) which is a multi-vendor cooperative agreement for purchasing VMware solutions. The Council has statutory authority under Minnesota Statutes §471.345 to utilize such cooperative service agreements.

### Rationale

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

### 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 action advances the Thrive outcome of Equity by investing to build a more equitable region through partnerships with MCUB vendors.

## **Funding**

Funding for this agreement is included in the Information Services operating budget.

## **Small Business Inclusion**

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not establish a Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) goal as this contract will be procured utilizing State of Minnesota Contract T-653(5).

