

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee meeting date: September 28, 2026

For the Metropolitan Council: October 14, 2026

Business Item: 2026-170

Bloomington, Edina, and Roseville Area Fixed Bus Transportation Service, Contract 21P290 – Amendment 3

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:	Charles Carlson, Executive Director, 651-602-1761 John Harper, Manager of Contracted Transit Service, 651-602-1744
Division/department:	Contracted Transit

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to contract 21P290 with Schmitt & Sons Transportation, Inc. for transit services that will add \$5,000,000, for a total contract not-to-exceed amount of \$34,255,000.

Background

On July 11, 2022, the Metropolitan Council entered into a contract with Schmitt & Sons to provide fixed-route transit service for Bloomington, Edina, and Roseville Area (BEaR) with a not-to-exceed value of \$29,255,000.

Over the past three years, Metro Transit and Contracted Transit have implemented major service improvements and adjustments through the Network Now framework (<https://www.metrotransit.org/network-now>). These changes expanded the transit network and have increased service levels with BEaR contract by approximately 50%. This expanded service has increased operating costs beyond the levels initially anticipated at the time the contract was executed.

The contract is set to expire on August 31, 2027, and this amendment will add necessary funding to continue service for the remainder of the contract. Approving this amendment will provide the additional funds necessary to maintain uninterrupted BEaR service while the current contract remains in effect.

Rationale

Council Policy requires amendments exceeding 10% of the original authorized contract value be approved by the Council if the cumulative value exceeds \$2,000,000. Amendments to contracts that exceed 10% of the original value constitute sole source procurements.

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 supports several outcomes. This service is provided 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

Funding for this service is included in the approved transportation division operating budget for 2026 and the preliminary operating budget for 2027.

Small business inclusion

The Office of Civil Rights and Small Business Programs did not set a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal on the initial solicitation. There is no impact to small business with the proposed action.

