

County of Milwaukee
Interoffice Communication

DATE: 5/10/2018
TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Julie Esch, Interim Director, Department of Transportation
SUBJECT: Authorization to Enter into a Contract for New Transit Buses

POLICY

County Board approval is required for multi-year budget contracts.

BACKGROUND

A request for proposals (RFP) for new low-floor clean diesel buses was posted and advertised on December 1, 2017. A pre-proposal meeting was held at the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) administration office on December 12, 2017. The RFP closed on February 22, 2018.

Proposals were received from all four major transit bus manufacturers. A five-person evaluation panel commenced review of the proposals on February 23, 2018. All four proposers were invited to give presentations and answer questions about their proposals on March 28 and 29, 2018. Best and Final Offers were requested from the bus manufacturers, and received on April 12, 2018.

A proposal from Gillig, LLC had the second highest technical score, and the lowest per-bus price; therefore, the evaluation panel determined that the Gillig bus represented the best value for Milwaukee County, and MCTS issued an intent to award the contract to Gillig on April 16, 2018. There were no protests.

Upon approval of the contract, an initial order for 28 buses will be placed. The contract provides for a minimum purchase of an additional 32 buses over a period of up to four years, if necessary. The MCTS bus replacement schedule provides for purchases of about 30 buses annually.

FISCAL EFFECT

The 2018 Adopted Capital Improvement Budget includes Project No. WT104 with \$13.5 million to replace 40-foot diesel buses purchased in 2003 and 2004.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorization to enter into a multi-year contract with Gillig for new transit buses is recommended.

Prepared by:
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Approved by:



Julie Esch
Interim Director, Department of Transportation

cc: Chris Abele, County Executive
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