



CITY OF WAUKESHA

Administration

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Committee: Transit Commission	Date: 4/4/2019
Common Council Item Number: 19-0405	Date: 4/16/2019
Submitted By: Fred Abadi- Public Works	City Administrator Approval: Kevin Lahner, City Administrator KL
Finance Department Review: Rich Abbott, Finance Director RA	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney
Subject: Approval of Paratransit Van Contract and Purchase to A & J Vans, Inc.	

Details:

This item is to seek the approval of a paratransit van contract to allow the Transit Commission the ability to purchase paratransit vans from A & J Vans, Inc. for the next five years. In addition, this action would also approve the purchase of the first paratransit van from this agreement. This is the first of two procurements to replace the paratransit fleet authorized in the 2019-2023 CIP. The second procurement will be to procure paratransit buses for heavy volume runs.

The Transit staff conducted a Request for Proposals for Paratransit Vans and received proposals from two firms, each firm submitted multiple variations of the Ford Transit Paratransit Van. The Evaluation Committee rated A & J Vans, Inc. bid #1 the highest rated and is recommending the contract be awarded to A & J Vans, Inc. The contract would allow up to six vans to be purchased over the 5-year period. After the evaluation, transit staff reviewed a few different versions of the Ford Transit Paratransit Van configuration and the one recommended for purchase for 2019 best suits the needs of the Transit System and its passengers.

This purchase was authorized in the 2019 CIP at \$65,000 as the first replacement to the paratransit fleet which are all past useful life. A federal grant will pay for \$52,000.00 of the purchase (80%) with the remaining \$13,000.00 from the City. Delivery of the buses is estimated to occur in August 2019 given the current lead time of 4 months from when a purchase order is issued.

The new van would replace one of the 2007 Bluebird buses that is 12 years old and has exceeded its useful life by 2 years. In addition, certain parts for the Bluebird buses are becoming impossible to source.

The new van will provide much greater flexibility as it will be able to do Metrolift and be used as a Supervisor vehicle. The van will be able to do lighter passenger volume Metrolift runs such as evening service where there are only a few trips scheduled and does not warrant a larger bus. It also will allow better customer service to our fixed route passengers (when not being used for Metrolift) in that it could be used as a Supervisor vehicle catching up routes. This van would be wheelchair/ADA accessible and can carry children over the age of 4 which can not be done by the current Supervisor Vehicle. In addition, the fuel economy of this van compared from the Bluebird bus will go



from 4.5 miles per gallon to an estimated 13-15 miles per gallon. In addition, given the weight of the vehicle, the driver does not have to have a CDL to drive so if needed, staff that does not have a CDL could operate this vehicle.

It should be noted that Transit staff does not intend on replacing the entire Metrolift fleet with these vans but the purchase of this first van (and possibly others if authorized in the future) would add flexibility to the Metro fleet as noted above. The vans have a four year useful life according to the Federal Transit Administration but Transit staff intends to keep the vehicle for five to seven years. The Bluebird bus being replaced by this first van purchase is a heavy duty bus with a 10 year useful life but cost \$233,156 in 2007 and a comparable vehicle would likely cost approximately \$300,000 today.

Options & Alternatives:

The only viable alternative would be to forego this purchase and add an additional paratransit bus to the upcoming RFP for paratransit buses and purchase 5 paratransit buses instead of the planned 4 buses and 1 van. The per paratransit bus estimate is a total cost of approximately \$150,000/each which would increase the total cost of the paratransit fleet replacement by \$85,000 by switching from a van to another bus.

Financial Remarks:

Total cost of the purchase of this van purchase is authorized at \$65,000.00. Federal grants will pay for \$52,000.00 of the purchase (80%) with the remaining \$13,000.00 from 0430-4350-68390. This purchase was approved in the 2019 CIP. Any additional future van purchase would need to be approved by the Council through a future CIP budget(s) approval.

Executive Recommendation:

Recommend approval.