

MEMORANDUM

November 26, 2014

To: MVTA Board

From Michael Abegg, Transit Planning Manager

Subject: BRT Bus Paint and Graphics Scheme

Requested Action

Direct staff to execute proposed paint and graphics scheme for Cedar Avenue BRT Station-to-Station vehicles.

Background

MVTA placed an order in December for seven buses for the Cedar Avenue BRT Station-to-Station service. At that time, MVTA's regional partners, Metropolitan Council and Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority, had not agreed upon a paint and graphics scheme for the vehicles. Therefore, MVTA has to this point executed the order without a specific paint and graphics package, only a plain (one-color) body with a black window band.

Metropolitan Council staff will present the paint scheme that the Council and DCRRA have agreed upon.

Impact

The decision on the paint scheme for the bus is well overdue. The ordinary timelines for this decision have been clearly relayed by MVTA to the other project partners and they are aware that this decision is coming later than normal bus acquisition processes allow. As a result of these delays it is possible that additional costs will be incurred by Nova Bus.

MVTA and Nova Bus staff previously agreed to postpone that discussion until the final color scheme was provided, as until the scheme was finalized it was impossible to know the impact. Should the MVTA Board act tonight, staff will then enter discussion with Nova Bus about the additional costs of executing this color scheme at this time. While it is not expected that these costs will be great, it is important that all project partners be aware of what they are.

Recommendation

Direct MVTA staff to execute the proposed paint and graphics scheme on the Cedar Avenue BRT Station-to-Station vehicle purchase and enter into discussion with Nova Bus on additional costs resulting from the scheme and timing of its selection.

MA/

