

TO: MVTA Board

DATE: June 17, 2015

FROM: Robin Selvig, Manager - Customer Relations and Tyre Fant, IT Administrator

RE: Accept FTA Funds for Driver Assist System; Award Contracts to MTS Systems

Requested Action

The Board is being asked to accept funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in the amount of \$1,790,014 for the Driver Assist System (DAS). The projected project Kick-off is expected to be in early September.

Background

As Board members may recall, the MVTA applied for funds to grow the Driver Assist System to additional buses through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) Innovative Safety, Resiliency, and All-Hazards Emergency Response and Recovery Research Demonstrations program (SRER) in late 2013. Earlier this year, the MVTA received notice of award for our project.

Since then, MVTA has been working with the FTA, with MTS Systems (the sole-source vendor on the project) and others to complete the Scope of Work, timeline and conduct other tasks prior to launching the project. The MVTA is currently updated the Scope of Work based on comments received by the FTA. These will be submitted by June 25.

Additionally, Tyre has been working with MTS staff regarding ongoing maintenance and support of the system. MVTA will enter into several agreements with MTS after the funds have officially been awarded to MVTA. These agreements will include the procurement, installation and testing of components for the 11 new buses per the FTA grant, as well as an ongoing maintenance and support agreement. These will be sole-source contracts and will be subject to federal terms and conditions. The FTA is also comfortable with MTS Systems being the sole-source vendor on this project.

In addition to working on the new grant, MVTA staff members are also seeking the ability to transfer existing DAS-related CMAQ funds to support updating the 10 existing DAS buses to the latest technology, and arranging a maintenance plan. It is hoped that a portion of these CMAQ funds can be used to purchase radars for the 10 UPA buses, as lidars will be repurposed on the front (rather than on the side) of each of the buses. MVTA has not yet received a response to our request.

Impact

The award from the FTA is \$1.79 million and this is the first direct award the MVTA will have received from the FTA. The Board will be asked to approve agreements with MTS Systems later this summer.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to accept funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in the amount of \$1,790,014 for the Driver Assist System (DAS) subject to all conditions put forth by the FTA being met.

MINNESOTA VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 15-_____

ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

WHEREAS, the MVTA completed a request for grant funds in 2013 to expand the fleet of buses with the Driver Assist System (DAS);

WHEREAS, earlier this year, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced that the MVTA would be awarded funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the MVTA accept funds in the amount of \$1,790,014 from the FTA to add 11 buses to the MVTA's DAS fleet, subject to all conditions put forth by the FTA being met.

ADOPTED by the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority this 24th June, 2015.

Chair

Attest:
