



Notice of Procurement Authorization Amendment Award– Purchase Forty-Eight Low Floor Wheel-Trans Mini Buses

Date: January 10, 2019

To: TTC Board

From: Chief of Vehicles

Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of the procurement authorization amendment award to purchase 48 additional low floor Wheel-Trans Mini Buses (Mini Buses) from Creative Carriage Ltd. in the amount of \$8,789,697.41 inclusive of all applicable taxes, for delivery in 2019.

The subject procurement authorization amendment award was approved on November 27, 2018 by way of delegated authority to the Chair, Vice-Chair and CEO in accordance with provisions set out in the TTC's Authorization for Expenditures and Other Commitments Policy.

The TTC currently has a contract with Creative Carriage Ltd. for the supply and delivery of 80 Mini Buses, with delivery of the last unit in Q4 2018. The existing contract was executed through Metrolinx's cross-agency Transit Procurement Initiative (TPI) program. The TPI program is comprised of 11 Ontario transit agencies and includes a one-year option to procure additional Mini Buses. The 48 Mini Buses are being procured through contract options on Metrolinx's TPI.

Financial Summary

The TTC is currently contracted with Creative Carriage for the procurement of 80 new low floor Wheel-Trans Mini Buses with the last unit to be delivered in Q4 -2018. The contract, which was done through Metrolinx's TPI program involving 11 Transit Agencies in the Province of Ontario, included the subject options for TTC.

The TTC 2018-2027 Capital Budget identified a need for \$85 Million under 4.11 Purchase of Buses / Wheel Trans. Funding in the amount of \$21.5 Million was approved by City Council on February 12, 2018.

Of the \$11.8 Million budgeted for 2018, \$6.7 Million has been spent (as of September 2018). As reported in detail through the CEO Report, the project is currently on-track for year-end deliveries, which will bring the fleet up to 80 Mini Buses.

Sufficient funding from the approved capital budget is available in the 2019 fiscal year during which the subject expenditure for 48 additional mini-buses is planned.

The procurement of these new low floor Wheel-Trans Mini Buses is eligible for up to 50% funding under the Government of Canada's Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF). The approved allocation of PTIF funding for the subject procurement is approximately \$3.8 Million of the total \$10.7 Million allocated for the overall program.

The Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial summary.

Equity/Accessibility Matters

As with all of the TTC's vehicle procurements, the Wheel-Trans Mini Buses are fully accessible and compliant with all applicable Federal and Provincial accessibility regulations. These vehicles in particular are critical to achieving the TTC's accessibility and equity goals.

The Mini Bus selected is designed to meet all of the requirements laid out in CSA Standard D409-16 for accessible vehicles. In addition, the Mini Bus was evaluated by the Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit (ACAT). Their comments and suggestions were reviewed and incorporated into the procurement, where possible.

Decision History

A report entitled Presentation: Wheel-Trans 10-Year Strategy Update was presented to the Board at its meeting on February 25, 2016.

[http://www.ttc.ca/About the TTC/Commission reports and information/Commission meetings/2016/February 25/Reports/W-Trans 10 Year Strategy Update combined.pdf](http://www.ttc.ca/About%20the%20TTC/Commission%20reports%20and%20information/Commission%20meetings/2016/February%2025/Reports/W-Trans%2010%20Year%20Strategy%20Update%20combined.pdf)

The Board received the presentation for information and adopted the staff recommendations, which included adopting in principle the 10-year strategy and its objectives, and to report back on specific initiatives related to each of the five objectives identified in the strategy.

In September 2016, a progress update was provided on the TTC's Wheel-Trans 10-Year Strategy.

[http://www.ttc.ca/About the TTC/Commission reports and information/Commission meetings/2016/September 28/Reports/4 Wheel-Trans 10-Year Strategy - September 2016 Update.pdf](http://www.ttc.ca/About%20the%20TTC/Commission%20reports%20and%20information/Commission%20meetings/2016/September%2028/Reports/4%20Wheel-Trans%2010-Year%20Strategy%20-%20September%202016%20Update.pdf)

The Board received and approved the recommendations in the report, one of which was to commence a Family of Services pilot project in 2017.

In September 2017, the Board approved the procurement of 60 Low Floor Wheel-Trans Mini Buses from Creative Carriage Ltd. for delivery in 2018. Purchasing these units brought the total procurement of new mini buses to 80.

[http://www.ttc.ca/About the TTC/Commission reports and information/Commission meetings/2017/September 5/Reports/8 PA Purchase 60 Low Floor Wheel-Trans Mini Buses.pdf](http://www.ttc.ca/About%20the%20TTC/Commission%20reports%20and%20information/Commission%20meetings/2017/September%205/Reports/8%20PA%20Purchase%2060%20Low%20Floor%20Wheel-Trans%20Mini%20Buses.pdf)

[http://www.ttc.ca/About the TTC/Commission reports and information/Commission meetings/2017/September 5/Reports/8 Presentation PA Purchase 60 Low Floor WheelTrans Mini Buse.pdf](http://www.ttc.ca/About%20the%20TTC/Commission%20reports%20and%20information/Commission%20meetings/2017/September%205/Reports/8%20Presentation%20PA%20Purchase%2060%20Low%20Floor%20WheelTrans%20Mini%20Buse.pdf)

In April 2018, the Board received a Wheel-Trans 10-Year Strategy Update with fleet replacement being one of the focal points. This report provided a status update on the delivery of the Mini Buses and advised that 20 had been delivered, with an additional 60 to be delivered throughout 2018.

[http://www.ttc.ca/About the TTC/Commission reports and information/Commission meetings/2018/April 11/Reports/5 Wheel-Trans 10-Year Strategy April 2018 Update.pdf](http://www.ttc.ca/About%20the%20TTC/Commission%20reports%20and%20information/Commission%20meetings/2018/April%2011/Reports/5%20Wheel-Trans%2010-Year%20Strategy%20April%202018%20Update.pdf)

Issue Background

At its meeting of July 14, 2010, the Board approved the revisions and updates to the Authorization for Expenditures and Other Commitments Policy, effective August 1, 2010, which states that 'The Board delegates authority to the Chair, Vice-Chair and the Chief Executive Officer to authorize items that would normally be authorized by the Board when the approval is required before the next Board meeting. If the Chair and/or Vice-Chair are not available, authority would be deemed to be delegated to any two (2) Commissioners and the Chief Executive Officer.' These authorizations are to be followed up by a notice of award Board report that is to be submitted to the next scheduled Board meeting for information.

This procurement was initiated in collaboration with Metrolinx as part of their TPI program which involved 11 transit agencies in Ontario. An RFP (RFP-2016-TPI-009) was publicly advertised on Merx by Metrolinx in September 2016. After a formal review by an evaluation committee comprised of four transit agencies, in December 2016, a two-year contract was awarded to Creative Carriage Ltd. Due to the success of these vehicles among participating transit agencies, a six-month extension was negotiated by Metrolinx (the contract now expires June 28, 2019).

Comments

In accordance with the Wheel-Trans vehicle fleet plan and to meet PTIF funding timelines, the additional 48 Mini Buses are scheduled for delivery in 2019. Forty-five of

the Mini Buses are intended to replace the existing 'Friendly' Wheel-Trans vehicles that have reached the end of their useful life. The remaining three are considered to be growth to the fleet.

The additional 48 vehicles will bring the total Mini Bus fleet to 128. Larger vehicles required in 2020 will also be procured through Metrolinx's TPI program. An RFP closed on October 2, 2018, and is currently in contract negotiation. A report on the larger vehicle procurement will be presented to the Board in Q2 2019 with the Wheel-Trans Green Bus Technology Plan.

The TTC has procured 80 Mini Buses through the TPI program with the intention of evaluating them as potential replacements for the larger Friendly buses. To date, over 55 ProMaster Mini Buses are in service. The vehicle has performed well in all aspects with the exception of negative customer feedback in the following areas:

Ride Quality: An evaluation was completed by ACAT members prior to procurement of the Mini Buses, however once the vehicles were in service, it became apparent through customer complaints that the ride quality was subjectively too hard, which suggested that the suspension was too firm. A prototype modification of the suspension system was designed and tested by several members of ACAT, who found that the new ride quality was suitable and more comfortable. A fleet modification and production cut-in to ensure all of the TTCs mini buses have this improvement will be completed by the end of 2018. The TTC will continue to monitor the ride quality.

Interior Space: Although the Mini Buses' passenger capacity is sufficient for the majority of trips, the inability to have one passenger pass another inside the vehicle imposes an operational constraint that requires the first person on the bus to be the last person off. When a passenger uses a larger mobility device, only one mobility device can be accommodated at a time on the mini bus. There are currently 10 Wheel-Trans customers that use an oversized mobility device that cannot be accommodated on either a Mini Bus or in an accessible taxi. While these constraints are acceptable for the majority of trips (30 per cent of active customers use personal mobility devices with three per cent using larger mobility devices), a larger sized vehicle similar to the 'Friendly' will be required in the future fleet mix. The fleet plan presented in Appendix A reflects current procurement plans for Mini Buses and the larger bus. The TTC is currently conducting a study to determine the optimal interior capacity requirements for any future vehicles purchased for the Wheel-Trans fleet.

Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF)

On March 22, 2016, the 2016 Federal Budget was announced. The announcement included a plan to invest more than \$120 Billion in public infrastructure over a 10-year period.

The plan focuses on infrastructure investments that will modernize and rehabilitate public transit, water and wastewater systems, provide affordable housing, and protect existing infrastructure from the effects of climate change.

Under PTIF, the Federal Government announced funding of up to 50 percent of eligible costs for capital projects initiated and completed between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2020. The remaining 50 percent of the costs require approval by City

Council. Funding under the PTIF program is allocated to municipalities based on ridership. Capital projects must meet a defined set of criteria to be eligible for this program. The purchase of Mini Buses meets the required criteria and is therefore PTIF eligible.

A delivery schedule will be developed by Creative Carriage Ltd. and TTC staff will report on the status of this procurement through the CEO's Report.

Contact

Bem Case, Head - Vehicle Programs
416-397-8375
bem.case@ttc.ca

Signature

Rich Wong
Chief of Vehicles

Attachments

Appendix A: 2019-2028 Wheel-Trans Fleet Plan

2019-2028 WHEEL-TRANS FLEET PLAN

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
MODEL																			
Overland - ELF (2001 - 2003)	31	10	70	10		15	5												
Friendly 1 (115) (2009-10)	110	0	5					2	27	45	41								
Friendly 2 (86) (2012)			86								2	44	40						
Large Bus Requirements											56	53	56	44	14	14	16	62	63
Large Bus Decommission																		56	53
ProMaster Requirements								13	67	48									
ProMaster Decommission													13	67	48				
FRIENDLY 1 STATE OF GOOD REPAIR/Corrosion						1	19	6	30	30									
FRIENDLY 2 - Corrosion Repairs										10	40	36							
AVAILABLE	220	210	231	221	221	206	201	212	252	255	268	277	280	287	295	320	336	342	350
Peak Regular Service	165	165	165	167	167	160	160	165	196	199	204	211	217	223	225	238	246	251	258
Peak Community Service	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	7	9	15	15	20	20	25	25	30	30	30
Capital Rebuild Spares						1	5	5	10	10	10	10				10	10	10	10
Maintenance Spares (18%)	36	36	36	36	36	31	31	31	37	37	39	41	43	44	45	47	50	51	52
REQUIRED	206	206	206	208	208	197	201	206	250	255	268	277	280	287	295	320	336	342	350
Additional Parking Required									40	43	56	65	68	75	83	108	124	130	138
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	14	4	25	13	13	9	0	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

10 Year life for Friendly Buses
 5 Year life for Minibuses
 7 Year life for Large Bus