

RESOLUTION AWARDING A PURCHASE ORDER FOR TRANS-AID BUSES FOR THE WINSTON-SALEM TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) operates a fleet of 40 paratransit vehicles providing TransAid service within the City; and

WHEREAS, currently, 27 of these vehicles have exceeded their Federal Transit Administration (FTA)-defined useful life of seven years or 200,000 miles; and

WHEREAS, in June 2024, Council approved the procurement of five replacement vehicles, which are anticipated to arrive by the end of November 2025; and

WHEREAS, to further address aging fleet needs, staff recommends the purchase of an additional 11 vehicles: eight Ford Light Transit 14-passenger vans at \$126,360.10 per van from Interstate Transportation Sales & Service, Inc. and three Ford E Transit six-passenger vans at \$74,514.20 per van from Creative Bus Sales Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the total amount requested for this procurement is \$1,234,423.72; and

WHEREAS, the fleet size adjustment is recommended from the 16-passenger van to 14-passenger vans to right-size the fleet based on current usage of 2.5 passengers per service hour; and

WHEREAS, the fleet size adjustment will have little to no impact on WSTA's ability to meet the current demand while allowing for growth; and

WHEREAS, the fleet size adjustment also improves the operational efficiency by eliminating the CDL requirements, increasing RATP Dev's ability to recruit and staff operators; and

WHEREAS, the three electric vehicles are recommended to align with the City's climate and sustainability goals; and

WHEREAS, the WSTA intends on procuring these vehicles through the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) rolling stock contract Bid #54-SG-05062022, ensuring competitive pricing and delivery timelines; and

WHEREAS, this an FTA-approved procurement process that allows agencies to leverage existing contracts to secure vehicles more efficiently (FTA Circular 4220.1G, Ch. V; FTA “Dear Colleague” letter, Oct. 1, 1998) and is in alignment with the City’s procurement policy; and

WHEREAS, funds have been previously appropriated and are available in the following WSTA capital accounts: 816220-5352-627906, 816220-5352-627908, 816220-5352-627910, 816220-5352-627912 and 816220-5352-627916.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Winston-Salem hereby authorize the City Manager to issue a purchase order for eight Ford Light Transit 14-passenger vans from Interstate Transportation Sales & Service, Inc. and three Ford E Transit six-passenger vans van from Creative Bus Sales Inc. for a total of \$1,234,423.72.