

AUTHORIZE A NEW AGREEMENT WITH VARIOUS VENDORS FOR THE PURCHASE OF ELECTRIC BUSES, ACCESSORIES AND RELATED SERVICES

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Authorize a new agreement with various vendors for the purchase of electric buses, accessories and related services, for the Student Transportation Services department at an estimated annual cost set forth in the Financial Section of this report. Vendors were selected on a competitive basis pursuant to Board Rule 7-4.

Request For Proposal Specification Number 063020 was issued by the State of Minnesota as the Lead Public Agency with the assistance of Sourcewell. Subsequently, Sourcewell entered into Contract No. 063020-BBB with Blue Bird Body Company (Local Authorized Dealer; Central States Bus Sales, Inc.).

Request For Proposal Specification Number 102623 was issued by the State of Minnesota as the Lead Public Agency with the assistance of Sourcewell. Subsequently, Sourcewell entered into Contract No. 102623-TBB with Thomas Built Buses, Inc. (Local Authorized Dealer; Midwest Bus Sales, Inc.).

Request For Proposal Specification Number 102623 was issued by the State of Minnesota as the Lead Public Agency with the assistance of Sourcewell. Subsequently, Sourcewell entered into Contract No. 102623-ICB with IC Bus, LLC (Local Authorized Dealers; Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc.).

Request For Proposal Specification Number 102623 was issued by the State of Minnesota as the Lead Public Agency with the assistance of Sourcewell. Subsequently, Sourcewell entered into Contract No. 102623-LON with The Lion Electric Co. USA Inc.

The Board desires to purchase electric buses, accessories and related services based upon the aforementioned vendor contract pursuant to Board Rule 7-4e, which authorizes the Board to purchase non-biddable items and biddable items procured from another governmental agency and offered by or through a government purchasing cooperative in which the contracts were entered into in accordance with the purchasing laws and regulations of the procuring government entity.

A written agreement for this purchase is currently being negotiated. No goods may be ordered or received and no payment shall be made to Vendor prior to the execution of their written agreement. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written agreement is not executed within 90 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this agreement is stated below.

Specification Number : Multiple Government Purchasing Cooperatives

Contract Administrator : Burton, Safaya / 773-553-2280

USER INFORMATION:

Project
Manager: 11870 - Student Transportation

42 West Madison Street

Chicago, IL 60602

Austin, Stephanie S

773-553-2860

PM Contact:
11870 - Student Transportation

42 West Madison Street

Chicago, IL 60602

Jones, Kimberly D

773-553-2860

TERM:

The term of this agreement shall commence on October 1, 2024 and shall end March 31, 2027. This agreement shall have no options to renew.

EARLY TERMINATION RIGHT:

The Board shall have the right to terminate this agreement with 30 days written notice.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

The selected vendor(s) will be responsible for supplying 50 fully functional electric school buses that comply with all relevant federal, state, and local regulations, training, maintenance, and warranty support. The primary objectives of this procurement are to acquire a fleet of electric school buses that meet the transportation needs of Chicago Public Schools, ensure compliance with all safety, operational, and environmental standards, provide training for drivers and maintenance personnel, and ensure long-term service, maintenance, and warranty support for the buses. The reference contract for each of these vendors is between Sourcewell and the manufacturer. The manufacturers do not sell products directly, only through a designated network of authorized dealers. Accordingly, the Board will be entering into agreements directly with the dealers, who have been onboarded as CPS vendors.

The scope of work includes the supply of 50 electric school buses, with 20 buses capable of transporting students who use wheelchairs and seating 48 students total, and 30 buses that can seat up to 71 students. These buses must have a minimum operational range of 105 miles on a full charge, support fast charging with a full charge achievable within 2-3 hours.

DELIVERABLES:

All equipment, products, supplies, and services must be covered by a warranty that is industry standard or better. The vendor must provide comprehensive training for bus drivers on the operation of electric buses, safety procedures, and efficient driving practices, as well as training for Chicago Public Schools maintenance personnel on routine maintenance, troubleshooting, and safety protocols for electric buses. The maintenance and support section include a schedule for routine maintenance services for the buses covering the first five years of operation, details on repair services, including response time, availability of parts, and service locations, and 24/7 technical support for troubleshooting and emergency repairs. Vendors must ensure that all buses and related infrastructure comply with federal, state, and local regulations, including emissions standards and safety requirements, and meet or exceed the

environmental standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The delivery schedule requires all buses to be operational by August 1, 2025, with site preparation in collaboration with Chicago Public Schools as needed. Warranty and after-sales support must include a detailed outline of warranty coverage for the buses and batteries, as well as after-sales support options, including extended warranties, service contracts, and upgrade options.

OUTCOMES:

Chicago Public Schools is seeking to purchase electric school buses to enhance the environmental sustainability and operational efficiency of its school transportation system. This initiative aligns with Illinois' commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting clean energy alternatives in public transportation.

AUTHORIZATION:

Authorize the General Counsel to include other relevant terms and conditions in the written agreement. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the agreement. Authorize the Executive Director of Student Transportation to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate this agreement.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:

Pursuant to the Remedial Policy for Minority-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE) participation in Goods and Services contracts, the contract is an excluded transaction, for the aspirational goals of 30% MBE and 7% WBE, as this agreement is for a Grant-funded contract and is stipulated as excluded.

LSC REVIEW:

Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL:

Fund 115, Unit 11870, Student Transportation

FY25 - \$20,572,780

Not to exceed \$20,572,780 for the three (3) year term.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

The agreement shall contain general conditions including but not limited to the following: Inspector General provision, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1; Conflicts provision, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3; Indebtedness provision, in accordance with the Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 pursuant to Board Report 96-0626-PO3; Ethics provision, in accordance with the Board's Ethics Code as amended; and, Contingent Liability provision.

Approved for Consideration:



PATRICIA HERNANDEZ
Chief Procurement Officer

Approved:



PEDRO MARTINEZ
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 



RUCHI VERMA
General Counsel

1)

Vendor # 43129

Central States Bus Sales, Inc.
30 Baseline Rd
Oswego, IL 60543

Jeff Reitz

800 376-1644

For Profit Corporation; CSBS Holdings LLC
100%

2)

Vendor # 95422

MIDWEST BUS SALES, INC.
18 SKYVIEW DRIVE
LITCHFIELD, IL 62056

Lissette Jones

217 324-2119

For Profit Corporation; Van Pool
Transportation, LLC 100%

3)

Vendor # 95423

MIDWEST TRANSIT EQUIPMENT, INC.
146 W ISSERT DRIVE
KANKAKEE, IL 60901

Scott Sochacki

630 776-3656

For Profit Corporation; Midwest Transit
Holdings, Inc. 100%

4)

Vendor # 95421

THE LION ELECTRIC CO. USA INC.
4000 VALLEY INDUSTRIAL BLVD SOUTH
SHAKOPEE, MN 55379

Karl Kramer

262 210-7960

For Profit Corporation; Lion Electric Holding
USA INC. 100%