



Date of Memo: December 08, 2024
Current Meeting: December 12, 2024
Board Meeting: December 19, 2024

BOARD MEMORANDUM

TO: Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation (IPTC) Board of Directors
THROUGH: President and CEO Jennifer Pyrz
FROM: Chief Operating Officer, Aaron Vogel
SUBJECT: Consideration and approval of 18 Diesel 60- foot New Flyer Buses for the BRT Blue Line

ACTION ITEM A –11

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors authorize the President and Chief Executive Officer to place a bus order with New Flyer Industries (NFI), for 18 60-foot diesel articulated buses for IPTC’s Blue Line for an amount not to exceed \$26,613,951, for associated equipment and services.

BACKGROUND:

The BRT Blue Line, once completed, will extend 24 miles between Cumberland and the Indianapolis International Airport. The Blue Line will run through several neighborhoods, past major employers, cultural institutions, and healthcare and educational facilities with fast, frequent and reliable service. The Blue Line will utilize rapid transit vehicles developed specifically for operation on IndyGo’s BRT lines. The rapid transit vehicles will be diesel 60-foot articulated buses with doors opening on either side of the vehicle.

DISCUSSION:

The State of Washington, through its Department of Enterprise Services, maintains the Washington State Transit Bus Cooperative through which eligible entities, such as IPTC, may purchase transit buses. Through this Cooperative, Washington has a Master Contract with NFI, which was competitively solicited and awarded in compliance with FTA regulations. Accordingly, IPTC may utilize FTA grant funds for the Blue Line BRT Project to purchase buses through the Master Contract. To utilize this cooperative purchasing opportunity, IPTC has entered into a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement for Transit Buses with Washington, and now seeks Board approval to purchase 18 60-foot articulated bus buses, one of which will be for immediate delivery to test pilot, with the remaining buses scheduled to arrive beginning in late October 2027. The BRT Blue Line will start revenue service in October 2028. The purchase cost from NFI is about \$1,478,553, per vehicle, which includes delivery costs and all necessary add-on technology and components such as bike racks, the AVAIL CAD/AVL system, radio system, and a video surveillance system.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board could choose not to approve the procurement of the 18 NF diesel 60-foot articulated buses; this could result in a change in pricing later and have a negative impact on the delivery for the pilot testing timeline.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The funding source for this procurement will come from FTA Capital Investment grant funds , a variety of Indianapolis Metropolitan planning organizations, and IndyGo local funds.

DBE/XBE DECLARATION:

There are no DBE goals for this procurement as transit vehicle manufacturers maintain their own DBE programs in accordance with 49 CFR 26.49.

STANDING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION:

This action will be reviewed by the Finance Committee and Service Committee on December 12, 2024.