

April 1, 2025

Prepared By:

Reviewed By:

Jennifer Schwickerath, Assistant City Attorney

Fiscal Impact:

Staff Recommendation:

Approval

Attachments: Resolution

Iowa City Transit sought a qualified vendor to supply and install bus driver protection doors on 23 buses to improve Mass Transit Operator safety and well-being. In August 2024, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued, resulting in four submissions. Following the initial evaluation, Midwest Bus Corporation was selected to proceed to the demonstration phase. A prototype door was installed and evaluated by fifteen bus drivers, who assessed its performance based on criteria including durability, air circulation, window design, visibility, and overall safety features. Based on the evaluation, staff recommends awarding the contract to Midwest Bus Corporation for \$248,285.

Background / Analysis:

In terms of safety equipment for Mass Transit Operators, bus driver protection doors have become an industry standard. They protect drivers by preventing direct physical contact between them and passengers and minimizing injury risks in confrontational or emergency situations while maintaining visibility and accessibility. By equipping buses with the protective doors, Iowa City Transit will create a more safe and secure work environment for Mass Transit Operators.