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1/11/1999	0	City Commission	Approved as Recommended	Pass

Award of a Purchase Order for Wheelchair Lift-Equipped Used Buses and Appropriate Funds from the RTS Undesignated Fund Balance

The Purchasing Division conducted a request for proposals for used wheelchair lift-equipped buses. Two proposals were received. A technical evaluation committee of the Transit Director, Transit Operations Manager, and Transit Maintenance Supervisor evaluated the proposals and recommends award of a purchase order to Midwest Bus Corporation, the low qualified bidder. The purchase order will authorize acquisition of 10 used, refurbished, wheelchair lift-equipped buses to be delivered over the next 90 days at a cost of \$72,800 each (total \$728,000). These used buses were originally manufactured with wheelchair lifts and will be ADA compliant. The buses will come equipped with bicycle racks, an upgraded driver seat, and roof exhaust system.

To maximize the total number of buses that can be procured from available funds, RTS needs to utilize \$30,600 of its undesignated fund balance to pay for 10 used buses it has acquired from the Central Florida Transportation Authority (Lynx). The City Commission must approve any appropriations from departmental undesignated fund balances.

The City has been awarded a federal transit capital grant with funds to pay for used buses. These buses will be purchased with 100% federal funds, since Toll Road Revenue credits provided by the Florida Department of Transportation will be used as local share for the project. The total amount to pay for the buses from Lynx is \$30,600 and will come from the RTS undesignated fund balance of \$503,014.00 as of September 30, 1998. RTS realized a net amount of \$14,008.20 from the City Auction this past summer, which was added to the RTS undesignated fund balance. RTS has three used buses, which it intends to sell to generate additional capital funds. The use of \$30,600 from the RTS undesignated fund balance will have minimal impact on RTS's cash position.

The City Commission: 1) authorize the issuance of a purchase order to Midwest Bus Corporation in the amount of \$728,000 for the purchase of ten used, wheelchair, lift-equipped buses; 2) appropriate \$30,600 from the RTS undesignated fund balance to pay for used buses; and, 3) direct the Office of Management and Budget to include this action in the next amendatory budget ordinance.