



Digital Printing Press  
Operations, Safety, and Customer Experience Committee  
January 15, 2026



**Metro®**

# Background

- The Metro Print Shop was established in 1977 for the purpose of producing customer information and communications materials. On average, the print shop completes over 1k printing jobs a year, which equates to an average of 14 million printed pieces. Producing printed materials in-house saves the agency an average of \$450k a year.
- The print shop is equipped with digital and offset printing machinery, and they are responsible for producing most of the agency's customer information materials, such as bus and rail timetables, flyers, brochures, posters, system maps, bus car cards, forms, applications, folders and banners, as well as other materials.



# Discussion

The Metro Print Shop's role is crucial to the efforts of informing riders about service and Metro-related initiatives by producing various communication materials. The typical lifespan of a printing press is 15-20 years. The print shop's existing press is more than 45 years old. It has far exceeded the normal life expectancy, and frequent breakdowns and scarcity of parts jeopardizes Metro's ability to meet customer demand for critical materials required for Shake Ups, rail openings and other agency initiatives.

Purchasing a new digital press will enable the print shop to expand its capabilities and produce materials more quickly and efficiently for posting and/or distributing systemwide, saving Metro thousands of dollars in outside printing and production costs. A greater number of materials will be needed for upcoming large-scale events, including the World Cup, Super Bowl and the Games. Therefore, it is essential to purchase and install the machine now to be ready to meet those needs in a timely fashion.

# Alternatives Considered

The alternative is to purchase a smaller digital printing press, which would not enable the print shop to increase production and expand capabilities. This would force Metro to outsource printing & production and incur costs of more than \$2 million over the next 20 years.

The designated working area for the digital press is 180" width x 384" length x 106" tall. Metro's sheet size requirement is 23" x 29". The maximum weight for a press is 19,000 lbs. Managing the weight of the new machine is critical due to the print shop being located on the P-2 level of the Gateway parking structure. A press that is too heavy will compromise the integrity of the floor and damage or even possibly collapse through the floor. The weight of the current press is 19,000 lbs. and it is used as a guide, as it has been in that specific location without any issues since the print shop was relocated to the Gateway Building in 1995. Therefore, other printers researched, such as the Ricoh Z75, HP Indigo 120k, Xerox IGen5 and Fuji J Press 750HS, were deemed too large or heavy and cannot be considered for purchase.

# Recommendation

AUTHORIZE the Chief Executive Officer to:

- A. AWARD a non-competitive firm fixed price Contract No. PS134472000 to Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A, Inc. for the purchase of a large format digital printing press in support of Metro's Print Shop in the amount of \$1,268,105, and;
- B. FINDING that there is only a single source of procurement for the item(s) set forth in recommendation A above and that the purchase is for the sole purpose of duplicating or replacing supply, equipment, or material already in use, as defined under Public Utilities Code Section 130237.

(REQUIRES TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE FULL BOARD)