



City of Milwaukee



ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING PROGRAM FEASIBILITY REPORT

OCTOBER 9TH, 2019

Prepared By: Department of Administration - Purchasing Division

Background:

- Based on the directive of Alderman Cavalier Johnson, the Common Council adopted Resolution No. 181909 on April 16, 2019:

A substitute resolution directing the Department of Administration – Purchasing Division to study the feasibility and costs of implementing an Environmentally Friendly Purchasing Program for the City of Milwaukee.

Highlighted Goals of the Resolution:

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1. Utilize City purchasing power to reduce pollution.
2. Support private sector environmental innovation.
3. Enlarge the market for environmentally-friendly products and practices.

Current City of Milwaukee Environmentally Friendly Policies and Practices:

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City of Milwaukee Code of Ordinance, Chapter 310 –Department of Administration dictate the following:

- Section 3: The Environmental Sustainability Director charged with the administration, coordination and implementation of the city's environmental sustainability program.
- Section 15: All contracting agencies required to purchase products from recycled material when practical with the goal of:
 - ❖ Minimizing the amount of solid waste generated by the City
 - ❖ Diminishing the purchase of single use products
 - ❖ Purchasing recycled paper in accordance with federal E.P.A. guidelines
- Section 18: Purchase of Ethanol Fueled Vehicles
- Section 18.5: Purchase of Low Speed Vehicles
- Section 18.7: Electronic Waste Recycling

Current City of Milwaukee Environmentally Friendly Policies and Practices:

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- Environmentally friendly products specified in various city contracts and bid specifications:
 - ✦ Janitorial Supplies
 - ✦ LEED lighting
 - ✦ Solar Install City Facilities
 - ✦ Hybrid Vehicles
 - ✦ Energy Efficient Fuel
 - ✦ Recycled office paper
 - ✦ Remanufactured Toner

- Digital submission of Request for Proposal (RFP)& bid documents

- Encourage contract documents are printed double sided to reduce waste

Best Practices: Environmentally Friendly Purchasing Programs Across the Country

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City of Memphis, TN (Population: Approx. 651,000)

- Consider and choose environmentally friendly products when they are available and comparable in specifications and cost to non-sustainable alternatives.
- Encourage vendors to submit bids electronically whenever possible or printed on double-sided paper.
- Ensure that when possible sustainable purchasing attributes are included in scopes of work and products are evaluated with up to 10% of the scoring system being attributed to sustainable product characteristics.
- Ensure that bidders provide environmental attributes data and certify accuracy of such claims.
- Maintain data on sustainable purchases completed, and percentage of solicitations that include environmental/sustainable attributes.

Best Practices: Environmentally Friendly Purchasing Programs Across the Country

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City of Portland, OR (Population: Approx. 632,000)

- Procurement decision-making incorporate sustainability factors. These include pollutant releases, toxicity, waste generation, greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption, depletion of natural resources, impacts on biodiversity, and other environmental factors.
- Incorporates human health factors; use of local business; use of state-certified minority, women, and emerging small businesses; and other social equity factors.
- Lowered its trash and janitorial service fees by \$1500/month by replacing paper towel dispensers with high-efficiency hand dryers in several buildings.

Best Practices: Environmentally Friendly Purchasing Programs Across the Country

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City of Minneapolis, MN (Population: Approx. 423,000)

- Collect and maintain up-to-date information regarding manufacturers, vendors, and other sources for locating/ordering environmentally preferable products and will provide applicable information to departments.
- Provide assistance, where feasible, to city departments to incorporate environmentally preferable products into their operations.
- Promote staff education and training as feasible and in coordination with other private and public sector efforts.

Recommendations

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1. Improve marketing of existing environmentally friendly purchasing practices in partnership with DOA-ECO.
2. Update City Purchasing Liaison Manual to further encourage green purchasing.
3. Include a “bid” incentive in city bids and RFPS for green products.
4. Include a Sustainable Price Comparison Purchasing Tool on City’s website.
5. Promote staff education and training as feasible and in coordination with other private and public sector efforts.

Conclusions

- The majority of the recommendations can be implemented.
- The challenge is ensuring that staffing resources are available for full dedication and swift implementation.

Solution:

- ❖ Partner with a local university or another agency through DOA-ECO to bring on an intern to work specifically on further enhancing the *messaging of* existing city green practices. In addition to possibly developing and managing a citywide robust sustainable friendly purchasing program with defined metrics.