

Policies related to Environmentally Preferable Purchases and Practices

Outline

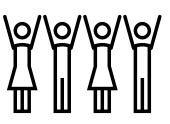
- Background
- City of Pinole's current Environmental Purchasing Policy
- Best practices
- City of San Jose's Environmentally Preferable Procurement Policy
- Cities' additional criteria
- Green purchasing guides and bids
- Price comparison
- Next steps
- Fiscal impact



Background

- Environmental preferable purchasing (EPP) is the procurement of goods and services that have a reduced impact on human health and the environment over less sustainable alternatives
- ► EPP provides an opportunity for the City of Pinole to use its purchasing power to obtain products and services from vendors that demonstrate a high level of environmental and social responsibility
- ► There is room in the City's current environmental purchasing policy to enhance and expand procurement standards and criteria with the goal of purchasing more sustainable goods and services at competitive prices





Pinole's current Environmental Purchasing Policy

- ► The City's Procurement Policy was originally adopted in 2020, and last updated in 2022 to include SB1383 regulations
- The policy's purpose is to provide a guideline for all purchases of goods, services, and supplies made by the City of Pinole
- Section VII, Subsection G of the policy titled "Climate-friendly and Environmentally Preferable Purchases and Practices" outlines the sustainable procurement of goods and services
- Includes SB1383 regulations which requires meeting organic waste product procurement target and recycled content paper products



Pinole's current Environmental Purchasing Policy

- Additional environmental preferable purchasing criteria whenever feasible, that City Staff shall prioritize
 - The purchase of zero-emission vehicles and/or fuel efficient vehicles
 - Provisions of Sustainable Guidelines for Landscape Professionals for landscaping/maintenance services
 - Products that include "Energy Star" certification and meet "EPEAT" energy efficiency standards
 - Consideration of solar installation and battery storage on City properties
 - The purchase of maximum water efficiency products with "WaterSense" certification
 - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building practices

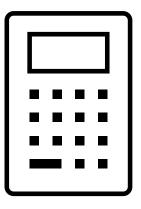
Best Practices from Sustainable Procurement Playbook for Cities



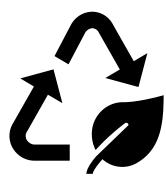
- The Playbook was a collaborative project and a distillation of in-depth interviews and surveys from 19 cities
- Best practices from the Playbook for developing an environmental purchasing policy are:
 - *Addresses the three pillars of sustainability: environmental, social and economic
 - Delineates Staff roles and responsibilities
 - Directs the development of sustainable procurement tools such as model specifications and vendor survey questions
 - Directs sustainable procurement the default action for all major purchasing decisions and includes where exceptions are needed

Best Practices from Sustainable Procurement Playbook for Cities

- Directs to establish and meet sustainable procurement goals
- Encourages Staff to use life-cycle costing and total cost of ownership, or other best value assessment methods when making purchasing decisions
- Includes tracking and reporting requirements
- Directs to periodically review and updates its sustainable purchasing policy and procedures



City of San Jose's Environmental Procurement Policy



- An exemplary policy listed under CalRecycle's sample procurement policies and a favored policy emphasized throughout the aforementioned Playbook
- The policy's outline for sustainable procurement consists of 5 broad categories
- Product Content
 - Contain the highest percentage of post-consumer recovered material and the highest percentage of total recovered material
 - *Replace disposables with reusable, recyclable, and compostable
 - Consider toxicity of product and impacts to human health and environment
 - *Require manufacturers and suppliers to disclose the material content of their products

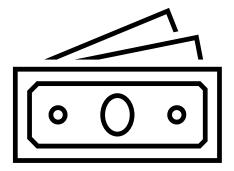
City of San Jose's Environmental Procurement Policy



- Extended Producer Responsibility
 - Durability and minimization of waste in product design, materials content, manufacturing processes, packaging, distribution, and end-of-life management
 - Free or low-cost product takeback services
 - Minimization of greenhouse gas emissions over the entire product lifecycle
 - Participate in industry-financed recycling programs
- Environmental Product Standards
 - Meet environmental product standards established by governmental or other widely recognized authorities

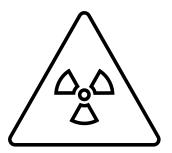
City of San Jose's Environmental Procurement Policy

- Other Environmental Factors
 - If no standards exist, integrate environmental factors into the purchasing decision
- Performance measurement
 - Quantify the environmental and economic benefits of the procurement of environmental alternatives by utilizing environmental benefits calculators or requests from vendors



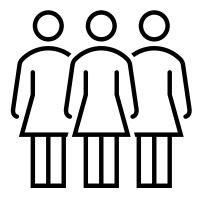
Other Cities' Policy

- Berkeley
 - Purchase of products with the lowest volatile organic compound (VOCs)
 - Prohibition of products with polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
 - Purchase of wood from sustainable forest management
 - ❖Purchase of non-wood, agricultural bio-based products whenever practicable
 - Preference for local businesses and businesses certified by Bay Area Green Business Program



Other Cities' Policy

- Seattle
 - Use of small, minority, and women-owned businesses
 - *Specific implementation responsibilities are assigned to Department of Executive Administration, Seattle Public Utilities, Office of Sustainability and Environment, and City Department Directors



Green Purchasing Guides and Bids

- SFApproved google sheet provides a comprehensive list of green products
- ► The sheet also provides contract language to be pasted into bid contracts for criteria, take-back etc.
- Alameda County Sustainability Department has published their bid excerpts for their green purchasing
 - Office supplies bid
 - Janitorial products bids
 - Printing services bid









Published "how to piggyback" on their green purchasing contracts

Price Comparison

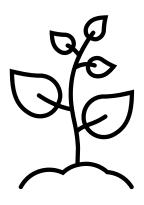
- City of Boston saves \$4.25 million from switching mercury vapor lights to LEDS
- Portland saves \$1500/month replacing paper towel dispensers with high-efficiency dryers
- Palo Alto awarded \$250,000 federal grant for their green purchasing policy



Non-green Item w/ Price	Green Alternative w/ Price
24 pads of Post-its- \$19.99	24 pads of 100% recycled paper Post- its- \$21.76
1 gallon hand soap- \$20.25	Green Seal Standard 1 gallon hand soap- \$21.75
1 gallon all-purpose cleaner- \$10.00	SaferChoice 1 gallon all-purpose cleaner-\$10.98

Next Steps

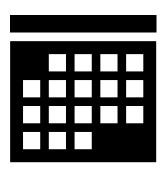
- ► Enhance the environmental purchasing policy to encompass a wider range of green products and services
- Include more specific criteria that look into fair labor practices, local businesses, minority-owned and women-owned businesses, natural resource consumption, toxicity etc.
- Use best practices to structure the policy with assigned roles and departmental responsibilities



Fiscal Impact

- Staff time will be required to
 - Enhance and hone the environmental purchasing section to include specific criteria to broaden the scope of green products and services
 - Educate City Staff on green purchasing for their departments
 - Support implementation, for example creating a vendor questionnaire in the bid process to learn about the sustainability of a good or service





Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council consider information regarding policies supporting the procurement of environmentally sustainable goods and services, and provide direction as appropriate