

City of
Gainesville

ID 201203H

Mike Heimbach, Sustainability Manager
Public Works Department

Zero Waste Subcommittee
Sustainable (“Green”) Purchasing Policy Recommendations
May 11, 2021

Sustainable Purchasing Policy

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP)

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) or Green Purchasing is generally defined as purchasing a product that has a lesser or reduced negative effect or increased positive effect on human health and the environment, when compared with competing products that serve the same purpose. Incorporating EPP in the procurement process considers raw materials acquisition, production, fabrication, manufacturing, packaging, distribution, reuse, operation, maintenance, and disposal of the product. **This term includes sourcing recyclable products, recycled products, reusable products, and products that conserve energy or natural resources.**

Sustainable Purchasing Policy

Sustainable Products (SP)

Sustainable Products (SP) or **environmentally preferable products** or are generally defined as products and services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment, when compared to competing products or services that serve the same purpose. As buying and using sustainable products benefits the environment, improves efficiency, and often saves money, in recent years these practices have become an integral part of public procurement.

Sustainable Purchasing Policy

Sustainable Product Characteristics

- Contain recycled materials – recycled or re-manufactured materials or parts, such as 100% recycled paper
- Minimize waste – minimal packaging or packaging that is recyclable or reusable (including take-back provisions)
- Conserve energy, water, or other natural resources made from sustainable resources
- Prevent pollution – minimize emissions such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and contain fewer toxic substances or reduce the amount of toxic substances disposed or consumed
- Encourage environmentally positive practices such as energy-efficient hot/cold water fountains, composting, recycling containers, engine block heaters, etc.
- Uses energy alternatives to fossil fuel

Sustainable Purchasing Policy

Jump Start on Green Procurement

- **Recycled content products** – office papers and envelopes, packaging, plastic lumber, traffic cones, re-refined motor oil, antifreeze, and toner cartridges, and more. Including outsourced publications and printed items.
- **Energy efficient products** –Energy Star products energy such as copiers, faxes, other office equipment, mail machines, computers, lighting (including traffic lights), appliances, air conditioners, heating, ventilation equipment, and more.
- **Green cleaning products** – Non-toxic properties in cleaning products.

Sustainable Purchasing Policy



City of Orlando

City employees should consider whenever **reasonably practical** the following factors when procuring, or writing specifications for materials, goods, and services:

1. **Environmental Factors** – toxicity, GHG emissions, energy efficiency, water usage, recycled content, etc.
2. **Social Equity Factors** – health impacts, environmental justice, fair labor practices, minority & women owned businesses/suppliers
3. **Economic Factors** – life-cycle cost assessment, operational & maintenance requirements, produce performance, product durability, etc.

Sustainable Purchasing Policy



City of Portland, OR Sustainable Procurement Policy

- Policy Statement

All City employees shall utilize the City's sustainable procurement guiding principles and follow sustainable procurement best practices when planning and designing projects, developing project and operations budgets, developing asset management plans, writing product and service specifications or standards, selecting materials, making purchasing or supplier decisions, and developing and managing City contracts and price agreements as applicable to their roles and responsibilities and/or to a specific project. In doing so, City employees shall strive to be leaders in sustainable procurement and reduce adverse social, human health, and environmental impacts associated with City purchases while maintaining fiscal health, both in the short and long-term.

