



# City of Lockport

## Procurement Policy

*Res 012826.11*

*WHEREAS, Section 104-b of the General Municipal Law (GML) requires every city to adopt internal policies and procedures governing all procurement of goods and services not subject to the bidding requirements of GML, Section 103 or any other law; and*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Lockport does hereby adopt the following procurement policies and procedures:*

**Guideline #1:** Every prospective purchase of goods or services shall be evaluated to determine the applicability of GML Section 103. Every city officer, board, department head or other personnel with the requisite purchasing authority (hereinafter purchaser) shall estimate the cumulative amount of the items of supply or equipment needed in given fiscal year. That estimate shall include the canvass of other city departments and past history to determine the likely yearly value of the commodity to be acquired. The information gathered and conclusions reached shall be documented and kept with the file or other documentation supporting the purchase activity.

**Guideline #2:** All purchase contracts which will exceed \$20,000 in the fiscal year or public works contracts over \$35,000 shall be formal bid pursuant to GML Section 103.

**Guideline #3A:** For the Purchase of Commodities, Equipment, or Goods (Non-Public Works):

<b>Dollar Limit</b>	<b>Procedure</b>
\$1 - \$2,999	At the discretion of the Department Head
\$3,000 - \$4,999	Documented oral/written/emailed quotes from at least three vendors
\$5,000 - \$19,999	Formal written/emailed quotes from at least three separate vendors
\$20,000 and up	Sealed bids in conformance with General Municipal Law, Section 53

**Guideline #3B:** For the Purchase of Public Works Projects/Contracts:

<b>Dollar Limit</b>	<b>Procedure</b>
\$1 - \$2,999	At the discretion of the Department Head
\$3,000 - \$4,999	Documented oral/written/emailed quotes from at least three vendors
\$5,000 - \$34,999	Formal written/emailed quotes from at least three separate vendors
\$35,000 and up	Sealed bids in conformance with General Municipal Law, Section 53

***Any written RFP shall describe the desired goods, quantity and the particulars of delivery. The purchaser shall compile a list of all vendors from whom written/fax/oral quotes have been requested and the written/fax/oral quotes offered. One quotation must be obtained from a local vendor, if possible. All information gathered in complying with the procedures of this guideline shall be preserved and filed with the documentation supporting the subsequent purchase order and provided to the Principle Account Clerk in the Finance Department.***

**Guideline #4:** The lowest responsible proposal or quote shall be awarded the purchase or public works contract unless the purchaser prepares a written justification providing reasons why it is in the best interest of the City and its taxpayers to make an award to other than the low bidder. Local vendors may be given a five percent (5%) price benefit for the contracts less than \$20,000 in determining lowest bid. If a bidder is not deemed responsible, facts supporting that judgment shall also be documented and filed with the record supporting the procurement.

**Guideline #5:** A good faith effort shall be made to obtain the required number of proposals or quotations. If the purchaser is unable to obtain the required number of proposals or quotations, the purchaser shall document the attempt made at obtaining the proposals. In no event shall the inability to obtain the proposals or quotes be a bar to the procurement.

**Guideline #6:** No solicitation of written proposals or quotations shall be required under the following circumstances (but must still be documented with the attached worksheet):

- Emergencies, as defined by General Municipal Law Section 53 (4)/ 103 (4);
- Sole source situations;
- Goods purchased from agencies for the blind or severely handicapped;
- Goods purchased from correctional facilities;
- Goods purchased from or through another governmental agency (such as Sourcewell);
- Goods purchased at auction;
- Goods purchased through a governmental (local/State/or Federal) contract (needs approval with a Council Resolution when substituting for the sealed bidding procedures).
- Professional services; defined as a service requiring special or technical skill, training, or expertise, to be chosen based on accountability, reliability, responsibility, skill, education and training, judgement, integrity, and moral worth.

**Guideline #6A – Piggybacking and Cooperative Purchasing**

The City may purchase goods or services through contracts awarded by another governmental entity (“piggybacking” or cooperative purchasing) in lieu of conducting its own competitive procurement, provided that the following conditions are met:

1. The original contract was awarded through a competitive process substantially complying with General Municipal Law §103.

2. The original contract expressly permits use by other governmental entities, or such use is otherwise authorized by law.
3. The goods or services to be purchased are the same or substantially similar to those covered under the original contract.

When piggybacking is used as a substitute for sealed bidding, Common Council approval by resolution shall be required. Documentation supporting the use of the cooperative contract shall be retained with the procurement file.

Piggybacking shall not be used to intentionally divide or structure purchases to avoid competitive bidding requirements. All piggybacked purchases must be approved prior to the issuance of a purchase order or execution of a contract.

**Guideline #7:** Departments are responsible for ensuring that procurement policy guidelines are withheld in their departments. Any other employee making purchases shall act subject to the direction of the department head responsible for purchasing.

**Guideline #8:** For federally funded projects or activities subject to Section 3 of 24 CFR Part 135 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, the City will, to the greatest extent feasible, facilitate participation of Section 3 residents and Section 3 businesses in the procurement of goods and services pursuant to its Section 3 Participation Plan. Solicitation may be undertaken via advertisements in local publications encouraging Section 3 participation, or direct outreach by letter or email to identified Section 3 businesses or individuals included on the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 3 Businesses Registry. The City's established purchase/ contracting thresholds will apply. The City will keep documentation of Section 3 solicitation in its records and any response(s) thereto.

**Guideline #9:** In an effort to affirmatively increase procurement and contracting opportunities for minority- and women-owned business enterprises, the City will solicit MBEs and/or WBEs as part of its procurement process, when appropriate. Solicitation may be undertaken via advertisements in minority publications or direct outreach by letter or email to identified State-certified M/WBEs, or by working with a clearinghouse such as the Syracuse Minority Business Development Center. The City's established purchase/contracting thresholds will apply. For purposes of the above, the M/WBE must be certified by Empire State Development (ESD) through the Division of Minority and Women Business Development (DMWBD). The City will keep documentation of M/WBE solicitation in its records and any responses thereto.

**Guideline #10:** This policy shall be reviewed annually by the City of Lockport Common Council.