

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL DEPARTMENTS

FR: David E. Fernandez, City Manager (Acting)



DA: October 2, 2012

RE: BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS - Fiscal Year 2012-13

Please be advised that each department shall establish, maintain, and have available for inspection a log for each blanket purchase order for your department. The log should indicate date of pickup, description of item, quantity, name of staff, and amount of purchase. No services can be purchased pursuant to a blanket purchase order.

Also, remember that each individual item purchased pursuant to a blanket purchase order may not exceed \$500.00 – those items over \$500 in value should be priced & competitively purchased separately. Purchases made as part of a project/major repair should be priced out separately and processed through a stand-alone purchase order, not through the blanket purchase order.

Though the Code allows for individual items less than \$500 in anticipated value to be procured without competition provided they met certain conditions it is my direction that individual items less than \$500 in anticipated value be priced to the maximum extent possible. The operative phrase is “to the maximum extent possible”. If there are known local sources which could provide the required supply item, a reasonable attempt should be made to secure at a minimum one additional quote. The departmental log maintained to document purchases made pursuant to this policy should be the source document necessary to demonstrate the departments attempt to secure additional competition. If there are circumstances that prevent a department from securing at the minimum one additional quote, the log should clearly identify the basis for procuring from a single source. Examples of procuring from an additional source could be emergency, only one known local vendor or situations in which additional competition efforts do not warrant the additional administrative efforts to source a second vendor. We need to ensure we support all local vendors by creating an environment of full and open competition to the maximum extent possible.

No attempt should be made to circumvent the policy by multiple trips to the vendor or “breaking up” a requirement as to avoid competitive purchasing. Logs will be audited by Finance on a no notice basis throughout the year. Any department which circumvents the policy will jeopardize their ability to purchase pursuant to a blanket purchase order.