



Introduction Text

The **Center for Organization Research and Design** in the **School of Public Affairs** at **Arizona State University (ASU)** in cooperation with the **International City/County Management Association (ICMA)** is conducting a study on government purchasing and procurement. As a department leader, we are interested in your perspectives and insights into procurement in your organization. While purchasing and procurement may constitute just a small portion of your position's responsibilities, your insights will give us a department-level perspective on purchasing processes.

The findings from this project may provide information helpful to better understanding barriers and facilitators of effective purchasing and procurement in local governments. We are also interested in the extent to which environmental sustainability is being considered in local government purchasing and procurement processes. In partnership with ICMA, we expect to diffuse our findings throughout the practitioner community. Your participation will greatly enhance the quality of our results.

Your participation will entail responding to a series of questions related to your workplace and should take about 10-15 minutes. Your responses are confidential. Results of this study may be published, but the published results will be presented in summary form only. Your identity will not be associated with your responses in any published format. Your involvement in the study is voluntary, and you may choose not to participate or to stop at any time.

If you have any questions about this research project, please feel free to call me at <u>602-496-0243</u>, or send an e-mail to <u>Dr. Melissa A. Duscha</u> at <u>mduscha@asu.edu</u>. Questions or concerns about your rights as a research participant should be directed to the <u>Social Behavioral IRB at Arizona State University</u> at 480-965-6788 or by email at <u>research.integrity@asu.edu</u>.

By completing the following survey, you are agreeing to participate in this research project. Participants must be 18 years of age or older. Please feel free to print and keep a copy of this page for your records.

Again, thank you for participating.

Dr. Melissa A. Duscha

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Take the survey

SECTION 1: City Level Procurement Practices

As a department manager, you have a broad perspective of your city's policies and activities. It is this perspective that we are interested in and the reason you are included in this study.

In this section of the survey, we will ask you to characterize aspects of your city's procurement system. Please answer the questions to the best of your knowledge and based on your perspective as a manager.

1.	There are a variety of ways that cities conduct the purchasing of products and services. Please
inc	dicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements related to how purchasing is
СО	onducted in your city:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
The finance department conducts all purchasing	0	0	0	0	\circ	\circ
Individual departments do all of their own purchasing				\bigcirc		\bigcirc
Separate departments cooperate to make purchases			\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Departments coordinate with higher level offices to make purchases (e.g., city manager's office)	0		\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
The finance department provides support for department purchasing			\bigcirc			\bigcirc

2. To the best of your knowledge, has your city implemented the following purchasing activities?

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Citywide contracts to reduce purchasing costs	0	\circ	\circ
An e-procurement system			

2B. Please indicate whether your city has implemented the following elements in your e-procurement system:

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Online bid process	0	0	0
E-procurement training for purchasing officers		\bigcirc	\circ
Tracking of e-procurement purchases		\bigcirc	\circ
Database of environmentally friendly products and services		\bigcirc	\circ

3.	To the best of you	ur knowledge,	has your	city impleme	nted a forn	mal policy	pertaining t	o any	of the
foll	owing purchasing	j issues:							

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Minority-owned business purchasing	0	\circ	\circ
Women-owned business purchasing		\bigcirc	
Environmentally sustainable purchasing*		\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Veteran-owned business purchasing	\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Local business purchasing			
Small business purchasing		\circ	\circ

SECTION 2: City Level Environmental Sustainability Policies/Practices

In this section, we ask several questions about your city's policies and practices related to environmental sustainability*.

4. Please indicate whether the following environmental practices have been implemented or adopted throughout your city.

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Tracking of spending on environmental sustainability activities		\circ	
Setting goals and targets for environmental performance	\circ		\bigcirc
Environmental training for all city employees	\circ		\circ
Internal audits of environmental performance	\circ		\circ
Publication of an environmental / sustainability report			\circ
Using an environmental management system		\bigcirc	\bigcirc

^{*} **Environmentally sustainable purchasing** is the set of activities undertaken by an organization to implement purchasing that reduces negative effects on the environment.

^{*} Environmental sustainability refers to activities that reduce negative effects on the environment.

5.	To the best of	your knowledge,	does your cit	y have any	of the following?

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Citywide environmental sustainability director	\circ	\circ	\circ
Citywide environmental sustainability committee		\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Citywide environmental sustainability policy	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Energy usage conservation policy		\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Water usage conservation policy			
Green building policy	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	
Greenhouse gas emissions policy	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ
Recycling policy			
Citywide discussions about environmentally sustainable purchasing practices across units		\circ	\circ

6. Over the last five years, how important has each of the following **federal or state government programs** been in promoting environmental sustainability in your city?

	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Grants	0		0			
Technical assistance (e.g., EPA Pollution Prevention Technical Assistance)	0	\bigcirc	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ	\bigcirc
Voluntary programs (e.g., EPA Green Lights)			\circ		\bigcirc	
Awards/recognition programs	\circ					
Educational programs						

Section 3a Department Level Policies/Practicies (PURCHASE QUESTIONS)

In this next set of questions, we will ask you about your departments' general purchasing policies and procedures. We are specifically interested in policies and procedures as they relate to three types of purchases made by your department:

1) Routine, low-cost purchases of products/services

- 2) Routine, high-cost purchases of products/services
- 3) Non-routine, high-cost purchases that require technical specifications of products/services

Routine refers to regular, repeated purchases. **Technical specifications** (e.g., scope of work) are the explicit characteristics of a purchase that describe the user's product and service requirements.

7. For each type of purchase, identify every level of approval that is required for authorization. Check all levels that apply for each type of purchase: (Please leave blank if you don't know)

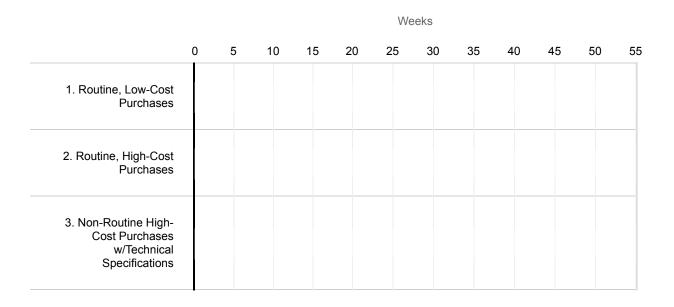
	1. Routine, Low-Cost Purchases	2. Routine, High-Cost Purchases	3. Non-routine, High-Cost Purchases w/Technical Specifications
Departmental			
City Finance Office/Department			
City Executive Manager (Mayor or City Manager)			
City Council			

8. For each type of purchase, check the box if the following is used in your department's purchasing process. (Please leave blank if you don't know)

	1. Routine, Low-Cost Purchases	2. Routine, High-Cost Purchases	3. Non-Routine, High-Cost Purchases w/Technical Specifications
Approved vendor list			
Existing or prior contract			
Bid process			
Information system searches to find multiple options			
Information on the environmental impact of products			
Information on life cycle cost*			
Prior approval from unit budget/finance officer			
Prior approval from higher unit budget officer			
Ecolabels/certifications			
Preferred green products/services list			

^{*} **Life cycle cost** refers to the expenses associated with a product's total life, from raw material extraction through materials processing, manufacturing, distribution, use, repair and maintenance, and disposal or recycling.

9. For each type of purchase, please indicate **how much time (in weeks) is typically required between a <u>purchasing request being made</u> by your department and <u>the actual approval of that request</u>:**



In the next section, we will ask you about the general aspects of purchasing in your department.

SECTION 3b: Department Level Policies/Practices

10. Departments may use a number of different information sources when making purchases. Please indicate whether each of the following information sources is available to your department when making purchasing decisions:

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Information on the environmental impact of products		\circ	\circ
Product ecolabels/certifications			\bigcirc
Green product/service list			
Minority business list			
Small business list			

11.	There are many different criteria that may be considered in the purchase of a product or service. In
thin	nking about your department's purchasing criteria, how important is each of the following
cha	aracteristics of a product or service?

	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Purchase price	0		0		0	
Execution of pre-existing contract agreements	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	
Performance requirement						
Buying from minority/women businesses	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc			
Buying from veteran businesses						
Buying from local businesses						
Greenhouse gas emissions reductions		\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	
Environmental impact (e.g., water use, solid waste)			\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	
Life-cycle cost of the product						
Maintaining vendor relationships						

12. How important are **technical specifications** to your department when managing the following aspects of purchases:

	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Complexity of the purchase	0		0			
Uncertainty in identifying appropriate vendors		\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Higher level review processes						
Environmental sustainability concerns			\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc

In this section of the survey, we will ask you about environmental sustainability policies and practices within your department. There are no right or wrong answers to these items. Please answer the questions based on your perspective as a department manager.

13. How influential are each of the following **individuals** or **organizations** in promoting environmental sustainability practices in your department?

	Very Influential	Influential	Moderately Influencial	Slightly Influential	Not Influential	Don't Know
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Federal government					(\bigcirc	
State government					(
Other city departments					(
City executive (manager or mayor)			\bigcirc		(
City council					(
City employees					(
Citizens					(
Vendors					(
Business associations					(
Environmental groups or organizations		\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	(
in your department?							
Top managers are responsible for the		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
of environmental sustainability police	cies.		Agree	Agree nor	Disagree		
	e for the		Agree	Agree nor	Disagree		
of environmental sustainability police Mid-level managers are responsible implementation of environmental su	cies. It for the listainability		Agree	Agree nor	Disagree		
of environmental sustainability polici Mid-level managers are responsible implementation of environmental supplicies. Staff employees are responsible for implementation of environmental supplicies. 15. How important are the	cies. e for the ustainability the ustainability	Agree	0	Agree nor Disagree	at		
of environmental sustainability policies. Mid-level managers are responsible implementation of environmental supplicies. Staff employees are responsible for implementation of environmental supplicies. 15. How important are the Energy conservation	e for the istainability the stainability e the istainability	Agree	o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o	Agree nor Disagree	at	Disagree	Know
of environmental sustainability policies. Mid-level managers are responsible implementation of environmental supplicies. Staff employees are responsible for implementation of environmental supplicies. 15. How important are the Energy conservation Water conservation	e for the istainability the stainability e the istainability	Agree	o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o	Agree nor Disagree	at	Disagree	Know
of environmental sustainability policies. Mid-level managers are responsible implementation of environmental supplicies. Staff employees are responsible for implementation of environmental supplicies. 15. How important are the Energy conservation Water conservation Solid waste reduction	e for the istainability the stainability e the istainability	Agree	o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o	Agree nor Disagree	at	Disagree	Know
of environmental sustainability policies. Mid-level managers are responsible implementation of environmental supplicies. Staff employees are responsible for implementation of environmental supplicies. 15. How important are the Energy conservation Water conservation	e for the istainability the stainability e the istainability	Agree	o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o	Agree nor Disagree	at	Disagree	Know
of environmental sustainability policies. Mid-level managers are responsible implementation of environmental supplicies. Staff employees are responsible for implementation of environmental supplicies. 15. How important are the Energy conservation Water conservation Solid waste reduction Greenhouse gas emissions	e for the istainability the stainability e the istainability	Agree	o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o	Agree nor Disagree	at	Disagree	Know

Qualtrics Survey Software

2/14/2017

16.	Within your	department,	how impo	ortant are	environmenta	I sustainability	concerns	to the p	ourchase
of th	ne following t	types of prod	lucts and	services?					

	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Chemical products						
Road construction/maintenance services		\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
General construction services						
Electrical products						
Information technology hardware and services				\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Professional services						
Transportation/fuels						
Wood and paper products						

17. In your view, to what extent does each of the following either **constrain** or **facilitate** your department's ability to implement environmentally sustainable purchasing?

	Strongly Facilitates	Facilitates	Neither Facilitates nor Constrains	Constrains	Strongly Constrains	Don't Know
Financial resources						
Human resources						
Employee attitudes						
Law and regulation						
Top Management						

18. How important or unimportant are the following considerations in your department's purchasing decisions?

	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Environmental sustainability of the products/services offered			\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	
Disposal costs						
Reducing packaging waste						
Life-cycle cost assessment						
Recyclability or reuse						

	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Reducing greenhouse gas impacts			\bigcirc		\bigcirc	

19. In thinking about your relationships with vendors, to what extent do you disagree or agree with the following statements about procurement/purchasing in your department?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
It is easy to switch vendors in my department			\circ	\circ	\circ	0
Many of my department's vendors offer environmentally friendly products and services			\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Vendors closely monitor our department's procurement decisions			\bigcirc			
Vendors often provide unreliable information about environmentally friendly products and services	\circ		\circ	\bigcirc	\circ	\circ
Vendors help us learn about environmentally sustainable purchasing options	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc

19B. We are interested in your overall assessment of the implementation of your city's environmentally sustainability purchasing policy.

	Very Unsuccessful -5	-4	-3	-2	-1	Neither Successful nor Unsuccessful 0	1	2	3	4	Very Successful 5
How would you assess your city's overall implementation of this policy?		\circ				0	\circ	0			0

SECTION 4: Department Structure and Culture

We would now like to ask you about aspects of your department's work setting and culture.

Rules and procedures exist in every organization and have important functions such as coordinating tasks and ensuring accountability. It is possible for organizations to have too many rules and procedures or not enough rules and procedures.

20. To what extent do you disagree or agree with the following statements?

My department has too many rules and procedures	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	0	0	0	\circ		0
Employees in my department are constantly being checked on for rule violations			\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
21. How frequently do yo	Very		Somewhat		Very	
	Frequently	Frequently	Frequently	Infrequently	Infrequently	Don't Know
City's executive manager (e.g., mayor or city manager)						
City's council members						
22. To what extent do yo This department has a strong	u disagree or a	gree with th	Neither Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
commitment to innovation			\bigcirc			
We reward employees who						
develop innovative solutions						
						0
develop innovative solutions This department is a dynamic	0	0	0	0	0	0

On't Know

SECTION 5: Professional and Personal Information

In this last section, we would like to find out a little bit more about you. The following questions ask a few items about yourself and your career.

24.	What is the	e official	title c	of your	current	position?
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25. How long have you worked for the city?



26. How long have you held your current position?



27. How many employees do you directly supervise?



28. In a typical week, approximately how many hours do you spend on purchasing, procurement, or contracting activities?

Hours
0 4 8 12 16 20 24 28 32 36 40

Purchasing, procurement, or contracting activities					

29	To what extent are	vou active in	nrofessional	associations in	vour field?
4 3.	10 What extern are	you active iii	professional	a55001at10115 111	your neid?

\bigcirc	Very Active
\bigcirc	Active
	Moderately Active

Widderatery	ACTIVE
Somewhat	Active

Comewhat / to
Not Active

30.	What is y	your highest	level of	educational	attainment?

Highest Level	
r lightest Level	\circ

 $\textbf{31.} \ \ \text{What best describes the field of study of your highest degree? (e.g., business, public administration, law, etc.)}$

32. What is your gender?

Female
remale

Male

33. What year were you born?

Year of birth 🗘

YesNo						
On't Know						
Prefer Not To Answer						
To conclude, we are into your position. There are				bility behavi	ors of indivi	duals in
your pooluoni more are	,g	g a				
35. In your personal time	how frequent	ly do you:				
	Very		Somewhat		Very	
	Frequently	Frequently	Frequently	Infrequently	Infrequently	Don't Know
Recycle solid waste at home						
Conserve energy at home						
Conserve water at home						
Purchase environmentally friendly products					\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Compost food waste						
Donate either time or money to an environmental organization		\bigcirc	\bigcirc		\bigcirc	
36. Is there anything else activities?	e that you wou	ld like to shar	e about your	city's or depa	artment's prod	curement
activities:						

37. Would you be interested in learning more about sustainable purchasing or procurement from any of the following organizations? (Select all that apply)

*This is the last question of the survey. After you click on the next arrow, your responses are finalized and you will not be able to return the survey.				
Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC)				
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Recommendations of Specifications, Standards, and Ecolabels 				
☐ International City/County Management Association (ICMA)				
West Coast Climate and Materials Forum (WCCMF) Greenhouse Gas Purchasing Assessment Tools				

End of Survey Links