

Request for Council Action

Originator Purchasing	Item Cooperative Purchasing Connection - Approve Cooperative Participation
Agenda Section Consent Business	Date 2/23/2015

Description

Under Minnesota Statute 471.345, Subd 15, the City may purchase supplies, materials, or equipment without regard to the competitive bidding requirements if the purchase is made through the State of Minnesota's Cooperative Purchasing Venture (CPV) Program or through a national municipal association's purchasing alliance or cooperative. While the State's CPV program is the City's primary resource for cooperative contract purchases, products that better meet the City's needs are often found to be available on contracts available through other cooperative purchasing programs.

Council is requested to approve the City's participation in the Minnesota Service Cooperatives' (MSC) Cooperative Purchasing Connection program. The contracts available through this cooperative program are the result of a public competitive bid process conducted by eight regional Service Cooperatives in accordance with established public purchasing requirements. The City's Legal Department has verified the ability of the City of Bloomington's participation in the program. Cooperative Purchasing Connection includes a wide range of products and offers participating agencies the ability to take advantage of available volume discount pricing, expedited procurement, research and development of technical specifications, and contract administration. The ability to access contracts through Cooperative Purchasing Connection will provide the City with another resource to purchase supplies and equipment at the best price available, especially in the Communications and IS Departments. There is no fee or minimum purchase required to participate. Any expenditure over \$100,000 will be brought to Council for prior approval as per the City's purchasing policy.

Requested Action

Approve the City's participation in the Cooperative Purchasing Connection purchasing program.

Attachments: