

City of Seattle Green Purchasing Accomplishment Report 2008



Compiled by:

**Seattle Public Utilities
and
Department of Finance and Administrative Services, City Purchasing**

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1. Executive Summary

The City of Seattle is committed to environmentally sustainable considerations in acquisition of City goods and services, including climate protection, toxin reduction, recycled-content, and other environmental best practices. For a list of policies related to green purchasing, see *Section 6: Green Purchasing Policy Directives*.

The City of Seattle is a leader in national municipal green programs, showing significant commitment through City policies and actual spend. The City infused over \$11 million dollars into green products and services in 2008.

City Purchasing led a significant City-wide Socially Responsible Purchasing project, under the Mayor's Customer Process Improvement Program. This initiative led more than 35 participants in 11 departments to identify institutional barriers to both environmental purchasing and other social justice initiatives (women and minority owned business, and fair labor). This project identified and completed several major projects, and continues to pursue additional improvements in City purchasing decisions and systems.

Of 1,200 City blanket contracts, 23% are of a nature that allows environmentally preferable options. Approximately 83% of those—230 contracts—are already awarded with the most aggressive environmental specifications in the market.

The City remains a leader in testing and promoting green purchasing initiatives. The City was among the first in the country to implement mandatory green office supply contracts, integrated pest management services, and deconstruction services. The City continued aggressive pursuit of citizen benefit programs, including energy conservation services, energy audits and conservation products for citizens (e.g. compact fluorescent bulbs and showerhead aerators).

City Purchasing and the City Green Team (an Interdepartmental team hosted by City Purchasing) also adopted a new Green Purchasing policy for the City, which incorporated progressive and updated environmental policy objectives. This policy has become an example for other programs in the country through the NIGP Green Knowledge and Responsible Purchasing Network programs.

Other Green Team and City Purchasing highlights in 2008 included:

- Hosting the National Institute of Government Purchasers (NIGP) Green Purchasing Training in October, with the Annual State of Washington Purchasing Trade Show;
- Presenting on the City's Green Purchasing expectations during the DEA/Tabor 100 Vendor Education Day;
- Applying for Green Seal certification of the City's purchasing at the Gold level, the first City to do so;
- Networking with Green Purchasing staff from other local public agencies;
- Conducting a workshop on successful use of vegetable-based hydraulic oil for landscape and heavy equipment;
- Continued work on the NIGP Green Knowledge Community;
- Creating a national and global platform with Office Depot for green office supplies.

2. Background on the City's Green Purchasing Program

The Mayor and City Council provide strong and continuous executive direction to all City Departments, including City Purchasing (Department of Finance and Administrative Services), to pursue environmental purchasing. The City's commitment includes facilitating and promoting responsible environmental practices, and introducing bid specifications and inviting proposals that will:

- Increase use of recycled materials in product purchases;
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption and other depletion of natural resources related to product purchases;
- Reduce hazardous materials throughout a product's lifecycle (especially persistent bio-accumulative toxins);
- Reduce land-filling or disposal particularly of hazardous elements of such products; and
- Promote community and business innovation and new product development.

3. Green Seal Leadership

The City of Seattle, through City Purchasing, submitted a Green Seal application to be certified at the Gold level. In preparation for the Green Seal application, City Purchasing worked with a team to review environmental content and opportunity for all goods and services contracts. 230 City contracts are currently using best environmental practices. Forty-six more were identified as having further potential to improve environmental specifications. Several will be pursued as part of the 2009 green purchasing efforts. In updates/rebids of existing contracts, buyers will enforce Green Seal or Ecologo standards as appropriate.

4. Standards-Setting Leadership

Office Depot "green" criteria Office Depot and the City of Seattle initiated a significant new national initiative to build a set of characteristics and measurements that would define a product as green. There is no national standard for office supplies. The products are so varied that a single green characteristic (such as recycled) is not sufficient to define green products. Also, the vendors tend to self-identify, creating significant opportunity for "green washing." The City and Office Depot initiated a project with the City of Portland, and proposed "shades of green" ratings. This will serve as the basis for additional forthcoming work by Office Depot to create a national standard and a global standard.

EPEAT standards for imaging equipment City Purchasing hosts an intradepartmental multi-function and copier commodity team. The team assisted in the development of a national EPEAT standard for multi-function copiers. EPEAT standards work by developing market recognition for efforts to reduce the environmental impact of electronic products. At the completion of the imaging standard, there will be clear performance criteria for the design of imaging equipment.

Green Seal standard for janitorial products Seattle formally signed on to group comments on the cleaning product standard used by Green Seal, coordinated by the Green Purchasing

Institute. Seattle sought identification of substances contributing to asthma (asthmagens) in the Green Seal janitorial standard.

Evergreen Green Fleets Initiative The Evergreen Green Fleets standard is a rating system that grades an organization's fleet on 18 different elements. A fleet can achieve a Platinum, Gold and Silver level rating. Currently the Puget Sound Clean Cities Coalition (of which Seattle is a major sponsor) and Puget Sound Clean Air Agency are running a pilot to determine the impact of Evergreen Green Fleets reporting and to see if the ratings are appropriate through early 2009. Seattle's Fleets and Facilities Department filled out reporting paper work in 2008 and is one of the five pilot participants.

Sustainable Landscaping Certification Since 2007 City staff have participated in the national "Sustainable Sites Initiative", www.sustainablesites.org, a collaborative effort by the American Society of Landscape Architects, US EPA, US Green Building Council, and local technical experts to develop measureable site and landscape criteria for inclusion into the US GBC's LEED green building standards. The technical committees are nearing the end of their work, after two years and two full drafts that received national review. The criteria are in line with best practices that the City has developed and adopted in recent years relating to compost use and pesticide reduction.

5. Green Contracting Initiatives in 2008

Green Servers The City Department of Information Technology is leading an effort to reduce energy consumption in computer servers. By reducing Computer Room Air Conditioner (CRAC) workload, increasing ambient temperature, and eliminating some devices, consumption of energy by the Data center reduced 50% from 200kW to 100 kW—saving \$43,362 or 876,000 kWh per year. Current initiatives include dry cooling, cabinet insulation to separate out cool and warm air flows, and installing a software program called Synapsense to monitor temperature, humidity, electrical power consumption, and air flow.

Paper Reduction: Large Scale Printers are required to use 100% recycled-content paper, and print double-sided. These requirements reduce paper consumption by 2 million sheets/year. Océ equipment meets these requirements, reduces ozone and doesn't heat the paper as much, saving energy. Large scale printers were reduced from three to two, saving 75,336 kWh and \$3,729 annually.

Bio-based Lubricants Several departments continue to use bio-based cleaners, shop oils, and bar-and-chain oil. In 2008, FFD and SPU collaborated to test bio-based hydraulic oil in heavy equipment. The change-outs were completed in June, and are being monitored for 12-months. Results are positive. In early 2010, an interdepartmental team will review and develop recommendations. SPU seeks to reduce hazardous materials and impact of oil dripped or spilled where it can enter storm drains and water bodies. SPU plans to consider the cost-benefit comparison for wider-scale use in City equipment. Example products are:

- Terresolve Envirologic 39 Penetrating/Lube Oil
- Renewable Lubricant Bio-Mist EP Cutting Oil
- Stihl Bio-Plus Bar and Chain Oil
- Terresolve Envirologic 268B Bar and Chain Oil

Bio-based bar and chain oil is mandatory in the drinking water Cedar River Watershed. Seattle Parks is also using bio-based lubricants in machinery.

1. Mayor's Socially Responsible Purchasing Project

The Mayor created a Socially Responsible Purchasing initiative as part of the Customer Service Process Improvement project that launched June 10, 2008. City Purchasing led a team, with over 35 representatives from 11 departments in a year-long initiative. The team identified 5 major institutional changes to encourage Women and Minority Businesses (WMBE), fair Labor policies and environmentally preferable products and services. The 5 projects include improved technology to support socially responsible purchasing contracts, analysis of institutional barriers, redesign of WMBE goal setting, Limited Public Works and Streamlining.

2. Green Purchasing Policies and Directives

The City of Seattle has a series of ordinances, Executive Orders and policy directives committing to green purchasing.

The following **ordinances** govern the City's sustainable purchasing:

1. SMC 20.60.200 et. Seq., Reusable Products, Recycled Content Products, and Recyclable Products Procurement Program.
2. Seattle Municipal Code 3.18.900 - 926 (Ordinance 116720 and 116726).

The Mayor and Seattle City Council provide additional **executive commitment and leadership** as follows:

1. US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement
2. Mayor Nickels' Climate Action Plan
3. Mayor's Executive Order for Paper Use - #01-05
4. Resolution 27828, directing Solid Waste to develop policies and practices to encourage, increase, and require recycling, waste reduction, and the purchase of recycled products.
5. Resolution 28556, authorizing the Director of ESD to develop a "Recycled-content Procurement Plan."
6. Resolution 29949, implementing Copernicus and encouraging the City to act as a regional partner in environmental protection.
7. City Council Resolution #30487 aims to reduce and eliminate PBTs in purchasing decisions. The City also requires disclosure of products containing PBTs in purchasing decisions, such as PBDEs, mercury, lead and chlorinated plastics and dioxins.

The City has a series of related **policies** including:

1. City Pesticides Reduction rules
2. City Sustainable Building Action Plan
3. City Green Fleets Initiative
4. Seattle Green Ribbon Commission Report on Greenhouse Gases
5. The 1998 Solid Waste Management Comprehensive Plan, which identifies ways that purchasing affects waste management. The 2004 update included a goal to expand local markets and increase purchases of recycled-content products (p. 1- 7)
6. A City Environmental Management System adopted in 1999 contained policies for Recycling and Waste Reduction and Sustainable Purchasing.

7. No idling policy. Purchasing has a general vehicle anti-idling requirement in all City contracts, requiring the City vendors and contractors to adopt anti-idling practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
8. Green Purchasing Policy: City Purchasing also maintains a city-wide purchasing policy, first adopted by an Interdepartmental Environmental Team in 2003.

3. Women and Minority Business Engagement

City Purchasing connects opportunities for emerging environmentally-preferable product and services to women and minority owned businesses (WMBE) in the local community. The WMBE community has been responsive and innovative. During 2008, the City continued early links between the WMBE community and environmental opportunities.

1. Office Supply Trade Show: The Trade Show, hosted by City Purchasing on August 17, 2008, featured WMBE vendors that won City contracts with green office supply product lines. These WMBE vendors were invited to market their new innovative Green products to not only City clients, but also business-to-business to other City contractors.
2. Goats: The City contracts for goat grazing remains with a women-owned local business.
3. Promotional Products: The City introduced a promotional product contract, with two minority-owned companies.
4. Remanufactured Laser Cartridges: The winning vendor is a minority-owned Seattle business.
5. Janitorial Products: The City of Seattle has awarded a contract to a local distributor for Green Seal Janitorial products.
6. Landscaping: Contract specifications have integrated comprehensive Landscaping and Pesticide considerations for every solicitation effort within that commodity range.
7. Deconstruction: The City has executed contracts to minimize solid waste and recycle valuable building materials.

The City will continue with goals for furthering these connections during 2009.

9. 2008 Green Purchasing Summary Table

Commodity	Year	Dollars Spent (\$)	Quantity Purchased	Percent Green (of total spent within the product line)
100% Recycled, Process Chlorine-Free Paper¹	2007	\$350,000	102,936 reams	100%
	2008	\$336,562	99,670 reams	100%
Recycled Content Janitorial Paper	2007	\$266,800		86%
	2008	\$232,255		84%
Greener and Safer Janitorial Cleaners	2007	\$354,500		
	2008	\$147,603		
Green Seal Certified or Zero VOC Paint²	2007	\$24,600	1,638 gallons	25%
	2008	\$39,625	2,386 gallons	48%
FSC Wood/ Plastic Lumber	2007	\$16,120		5%
	2008	\$55,263		29%
EPEAT Desktop Computers (Gold)	2007	\$2.6 million (May 2007- Dec 2007)	3,400 computers ³	100%
	2008	\$541,877	831 computers	100%
Sub-compact sedans and Small SUV Hybrid Vehicles⁴	2007	\$2.3 million	102 hybrids	84%
	2008	\$1.4 million	59 hybrids	100%
Alternative Fuel⁵	2007	\$2.0 million	159,794 gallons	32%
	2008	\$3.5 million	310,741 gallons	42%
Greener Office Supplies	2007	\$284,000		14%
	2008	\$509,610		15%
Re-manufactured Cartridges	2007	\$44,000		100%
	2008	\$47,623	803 cartridges	100%

¹ Source: Pat Miller, SPU

² Source: Miller, Rodda, and Kelly-Moore Paint reports from Wiley Thompson, DEA. Assumes a cost of \$15/ gallon for both standard and low VOC paint.

³ Source: Lance Fuhrman, DOIT. Estimated based on average cost per computer

⁴ Source: Pat Eaton, FFD

⁵ This is only the non-petroleum fraction and Compressed Natural Gas. Does not include the petroleum fraction of biodiesel blends.

Re-manufactured Furniture	2007	\$733,161	17%
	2008	\$976,329	31%
Goats	2007	\$9,620	
	2008	\$10,093	
Energy Conservation Services	2008	\$2.93 million	
Deconstruction	2008	\$56,816	
Integrated Pest Management	2008	\$64,414	
Carpet Recycling	2007	\$29,000	
	2008	\$20,500	
Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs	2007	\$90,072	51,469 bulbs
	2008	\$476,569	272,000 bulbs
Reusable Shopping Bags	2008	\$15,552	
Shower heads	2007	\$170,848	
	2008	\$30,165	
Totals	2007	\$9.27 million	
	2008	\$11.25 million	

10. 2008 Commodity Updates

100% Recycled, Process Chlorine-Free Paper

The City of Seattle continues with successful implementation of reduced paper consumption, using a very aggressive environmentally preferable paper product.

The City continues with the standard to purchase Grays Harbor 100 process chlorine-free, 100% post-consumer recycled content paper. The City requires outside printing vendors to double-side and use 100% post consumer recycled-content paper. Large format printers are also required to meet the City specification for double-sided printing and recycled-content paper.

The City also successfully continued the pattern of reducing paper, again dropping from 102,936 reams of paper in 2007 to 99,670 in 2008. That is a reduction of **26%** from the 2004 baseline.

For each 1% reduction in paper consumption, the City saves \$2,882, and achieves impressive environmental results; 62 fewer trees, 64,606 fewer gallons of water, 300 fewer lbs of water pollutants, 7,074 fewer lbs of solid waste, 20,500 fewer lbs of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants, and 123,662 fewer British Thermal Units (BTUs) of energy.

Therefore, the City's 26% reduction in annual paper use in 2008 saved:

- \$74, 932
- 1,612 trees
- 16.8 million gallons
- 3.2 million BTUs

And prevented release of:

- 7,800 lbs of pollutants
- 184,000 lbs of solid waste
- 532,000 lbs of greenhouse gases and air pollutants

The reason for this continued success in paper reduction is because of the leadership of PaperCuts and departmental commitments, as well as the deployment of many multi-function devices (copiers, scanners, and printers) across the city.

The City also notes the synergy with the Grays Harbor Paper product, which is a locally-owned and operated paper plant. The Grays Harbor community suffered a significant economic impact from the closure of the lumber processing plant, and the Grays Harbor Paper Mill business was organically created to replace the jobs and promote a community economic recovery. Grays Harbor is also using best green practices in their company production, and is pursuing such significant initiatives as full life-cycle processing of materials.

Recycled Content Janitorial Paper

The City of Seattle purchases recycled-content janitorial paper from the West Coast Paper Company. This is a piggy-back contract on King County. The contract specifies that items bought off this contract meet the Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines developed by EPA. The EPA recycled-content standards are:

Commercial Sanitary Tissue Products			
Item	Description	Post Consumer	Total Recycled Content
Bathroom Tissue	Used in rolls or sheets	20–60%	20–100%
Paper Towels	Used in rolls or sheets	40–60%	40–100%
Paper Napkins	Used in food service applications	30–60%	30–100%
Facial Tissue	Used for personal care	10–15%	10–100%
General-purpose Industrial Wipers	Used in cleaning and wiping applications	40%	40–100%

Source: 2007 Buy Recycled Series, Paper Products.
www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/tools/cpg/pdf/paper.pdf

Greener and Safer Janitorial Cleaners

The City initiated contracts for multiple general purpose and restroom cleaners in 2003, and added microfiber, floor care and metal polish products in 2004. These contracts were based on strict health and environmental criteria as well as product performance as judged by City janitorial staff.

In 2008, the City redesigned their contracts to utilize the newly launched Green Seal certification (GS-37) that introduce some stringent preferable standards. Five blanket contracts provided for these products.

Environmentally Preferable Paint

Forty-eight percent (48%) of City paint is either zero or Low VOC, or recycled. The paint contracts include paint needed for marine and metal applications, building surfaces, equipment and vehicles, as well as other chemicals. In some cases, paint manufacturers have significantly lowered VOCs because of State of California air pollution requirements. The City's painting needs occasionally preclude the use of low-VOC or zero-VOC paint, which explains the mixed use of environmentally preferable paint. These numbers should be viewed as an approximation of the amount of EPP paint purchased by the city as there was difficulty in calculating total gallons of paint bought in these contracts.

FSC Wood/ Plastic Lumber

City continued contracts for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified lumber and for plastic lumber for internal City purchases and capital improvement projects. The City uses plastic lumber as a long-lasting, durable alternative to conventional hard wood lumber. The plastic lumber shows life cycle savings through reduced maintenance. The City has a contract for Ecoboard (made from 100% recycled and carefully graded, non-toxic polyethylene). Polyethylene lumber is un-reinforced but stable and strengthened with chopped glass fibers. Spending on FSC certified wood increased 24% from 2007 to 2008. In 2008, 29% was FSC or plastic lumber. In addition, the total overall spending on lumber materials decreased from \$301,707 to \$136,540.

EPEAT Desktop Computers

The City has a centralized computer desktop standard, and acquires all computers through a centralized contract. Technology standards are established by the City's Chief Technology Officer and incorporate the most advanced environmentally preferable specifications that are suitable to City business needs.

During 2007, the City adopted the new Electronic Products Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) computer standards. All desktop computers purchased met Bronze level of the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) as of late 2007, and the highest level of Gold in 2008.

Four standard EPEAT gold computers are specified through a standard ordering site. Changing from Bronze EPEAT to Gold EPEAT equals a savings of 40,000 kWh or \$1,980 each year in energy savings.

The City's contract also includes provisions for packaging waste-reduction and for responsible recycling at end-of-life.

Sub-compact sedans and Small SUV Hybrid Vehicles

100 percent of new subcompact or SUV light-duty vehicle purchases are now hybrid- totaling 59 vehicles in 2008. In total, hybrids account for 406 City vehicles.

The City also owns and maintains:

Neighborhood Electric Vehicles

These vehicles are limited by speed (35 MPH in Washington State). The City has three in the Parks Department and one at Parking Enforcement.

Personal Transport Vehicles

The City has three T3 Motion vehicles used for parking enforcement; 22 Segways for utility meter reading and parking enforcement; and two electric bikes for free use through the City's motor pool.

Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs)

Four PHEVs are being used in a pilot program.

Off-Road Electric Vehicles

54 electric drive vehicles are used for ware-housing, grounds and facility maintenance.

Alternative Fuel

The City buys B20, B40 and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) as an alternative to regular diesel and petroleum gas. In 2008, the City purchased 310,741 gallons of alternative fuel, an increase of 150,947 gallons from 2007. Fuel costs were at a record high during this year; the cost of biodiesel fuel averaged \$4.06 a gallon⁶ in 2008. Due to the increasing costs per gallon and number of gallons purchased, the percentage spent on alternative fuel increased to 42% in 2008 from 32% in 2007.

While the City's overall fuel consumption went up in 2008, the City decreased the petroleum (diesel and regular unleaded) component of this fuel. The City used 2,140,517 gallons of petroleum in 2008 – 42,317 fewer gallons than used in 2007.

⁶ Source: Carrie McCann, FFD. This is an average price for both B20 and B40 blends.

The City is preparing to test the performance of biodiesel derived from waste vegetable oil and animal tallow. We hope this is a step in transitioning away from seed-crop biodiesel. Another new initiative that the City is exploring is developing a fuel market based on brown grease extracted from in grease traps, a project of the Seattle King County Industrial Ecology Roundtable.

First Choice Office Supply Program

City Purchasing re-bid the office supply product contracts during 2008, designing and implementing a new, innovative First Choice requirement that allows sale of only green products when such products are available. Each of the three vendors developed, in collaboration with the City, a list of substitute products for such products as notebooks, file folders, clips, paper pads, highlighters and markers, pens, pencils, toner cartridges, and index cards.

The new office supply contract provides an online interface that forces the City purchaser to first consider an environmentally preferred item. There are two locally owned companies, including Keeney's (women-owned) and Complete Office Solutions, that supplement the existing Office Depot contract. Office Depot also added green product selection features to their online ordering system. Each vendor offers a hard copy of a "green office catalog."

During the first quarter of 2008, 13.73% of office supply purchases were considered green. By the fourth quarter of 2008 **over 20%** of purchases were green.

The next phase of office product substitutions will focus on prohibiting certain problematic chemical ingredients, identified by the City's chemical use policies and priority lists developed by other jurisdictions.

Re-manufactured Cartridges

The City purchases re-manufactured laser cartridges under contract with Evergreen Computer Products, a locally-owned minority firm. Re-manufactured toner cartridges (cartridges that have been used at least once and then disassembled, cleaned and had worn parts replaced and toner refilled) saves 30 to 50 % below a new cartridge, depending on the individual cartridge.

The contract requires cartridges that have been fully re-manufactured to exceed original equipment manufacturer (OEM) cartridge standards. Specifications require the contractor provide verification of a densitometer, test printers and applicable operation procedures to perform on-site toner cartridge testing. The contract requires reduced packaging with recycled materials, and an end-of-life return process. Experience with the product is proving highly successful, with defect rates less frequent than the industry standard of 3% for new products.

There are two different types of re-manufactured cartridges, "compatible" and "reman." Compatible means that the manufacturer takes it apart, clean it, and replace components. Compatible tends to extend the life of the cartridges. Remans are drilled, and refilled with ink.

In 2008, 803 cartridges total were purchased through the contract, of which 296 were compatible, and 507 were remans.

Environmentally Preferable Furniture

City Purchasing established a vendor contract with Keeney's that allows City departments to purchase re-manufactured and re-conditioned office furniture compatible with the City Steelcase standard. This product is Gen 2; approximately \$647,000 was spent on this furniture in 2008.

In addition, the City purchased \$328,594 in Green Guard certified and/or high recycled content chairs from Evergreen, Ebony, MBI and Business Interiors. The City continued reliance upon the traditional virgin Steelcase workspace stations, which are not currently re-manufactured although the contract allows for a remanufactured offering when it is available.

The percent of furniture which was green certified or re-manufactured increased from 17% to 31% in 2008.

Goats

There are two Washington companies that provide goats. Seattle hired a women-owned, local company named Rent-A-Ruminant LLC. The company started four years ago with only ten goats and now the herd has grown to over one hundred goats and sheep. The company brings goats to the location to eat a wide range of vegetation, such as blackberries, ivy, and other invasive species. In 2008, 60 goats were used to clear a 12,000 square foot slope of a hillside at 30th and King.

McKinstry ESCO Energy Conservation

The City issued a sole-source contract to McKinstry for Energy Services. McKinstry is an ESCo that worked with the City to implementation of energy savings projects. As an ESCo, McKinstry performs an in-depth analysis, designs an energy efficient solution, installs the required elements, and maintains the system to ensure energy savings. The City spent \$2.91 on this contract in 2008.

The City also contracted with Verdiem to implement a power management program for PCs. This produced an estimated 28% savings in power consumption, saving 1,069,856 kWh and \$52,958 per year. The City spent \$19,597 on the power management program in 2008.

Deconstruction

Deconstruction has been added as the primary contract for City departments remodeling or removing buildings. This addition expands upon previous contracts for reuse and salvage of building materials, broadening the city's ability for highest uses of buildings and their components. Deconstruction refers to taking apart a building in order to maximize recovery and salvage of the building components, rather than by traditional demolition and disposal or recycling of mixed loads of materials. City contracts require reuse and salvage buildings and building materials from City demolition projects, recycling of remaining debris, and as a last resort landfill.

Two vendors, Earthwise and Second Use, were selected in 2008 provide these services to city departments. One project deconstructed 10 buildings in Longfellow Creek, which were acquired by SPU in order to correct poor drainage/stormwater. The contracts were used to achieve a 90% recovery rate from these buildings!

Integrated Pest Management

In 2008, City Purchasing incorporated Integrated Pest Management (IPM) into bids for a new pest control contract at City facilities. The new contract requires the vendor, Eagle Pest Eliminator, to provide alternatives to toxic chemical eradication as the first line strategies for pest control and reduction. Such strategies as vacuuming, sealing of entry points, trapping, and similar will be required; chemicals will need to comply with Green Seal standards. A total of \$64,414.05 was spent on this IPM contract in 2008.

Carpet Recycling

The City purchases flooring using State of Washington contracts for products along with installation and recycling services. The vendors are Rubensteins and Great Floors. The City's carpet standard requires recycled-content carpet or flooring products. We assumed approximately 7% of the cost of carpet purchase and installation was spent on carpet reclamation in 2007 and 2008, with no change. This percentage was based on dollar figures provided by Rubensteins in 2007.

Customer conservation purchasing activities:

Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs

The City distributes energy efficient lighting for customers in order to reduce carbon emissions and reduce future hydro power needs. Compact Fluorescent bulbs were also bought for Seattle Housing Authority. While these products per se are not green, the environmental impact achieved by using the product is significant. These lamps can produce savings of about 75% on lighting costs. They last 10 times longer and also use 2/3 less energy than regular bulbs. The City offers discounted bulbs through a program called Twist and Save, and has partnered with several local retailers to provide safe disposal of mercury containing bulbs. The City spent \$476,569 in 2008 through a contract with Green Lite out of California, an increase of \$386,500 from 2007. That is approximately 272,000 CFL bulbs purchased by the City in 2008 (assuming an average price of \$1.75 each).

Showerheads

The City distributes shower heads to customers to save water and energy. In 2008, the City spent \$30,165 on these purchases.

Reusable shopping bags

As part of the Climate Action Now initiative, City Purchasing awarded a contract for recycled-content, re-useable shopping bags that would be distributed to Seattle residents. City Purchasing implemented Sweatfree Labor requirements into the contract. The production of the bags is required to be Fair Labor Accredited, with soy-based or vegetable based ink. A total of \$15,552 was spent in 2008.

Sustainable Group Binders: (www.sustainablegroup.net/): City Purchasing adopted this as a standard in our new green office supply contracts, as well as requiring all Bidders to use these products to submit bids and during contract work. The first recyclable three ring binder made of recycled corrugated cardboard which is not only durable but one that could be recycled and reused. Each Rebinder is a minimum 35% post consumer recycled content and 100% recyclable.

11. Upcoming 2009 Activities and Workplan

Green Web Page: City Purchasing intends to develop a comprehensive Green Purchasing web page, which will provide more content and material to both internal staff and external users. Other agencies, companies and individuals around the country frequently seek samples, a copy of our policies, contacts and information from the City of Seattle. The goal would be to make such information more visible and accessible.

Socially Responsible Purchasing Charter: City Purchasing will continue leadership for the Socially Responsible Purchasing Charter, to conclude the implementation of the team recommendations and projects during 2009.

Standards: City Purchasing intends to pursue the use of mandatory standards for contracts, particularly for contracts with significant City spend. Like the Office Supply and Toner contracts, City Purchasing seeks to identify one or more commodities that can require all City departments acquire only a green product line.

Green Seal Certification Program. City Purchasing continues to pursue the first Green Seal Purchasing Program Champion Certification awarded to a City by 2010.

Social Equity Pursuits: City Purchasing, SPU and other City Departments will continue to:

- Identify new and emergent products from local WMBE vendors, and promote to City employees, and create contracts for testing and pilot projects.
- Provide expertise, resources, education and training to WMBEs to promote development and capacity of WMBE firms for environmentally responsible business management and product offerings. Tabor 100 will be a partner.
- Pursuit of a policy requiring primes on either purchasing, consultant or public work contracts to use local City vendors for the products or services that the prime needs to fulfill the City contract. Purchasing would incorporate WMBE vendors with green product or service awards. Examples include: Grays Harbor 100 PCF paper, or City Deconstruction contract vendors.

Leadership: Continue national and local leadership, providing workshops for buyers and vendors, and other local public agencies.

Pre-printed forms: The rebidding of contracts for pre-printed forms early in 2009 will incorporate recommendations from the PaperCuts Steering Committee and others for options to increase the post-consumer-recycled content of the paper being used.

Carpet: The city is looking into ways to encourage local processing of carpet removed/replaced at city facilities, in conjunction with waste reduction initiatives from SPU Solid Waste. The City uses State of Washington carpet contracts, and will work to actively advocate for stringent carpet and recycling standards in those State contract.

Paint: City Purchasing identified paint contracts as an opportunity for improvement. The City buys various paint products, and seeks to move to a more comprehensive policy of low and no-

VOC and other environmental criteria. With input from various city paint professionals and environmental and safety staff, we expect to apply strong standards available from the Master Painters Institute as well as green standards organizations. The choices of environmentally-preferable products have greatly improved since our last paint contracts.

Office Supplies: City Purchasing intends to continue promoting and fine-tuning the Office Supply contract, to impose more aggressive goals for green products. City Purchasing intends to move from the original 13% (2007) and 20% (2008) to a 25% utilization rate in 2009. We also seek to pursue additional work to determine which of the models proves most effective at stemming non-green acquisitions.

8. Conclusion and Recommendations

9. Green Team Members

Sponsor: Nancy Locke, DEA, Director of City Purchasing

Team Lead: Shirli Axelrod, SPU Waste Prevention

Jason Edens, DEA City Purchasing

Chris Wiley, Fleets and Facilities (Fleets)

Dawn Blanch, Parks and Recreation

Debra Lewis, Fleets and Facilities (Property Management)

Janice Gedlund, Dept. of Transportation

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Special thanks to:

Chris Wiley, Fleets and Facilities

Jason Edens, DEA, City Purchasing

Shirli Axelrod, SPU Waste Prevention

Pat Miller, Fleets and Facilities

Patrick Dadosio, DOT

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