
TRANSBAY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Board Policy No. 001

Category: Financial Matters

PROCUREMENT POLICY

The Transbay Joint Powers Authority (the "TJPA" or "Authority") is a joint powers agency organized and existing under the laws of the State of California. Pursuant to the Joint Powers Agreement creating the TJPA, dated April 4, 2001 (the "Agreement"), the TJPA has the authority to make and enter into contracts, to acquire real and personal property and to exercise all powers necessary and proper to carry out the provisions of the Agreement. The Joint Powers Agreement designates the City and County of San Francisco ("City") as Administrator, charged with executing the provisions of the Joint Powers Agreement and implementing programs undertaken by the Authority. With respect to the manner of exercising its powers, the TJPA is subject to the policies and procedures of the City.

The policies and procedures governing procurements of the TJPA derive from the City, as limited by applicable provisions of state and federal law. The TJPA intends to follow the contracting policies and procedures set forth in Chapters 6 (Public Works Contracting), 12B (Nondiscrimination in Contracts), 12C (Nondiscrimination in Property Contracts), 21 (Acquisition of Commodities and Services), and other relevant provisions of the San Francisco Administrative Code. The TJPA shall be responsible for enforcement of these provisions.

By accepting federal funding, the TJPA is obligated to comply with various federal regulations in its procurement of goods and services (e.g., 49 CFR Part 18 (Common Grant Rule) and 49 CFR Part 26 (Disadvantaged Business Enterprises)) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 4220.1F and its successors). In the event of any conflict between federal law and the laws of the City or this Procurement Policy, federal law shall supersede the City law and this Procurement Policy.

I. General Standards

- A. **Competitive Procurements.** Except as provided under FTA Circular 4220.1F or its successors, procurements shall be conducted in a manner that ensures full and open competition.
- B. **Contract Administration.** Procurement staff shall maintain a contract administration system that ensures that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions and specifications of their contracts and to ensure that all purchases are received in a timely manner. Staff shall maintain a written record of the history of every procurement. At a minimum, these records must include:
 - (a) the rationale for the method of procurement, (b) selection of contract type,

(c) an independent cost or price estimate, (d) reasons for contractor selection or rejection, (e) the basis for the contract price, and (f) a cost analysis (or price analysis, if appropriate). These record requirements are applicable to change orders as well as the original contracting process.

- C. Procedures.** Procurement staff shall employ procurement and accounting procedures consistent with the standards set forth in this policy and with federal, state and City requirements.
- D. Review of Procurements.** Staff shall review proposed procurements to ensure that they are handled in the most efficient and economical manner, without sacrificing quality and functionality. Staff shall avoid the purchase of unnecessary or duplicative items and shall consider consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. There shall be no splitting of procurements to avoid competition.
- E. Certification as to Availability of Funds.** The Executive Director or his/her designee shall ensure that all contracts are certified by the Finance Coordinator as to the availability of funds before notice to proceed with the contract is issued to the Contractor.
- F. Responsible Firms.** The TJPA may only contract with persons, firms or entities that are responsible and possess the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed procurement.
- G. Contracts in Writing.** All purchases or other arrangements valued at over \$2,500 and intended to be binding shall be by formal, written contract and/or other contractual instrument, such as a purchase order. A formal contract shall be used for all purchases over \$50,000.
- H. Bid Documents.** Formal competitive bidding requires preparation of complete bid documents that are not unduly restrictive of competition and identify all requirements that must be fulfilled in order for the bid to be responsive as well as the factors being considered in evaluations, public advertisement, and award, if any, to the responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid in conformance with federal, state and City requirements, as applicable.
- I. Reporting to Board.** The Board of Directors shall review on a quarterly basis the status of all purchase orders and other contracts over \$25,000 entered into by the TJPA and all pending Invitations for Bids/Requests for Proposals that have been issued by the Executive Director. The Executive Director shall provide the Board with an explanation of the purpose of each contract and the funding source for each contract.

II. Methods of Procurement

The following are general guidelines used by the City for various types of procurements and shall be used by the TJPA irrespective of the funding source for the procurement. If the procurement is eligible to be funded with federal funds, the TJPA will comply with all applicable federal contracting requirements.

Type of Procurement	Micropurchase <i>(must obtain at least one informal quote)</i>	Small Purchase <i>(must obtain at least three quotes or proposals)</i>	Large Purchase <i>(must publish IFB or RFP)</i>
Materials, Supplies, Equipment	Up to \$3,000	> \$3,000 - \$50,000	> \$50,000
General Services	Up to \$3,000 or \$10,000	> \$3,000/10,000 - \$25,000	> \$25,000
Professional Services	Up to \$3,000 or \$10,000	> \$3,000/10,000 - \$25,000	> \$25,000
Architecture & Engineering	Up to \$3,000	> \$3,000 - \$100,000	> \$100,000
Construction	n/a	Up to \$400,000	> \$400,000

A. Procurement of Materials, Supplies, Equipment

1. **Micropurchases** -- up to and including \$3,000:
 - a. Must obtain at least one informal quote; must document that the price is fair and reasonable.
 - b. Unless there is only one source for the item, do not purchase from just one vendor; attempt to obtain equitable distribution among qualified suppliers.
 - c. May be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee if included in the TJPA Budget adopted by the Board of Directors.
 - d. Any modifications to a micropurchase that would exceed the \$3,000 threshold shall be treated as a new procurement.

2. **Small Purchases** -- over \$3,000 up to and including \$50,000:
 - a. Must solicit written quotes from a minimum of three vendors, if available. Must document that the price is fair and reasonable, and award shall be to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.
 - b. May be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee if included in the TJPA Budget adopted by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Modifications shall be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee and may not cumulatively increase the contract over \$50,000.

3. **Large Purchases -- over \$50,000:**
 - a. Must publish notice requesting sealed bids. Award shall be to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.
 - b. May be approved by the Executive Director if \$100,000 or less; must be approved by the Board of Directors of the TJPA if over \$100,000.
 - c. Any modification (increase or decrease) in excess of 10 percent of the original contract amount shall require Board approval. Any other modifications may be approved by the Executive Director.

B. Procurement of General Services¹:

1. **Micropurchases -- up to and including \$3,000 if federally eligible; up to and including \$10,000 if not federally eligible:**
 - a. Must obtain at least one informal quote; must document that the price is fair and reasonable.
 - b. Unless there is only one source for the item, do not purchase from just one vendor; attempt to obtain equitable distribution among qualified suppliers.
 - c. May be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee if included in the TJPA Budget adopted by the Board of Directors.
 - d. Any modifications to a micropurchase that would exceed the applicable threshold shall be treated as a new procurement.
2. **Small Purchases -- over \$3,000/\$10,000 up to and including \$25,000:**
 - a. Must solicit written quotes from a minimum of three vendors, if available. Must document that the price is fair and reasonable, and award shall be to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.
 - b. May be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee if included in the TJPA Budget adopted by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Modifications shall be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee and may not cumulatively increase the contract over \$25,000.

¹ General services do not require extended analysis, the exercise of discretion and independent judgment in their performance, or particular, advanced or specialized knowledge, expertise or training. Examples include janitorial, security guard, landscaping and pest control.

3. **Large Purchases -- over \$25,000:**
 - a. Must publish notice requesting sealed bids. Award shall be to the responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid.
 - b. May be approved by the Executive Director if \$100,000 or less; must be approved by the Board of Directors of the TJPA if over \$100,000.
 - c. Any modification in excess of 10 percent of the original contract amount shall require Board approval. Any other modifications may be approved by the Executive Director.

C. Procurement of Consultant/Professional Services²:

1. **Micropurchases -- up to and including \$3,000 if federally eligible; up to and including \$10,000 if not federally eligible:**
 - a. Must obtain one informal quote; must document that the price is fair and reasonable.
 - b. May be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee if included in the TJPA Budget adopted by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Any modifications to a consultant contract that would exceed the applicable threshold shall be treated as a new procurement.
2. **Small Purchases -- over \$3,000/\$10,000 up to and including \$25,000:**
 - a. Must solicit written proposals from a minimum of three firms or individuals, if available, and award to the most qualified responsible consultant, with cost as a factor. Must document that the price is fair and reasonable.
 - b. May be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee if included in the TJPA Budget adopted by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Modifications shall be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee and may not cumulatively increase the contract over \$25,000.
3. **Large Purchases -- over \$25,000:**
 - a. Must publish notice requesting written proposals, and evaluate the

² Professional services are those services which require extended analysis, the exercise of discretion and independent judgment in their performance, and/or the application of an advanced, specialized type of knowledge, expertise, or training customarily acquired either by a prolonged course of study or equivalent experience in the field. These procurement procedures do not apply in the case of architectural and engineering services; see Section D.

proposals to determine the most qualified proposer. Such requests must state the qualitative factors that will be used to evaluate the proposals, along with the weight to be accorded to each factor. For all federally funded contracts, cost shall be considered during the evaluations. Negotiations shall be held with the highest-ranking responsible proposer. If an agreement cannot be reached, staff shall conduct negotiations with the next highest-ranking proposer.

- b. May be approved by the Executive Director if \$100,000 or less; must be approved by the Board of Directors of the TJPA if over \$100,000.
- c. Any modification cumulatively increasing or decreasing the contract amount or duration in excess of 10 percent shall require Board approval. Any other modifications or changes may be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee.

D. Procurement of Architectural/Engineering (A&E) Services

1. **Micropurchases -- Up to and including \$3,000:**

- a. Must obtain one informal proposal from a qualified individual or firm; must document that the price is fair and reasonable.
- b. May be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee if included in the TJPA Budget adopted by the Board of Directors.

2. **Small Purchases -- over \$3,000 up to and including \$100,000:**

- a. Must solicit written proposals from a minimum of three firms or individuals and negotiate with most qualified responsible offeror. Cost shall not be a factor when evaluating an A&E firm, but prior to award it must be documented that the price is fair and reasonable.
- b. May be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee if included in the TJPA Budget adopted by the Board of Directors.
- c. Any modification cumulatively increasing or decreasing the contract amount or duration in excess of 10 percent shall require Board approval. Any other modifications or changes may be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee.

3. **Large Purchases -- over \$100,000:**

The following approval procedures are based on Chapter 6 of the City's Administrative Code. Matters not covered in this Policy shall be handled as provided in Chapter 6.

- a. Must publish notice requesting a written qualification statement and written proposals. TJPA shall evaluate the proposals to determine the most qualified proposer. Such requests must state the qualitative factors that will be used to evaluate the proposals, along with the weight to be accorded to each factor. Cost shall not be a factor when evaluating an A&E firm. Negotiations shall be held with the highest-ranking proposer. If an agreement cannot be reached, staff shall conduct negotiations with the next highest-ranking proposer.
- b. The Board of Directors must approve the award of the contract.
- c. Any modification cumulatively increasing or decreasing the contract amount or duration in excess of 10 percent shall require Board approval. Any other modifications or changes may be approved by the Executive Director.

E. Procurement of Construction Services

The following approval procedures are based on Chapter 6 of the City’s Administrative Code. Matters not covered in this Policy shall be handled as provided in Chapter 6.

- 1. Construction Work up to and including \$400,000:
 - a. Must solicit written quotes from a minimum of three responsible and qualified contractors, if available. The Executive Director shall make every effort to solicit quotes from qualified DBEs and SBEs. Must document that the price is fair and reasonable, and award shall be to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.
 - b. May be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee if included in the TJPA Budget adopted by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Any modification cumulatively increasing or decreasing the contract amount or duration in excess of 10 percent shall require Board approval. Any other modifications or changes may be approved by the Executive Director.
- 2. Construction Work over \$400,000:
 - a. Must publish notice requesting sealed bids. Notice shall include date for public bid opening. Award, if made, shall be to responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid.
 - b. Awards of contracts shall be by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Any modification cumulatively increasing or decreasing the contract amount or duration in excess of 10 percent shall require

Board approval. Any other modifications or changes may be approved by the Executive Director or his or her designee.

F. Procurement by Noncompetitive Proposals (Sole Source)

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding sections, the TJPA is not required to engage in a competitive process when procuring materials, supplies, equipment, general services, consultant/professional services, or architectural/engineering services for which competitive solicitation would be infeasible, as determined by the Executive Director based on the criteria set forth in Section II(F)(2).
2. Non competitive or sole source procurement may be used only where the award of a contract is infeasible under competitive procedures and at least one of the following circumstances applies:
 - a. The item is available only from a single source;
 - b. There exists a public exigency or emergency which will not permit the delay accompanying competitive solicitation;
 - c. After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate; or
 - d. The procurement is federally funded and sole source procurement is authorized by the FTA.
3. The Executive Director shall perform a cost analysis to determine that the contract amount of the sole source is fair and reasonable.

III. Contract Forms

The Executive Director, or his or her designee, with the assistance of legal counsel, is authorized to develop appropriate contract forms consistent with this policy.

IV. Standards of Conduct for Procurements

A. Conflict of Interest

The TJPA has adopted a Conflict of Interest Code, under which certain designated positions are required to disclose economic interests and are prohibited from participating in decisions that may have an effect on their financial interests. The terms and requirements of the Conflict of Interest Code are incorporated into this Policy by reference. The City has also adopted a Conflict of Interest Code, which is part of its Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code. All City employees involved in procurement activities for the TJPA shall be subject to the disclosure requirements of the City's Conflict of Interest Code.

Further, no employee, officer, agent or Board member of the TJPA or its member agencies shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract for the TJPA if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved. Such a conflict arises when any of the following has a financial or other interest in the firm selected for award: (1) the employee, officer, agent, or Board member; (2) any member of his/her immediate family; (3) his or her business partner or associate; or (4) an organization that employs, or is about to employ, any of the above. The determination of whether such an interest exists will be governed by California law, including California's Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 87100, et seq.), Sections 1090, et seq. of the California Government Code; and Section §15.103 and Appendix C, Section 8.105 of City's Charter, as may be amended from time to time.

B. Gift Restrictions

No officer, employee, agent or Board member of the TJPA shall solicit or accept gifts, gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value from TJPA contractors, potential contractors or parties to subagreements, except any gift that is not subject to the disclosure requirements of California's Political Reform Act, as may be amended from time to time.

C. Violations of Standards of Conduct

Violations of these standards of conduct shall be subject to penalties, sanctions, or other disciplinary actions provided by California law.

D. Organizational Conflicts of Interest

The TJPA shall not select contractors (1) who, because of other activities, relationships, or contracts, are unable, or potentially unable, to render impartial assistance or advice to the TJPA; (2) whose objectivity in performing contract work may be impaired; or (3) who have an unfair competitive advantage.

V. DBE Program; Geographic Restrictions; Nondiscrimination

With respect to federally eligible third party contracts, the TJPA implements a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program (Board Policy No. 010), and as such, commits to the participation of DBEs in TJPA contracting opportunities in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26, as may be amended from time to time. TJPA supplements its DBE Program with a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program (Board Policy No. 015). It is the intention of the TJPA to create a level playing field on which DBEs and SBEs can compete fairly for contracts and subcontracts relating to the TJPA's construction, professional services and procurement activities.

VI. Nondiscrimination

It is the policy of the TJPA to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of any contract on the basis of the fact or perception of a person's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, domestic partner status, marital

status, disability, weight, height, or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or Human Immunodeficiency Virus (AIDS/HIV) status.

VII. Geographic Restrictions

TJPA shall not specify in-state or local geographical preferences in its construction, professional services and procurement activities.