



## How to do Business with the City of Rosenberg, Texas



### *A Reference Guide for Interested Suppliers*

Provided by:  
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# Welcome to Business with the City of Rosenberg!

This guide has been developed to assist current and future suppliers who have interest in conducting business with our City. Whether you are a first-time supplier, or you have been doing business with us for many years, this should help you better understand the legal and ethical responsibilities of the City of Rosenberg Purchasing Office. Some of the key areas of interest for you will include:

- What does the City buy?
- How does the City make purchases?
- Bid Services
- HUBs
- Contact Information

If you have questions, I encourage you to give us a call or send us an email. We are here to help you— help us!

Sincerely,



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## Mission

The Purchasing Department serves the City of Rosenberg by:

- Procuring goods and services that provide the best value to the City.
- Demonstrating professional assistance and guidance to all—in the acquisition of City goods & services.
- Ensuring all government requirements are applied with ethics, open-accountability, and integrity.
- Establishing opportunities and a fair process for suppliers to partner with the City of Rosenberg’s legacy of growth and excellence.
- Encouraging and equipping suppliers in providing:
  - Quality goods & services
  - Excellent performance
  - Best cost value
  - Exceptional support

## Goals

The goal of City of Rosenberg’s Purchasing Office is to provide prompt, efficient, and cost-effective procurement of materials and services and to obtain the materials and services:

- at the time and place needed
- in the proper quantity
- of the proper quality
- for the best price

## Ethics

The Purchasing Office adopts and follows the following Code of Ethics.

### **Commitment to the Highest Ethical Standards**

It is a serious breach of the public trust to subvert the public purchasing process by directing purchases to certain favored vendors, or to tamper with the competitive bidding process, whether it's done for kickbacks, friendship or any other reason. Since misuse of the purchasing power of a local government carries criminal penalties, and many such misuses are from a lack of clear guidelines about what constitutes an abuse of office, the Code of Ethics outlined below must be strictly followed.

The City of Rosenberg also requires ethical conduct from those who do business with the City. Contracts will contain a clause stating that any efforts to influence an employee to violate the standards of the Code are grounds to void the contract. Vendors to the government are required to certify that they will not attempt to influence any employee to violate the Code.

### **Statement of Purchasing Policy**

Public employment is a public trust. It is the policy of the City to promote and balance the objective of protecting the City's integrity and the objective of facilitating the recruitment and retention of personnel needed by the City. Such policy is implemented by prescribing essential standards of ethical conduct without creating unnecessary obstacles to entering public service.

Public employees must discharge their duties impartially so as to assure fair competitive access to governmental procurement by responsible contractors. Moreover, they should conduct themselves in such a manner as to foster public confidence in the integrity of the City's procurement organization.

To achieve the purpose of this Article, it is essential that those doing business with the City also observe the ethical standards prescribed here.

### **General Ethical Standards**

1. **Personal Gain:** It shall be a breach of ethics to attempt to realize personal gain through public employment with the City of Rosenberg by any conduct inconsistent with the proper discharge of the employee's duties.
2. **Influence:** It shall be a breach of ethics to attempt to influence any public employee of the City of Rosenberg to breach the standards of ethical conduct set forth in this code.
3. **Conflicts of Interest:** It shall be a breach of ethics for any employee of the City of Rosenberg to participate directly or indirectly in a procurement when the employee knows that:
  - the employee or any member of the employee's immediate family has a financial interest pertaining to the procurement;
  - a business or organization in which the employee, or any member of the employee's immediate family, has a financial interest pertaining to the procurement; and
  - any other person, business, or organization with whom the employee or any member of the employee's immediate family is negotiating or has an arrangement concerning prospective employment is involved in the procurement.
4. **Gratuities:** It shall be a breach of ethics to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee of the City of Rosenberg, or for any employee or former employee of the City of Rosenberg to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefore pending before this government.
5. **Kickbacks:** It shall be a breach of ethics for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor for any contract for the City of Rosenberg, or any person associated therewith, as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order.
6. **Contract Clause:** The prohibition against gratuities and kickbacks prescribed above shall be conspicuously set forth in every contract and solicitation, therefore.
7. **Confidential Information:** It shall be a breach of ethics for any employee or former employee of the City of Rosenberg knowingly to use confidential information for actual or anticipated personal gain, or for the actual or anticipated gain of any person.

## Governing Law

The Purchasing Office operates under the guidelines set forth by Section 252 and 271 of the Texas Local Government Code in addition to the applicable requirements of Section 2254 and 2269 of the Texas Government Code and the City of Rosenberg City Charter.

## What Does the City Buy?

- **Goods**

- Computer Hardware & Software
- Jail Food & Supplies
- Automobiles and Trucks
- Heavy Equipment
- Road & Street Materials
- Police & Fire Uniforms & Supplies
- Landscape Materials and Plants
- Hardware & Building Materials
- Auto Parts
- Traffic Signal Parts

- **Services**

- Printing
- Grounds Maintenance
- Janitorial Service
- Day Labor
- Catering
- Architect
- Engineer
- Laboratory Testing

- **Construction**

- Excavation
- Electrical
- General Building Contractors
- Street Repairs & Construction
- Tree Trimming
- Pavement Raising
- HVAC
- Traffic Signal Installation

## **How Does the City Make Purchases?**

- Small purchases for items not under contract are made on the open market from both local and non-local sources
- Larger non-exempt purchases are made using competitive solicitations
  - One Time Purchase
  - Term Contracts
- Cooperative Purchasing Agreements
  - Texas Comptroller's Office – TXMAS Program
  - Omnia Partners
  - Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC)
  - BuyBoard
  - General Services Administration (GSA)
  - Sourcewell
  - The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS)
  - National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA)
  - Inter-local Agreements with Fort Bend County, City of Pearland, City of Missouri City and City of Sugar Land Purchasing Departments

## **Notices**

Purchases over \$50,000 are generally advertised using:

- Mercell Source-to-Contract (Formerly Negometrix4)
- Newspaper (Fort Bend Herald)
- City Website ([www.rosenbergtx.gov](http://www.rosenbergtx.gov))

Information to register for notices is available on the City website.

## **Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs)**

Per Texas Local Government Code, the City contacts registered minority and female-owned businesses located in Fort Bend and Harris Counties for non-exempt purchases between \$3,000 and \$25,000. The State of Texas Centralized Master Bidders List is used as the resource. To find out how your business may qualify, visit <https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/vendor/cmb/>

### **Point of Contact**

Blake Skiles, NIGP-CPP, CPPB, CPPM, CPP, CPC

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