Sustainable Purchasing Policy
Elements That Relate to Implementation Success

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What Is Sustainable Purchasing?

- Considers environment, society AND economy
- Compostable, refillable, reusable, recyclable, biodegradable products
- Vehicles, chemicals, supplies, electronics & construction products
Sustainable Purchasing Policies (SPPs)

- Few U.S. cities have SPPs
- Cities that have SPPs report:
  - Not fully or effectively implemented
  - Unsuccessful in reaching goals

Figure 1. Green Purchasing Policy Adoption in U.S. Cities

- 60% (n=366)
- 28% (n=170)
- 12% (n=73)
Questions Addressed

- What elements of cities, an SPP are related to successful implementation?
- How can this information be used to better inform the City of Phoenix’s SPP?
Sustainable Purchasing Research Initiative

- Understand barriers and facilitators of effective purchasing and procurement within local governments
- Responses from 616 directors of finance, public works, engineering, and environmental departments
To the best of your knowledge, has your city **implemented a formal policy** pertaining to any of the following purchasing issues:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minority-owned business</td>
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<td>purchasing</td>
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<td>Women-owned business</td>
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<td>purchasing</td>
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<td>Environmentally</td>
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<td>sustainable purchasing*</td>
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<td>Veteran-owned business</td>
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<td>purchasing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local business purchasing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small business purchasing</td>
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We are interested in your overall assessment of the implementation of your city's environmentally sustainability purchasing policy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How would you assess your city's overall implementation of this policy?</th>
<th>Very Unsuccessful</th>
<th>Neither Successful nor Unsuccessful</th>
<th>Very Successful</th>
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<td>-1</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Methods

Very Successful = 11
Very Unsuccessful = 8

- Policy analysis
- List of successful elements
- Follow up
Six Policy Elements for Success

- Mandatory Requirement
- Accountability
- Multilevel Governance
- Vendor Requirements
- Advocacy
- Continual Improvement
Mandatory Requirement

Formal policy

Enforcement for noncompliance

![Bar chart showing 64% Very Successful and 25% Very Unsuccessful]
Accountability

Tracking and reporting

Clear employee roles and responsibilities

- Very Successful: 55%
- Very Unsuccessful: 25%
Multilevel Governance

Collaborative network

Resource sharing

- Very Successful: 91%
- Very Unsuccessful: 38%
Vendor Requirements

Product and service contracts - clear and comprehensive vendor expectations
Advocacy

Person, department, formal team, group or committee

Central point of contact

- Very Successful: 55%
- Very Unsuccessful: 13%
Continual Improvement

Routine reviews and changes to policy

Living document
- Create a mandatory sustainable purchasing policy
- Track, measure and report on SPP implementation
- Enhance collaborative information sharing networks
- Utilize vendor requirements in contracts
- Assign an SPP advocate
- Create a living document
City of Phoenix

- Initiating numerous projects to address sustainability
- City directors reported unsuccessful policy implementation in the Sustainable Purchasing Research Initiative survey
- Consulting services
- Revision of sustainable product evaluation form
- Green purchasing training
- Information gathering
- Scope of Work (SOW) revisions
Barriers

- Lack of buy in
- Budget constraints
- Lack of awareness
- Resistance to change
- Lack of training
- Administrative Record (A.R.)
- Leadership
Future Directions

- City of Phoenix 2017 SPP – All 6 elements
  - Success?
- What about the rest?
Thank You!

Questions?