



# Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Cooperative Purchasing Program

22 JURISDICTIONS 5+ MILLION PEOPLE 300 ELECTED OFFICIALS

## WHAT IS THE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM?

The Council of Governments administers a regional cooperative purchasing program buying such commodities as fuel, heating oil, natural gas, paper, and road de-icing salt.

The program brings together Washington area local governments, school districts, water departments, and transit agencies like WMATA, to purchase goods and commodities at reduced costs through volume buying. It was launched by the Council of Governments in 1971 and saves local governments and their taxpayers millions each year.

In 2013, the Council approved a new partnership with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council to merge their cooperative purchasing programs. The new entity, the Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Team (MAPT), will increase the purchasing power of the group and provide consistent identification in the market place.

For more information about the Cooperative Purchasing Program, please contact Tom Savoie at [tsavoie@mwkog.org](mailto:tsavoie@mwkog.org) or 202-962-3222. For general membership inquiries, please contact Nicole Hange at [nhange@mwkog.org](mailto:nhange@mwkog.org) or 202-962-3231.

## > VOLUME BUYING

### TOP 3 WAYS OUR MEMBERS SAVE MONEY



#### Diesel Fuel

- Participants pay 25% less than the pump price. Frederick County alone has saved \$235,000 with cooperative purchasing agreements for electricity, fuels, heating oil, and natural gas.



#### Copier Paper

- Participants pay 20% less than the average price.



#### Office Supplies

- Participants have saved \$744,000 through the program.

## > PURCHASING RIDER

### LESS RED TAPE, LOWER PRICES

One of the program's valuable services to members is the Council of Governments' Purchasing Rider, which expedites orders and secures lower prices.

Members save money on administrative expenses by substantially reducing the paperwork associated with competitive procurement. Loudoun County, for example, has used the COG rider 57 times this year, saving significant staff time and resources and offering the County access to more competitive pricing.

## > LOCAL RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

### INCREASED VISIBILITY FOR YOUR SOLICITATIONS

As an added benefit to members, COG now hosts a clearinghouse of local government solicitations that is automatically populated and accessed by hundreds of vendors in the region. This new feature will drive competition among bidders and potentially result in lower pricing for local governments.

The local RFP clearinghouse is accessed through the COG website at <http://midatlanticpurchasing.net>.

ONE REGION **MOVING FORWARD**

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