

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Sustainable Procurement Workshop
September 27, 2012
Speakers Bios

Alicia Culver, Responsible Purchasing Network

Alicia Culver is the Executive Director of the Responsible Purchasing Network, an international network dedicated to advancing sustainable procurement policies and practices among government agencies and public institutions. RPN uses “the power of the purse” to promote green building, toxics reduction, manufacturer responsibility, and green collar job creation, and to help government agencies, businesses and institutions meet their climate protection, zero waste and other sustainability goals.

Alicia has nearly two decades of experience working in the sustainable procurement field. She got her start in 1994 evaluating the federal government’s environmentally preferable purchasing efforts as Coordinator of the Government Purchasing Project based in Washington, DC. She later served as deputy director of the New Jersey Office of Sustainability and, in 2004, founded the Green Purchasing Institute.

Alicia has worked directly with the procurement and environmental program staff of dozens of cities, counties, states and federal agencies to demand a wide-range of cutting-edge “green” products, including asthma-safe cleaning products, low-mercury lighting equipment, locally grown produce and truly compostable food service ware.

Philip J. McGaughey, Jr., Montgomery County Public Schools

Mr. Philip McGaughey supervises a staff of eleven at MCPS who plan, direct, and execute an integrated program of procurement services, managing procurement activities in accordance with State of Maryland law and Board of Education policy governing such actions. He is responsible for the development and execution of the division-level strategic plan consistent with the mission of the Department of Materials Management and promoting the continuous improvement of products and services.

Mr. McGaughey earned his BA from Clarion University of Pennsylvania, his MBA from University of California at Long Beach and also holds a graduate certificate from the University of Maryland University College in Procurement and Contract Management. He earned his Certified Professional Public Officer (CPPO) certification from the National Institute of Government Purchasing (NIGP) in 2010. He also holds certification as a Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB), Certified Government Auditing Professional (CGAP) and as a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA).

Chris McGough, Fairfax County

Chris McGough leads Fairfax County’s green purchasing program and guides their green team towards a workplace culture of sustainability. Chris has an undergraduate degree in Environmental Science from JMU and a Masters in Environmental Management from George Mason. Leaning on coursework in corporate environmental management, public administration and sustainability communication campaigns - Chris has developed robust programs. Fairfax County’s green purchasing program is recognized by NACo as a national leader and Chris participates in a NACo working group to help other local governments get programs off the ground.

Jonathan Rifkin, District of Columbia

Jonathan Rifkin is a Procurement Analyst and Green Purchasing Coordinator for the District of Columbia Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP). His work in Green Procurement began approximately 3 years ago when he was given the opportunity to work for OCP. Jonathan currently heads OCP's "DC Green Team," which is the District's unified effort to enact sustainable practices across the government. Most recently, he was appointed to serve as Liaison to DC Mayor Vincent Gray's Sustainability Initiative, which will establish a comprehensive sustainable strategy for the District for the approaching decades. In addition, Jonathan serves on the "The National Association of State Procurement Officers (NASPO) Green Purchasing Work Group," which works to identify and share Green Purchasing best practices with its membership, and he serves on the Keystone Group's "Green Product's Roundtable/Sustainable Purchasing Council," which is a multi-stakeholder group dedicated to bringing clarity to the green marketplace and endorsing practices that simplify and maximize green purchasing efforts for Institutional Purchasers. Jonathan's work in Green Purchasing is informed by four years of work as a Special Assistant to the Director and Procurement Analyst at OCP.