

The Buzz is Back

Buyers Buzz August 2016



News from the Top

Submit your End-of-Year Requirements

State agencies are expected to prioritize their End of Year expenditures within the timelines provided by the Department of Finance and Management. Our office realizes there is a substantial amount of review, and revolving analysis, that is performed to enable agencies to successfully manage their budgets within these time constraints. We believe we play a critical role in helping you to make the appropriate expenses in a timely manner while also maintaining accountability to the public. Consequently, my staff is always willing to work with you on any unforeseen or emergency expenditure that may present itself. The ultimate success of our combined efforts, however, weighs heavily in the early identification and reporting of your requirements to our office. Please help us, help you, by getting your requirements into us at the earliest time possible. Thank you.

Deborah Damore
Director of Purchasing & Contracting

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Summer Buy Local Market on the Statehouse Lawn

By: Jennifer Hooper and Abbey Willard
Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets



The Buy Local Market held on the Statehouse Lawn returns to Montpelier on **August 10, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, providing an exceptional opportunity for Montpelier residents, visitors and daytime employees to support Vermont suppliers of local food and agricultural products. This year marks the second Summer Buy Local Market event, which will coincide with the United States Department of Agriculture's 17th annual National Farmers Market Week.

Featured items will include fresh and prepared local foods and agricultural products, such as produce and meats, wood products, yarn and other handmade goods, as well as prepared lunch offerings and ice cream. The Buy Local Market brings the diversity, quality and freshness of Montpelier's weekend farmers' market to a weekday audience.

Last August, more than forty purveyors convened on the Statehouse Lawn for the first-ever Summer Buy Local Market. The event was organized by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets as part of their Local Food Wellness and Consumer Awareness Initiative, in partnership with the State of Vermont, Capital City Farmers' Market and The Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont.

Building and General Services, Department of Human Resources, and Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets have collaborated in past years to increase SOV employees' access to local foods. At the same time, internal guidelines across state agencies, such as the recently passed Act 113 (H.812), regarding health and wellness in the workplace are echoing a similar call. The intention of the Buy Local Market concept is to increase wellness in the workplace by offering an engaging and interactive destination for workers during lunch, while at the same time providing support to local food, farm, and forestry businesses. The Buy Local Market embodies this with a rich array of offerings from creative fellow Vermonters – to enjoy during lunch on the Statehouse Lawn, or during other occasions at home or with friends and colleagues.

The direct-to-consumer retail market, such as the Buy Local Market, provides particular benefits to Vermont producers and the local economy. Patronizing local food and agricultural businesses accrues mutual benefits in the community, increasing the ability of producers to meet the needs of local consumers and to flexibly respond to local buying preferences. Supporting local also means investing in the stewards of the working lands of Vermont that characterize the state. Most importantly, dollars spent on local products circulate within our communities, supporting neighboring families and friends.

The win-win relationship possible between consumers and local food and agricultural producers will be showcased at the Summer Buy Local Market. Held on the inviting Statehouse Lawn the 10th of August, the event is presided over by Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture, from her position atop the Statehouse dome. The Buy Local Market will feature live music from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., and seating will be provided for enjoying lunch on the scenic grounds. Additionally, transportation shuttles will be coordinated between the Buy Local Market and the National Life Group Campus. We look forward to seeing you at this unique event, enjoying local foods and agricultural goods this summer on the Statehouse Lawn!

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Liquid Fuel Contracts

Our office has just completed a statewide bidding of all our liquid fuel requirements to include Cities and Towns where future requirements may present themselves. This was an undertaking of substantial proportions and will touch virtually every agency within the State.

Over the course over the next few weeks we'll be working hand-in-hand with Service Providers to facilitate a seamless as possible transitioning between gaining and losing service providers. We ask for your patience in this regard as some new vendors have come onboard who will no doubt experience a learning curve of some nature. Please contact Linda Wortman at 828-4658 or via email at Linda.Wortman@vermont.gov if you have questions, if Linda is not available contact Brian Berini at 828-2217 or via email at Brian.Berini@vermont.gov.

RECENTLY ADDED CONTRACTS

Guardrails: The State has recently finished an RFP for Guardrails. Contracts were awarded for both the Straight Beam guardrail design as well as for the new Box Beam version. There are three contracts now available for your use.

[#31370](#) – Chemung Supply

[#31369](#) – Eberl IronWorks

[#31434](#) - Chemung Supply (Box Beam)

Hazardous Waste Disposal & Emergency Response: Are you aware that the State has three contracts with fully licensed hazardous waste haulers which offer collection and management solutions for all hazardous and non-hazardous waste streams? These services also include liquids, solids, dust, sewage, and organic materials. Contracts offer both emergency response and regularly scheduled visits to registered accounts. Many times we've found that state agencies are surprised to learn that these services also include disposal of sharps, pathological, and more general medical waste as well. The three contracts available for your use are below.

[#28294](#) - Accuworx

[#28877](#) - ENPRO Services

[#28338](#) - Tradebe Environmental

If you have any questions, please contact Brian Berini at Brian.Berini@vermont.gov or 828-2217.

Office Machines: Our office participated in a NASPO-VALUEPOINT (formerly WSCA-NASPO) cooperative bid process for Copiers, Printers and other Related Devices which includes:

Group A – Convenience Copiers, Group B – Production Copiers, Group C – Wide Format Copiers, Group D – Printers, Group E – Digital Duplicators and Group F – Scanners.

Master Agreement: Toshiba [#30336](#) (Group A)

Master Agreement: HP, Inc. [#30322](#) (Group D)

Reseller: Office Systems of Vermont [#31311](#)

Contracts specified below will be available soon for State Agencies and Political Subdivisions to utilize. If you have an emergency situation and/or cannot wait to order till contracts are in place, please contact Linda Wortman at 828-4658 or via email at Linda.Wortman@vermont.gov for assistance.

Office Machines Pending Contracts:

Canon Master Agreement: (Groups A, B, C, D and F)

Canon Reseller: Canon Solutions America, Inc. (Groups A, B, C, D and F)

Ricoh USA Master Agreement: (Groups A-E)

Xerox Master Agreement (Group D)

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Hybrid Vehicles: The Ford and Chevy hybrid vehicles are being rebid to include newly released vehicle classes and models.

Automotive Safety Glass: An RFP was issued to establish contracts for automobile safety glass. Bids received are currently under evaluation. New contracts will be available for use shortly.

2016/2017 Model Year Vehicles: The 2016 model year vehicles contracts that were listed in our April edition remain in place for use. **It is anticipated that 2017 model year updates from contractors will be available soon!**

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Smith at Steven.Smith@vermont.gov or 828-4681.

Land Debris Removal for Disasters: An RFP for Statewide emergency response has been issued and will be finalized within the next few weeks. We believe most Agencies will find the contract(s) to follow to be very beneficial and will aid them immeasurably should another catastrophic event like Irene occur.

If you have any questions, please contact Brian Berini at Brian.Berini@vermont.gov or 828-2217.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RETAINER VENDORS

After a standard RFP solicitation process, the Office of Purchasing & Contracting (OPC) is in the process of generating statewide contracts with a number of vendors to enable state agencies to quickly and efficiently obtain a variety of IT consulting and technical services across a number of functional areas of IT services. OPC will administer and maintain these Statewide Retainer Contracts, and the vendors have all agreed to the standard State terms and conditions. No hardware or software may be acquired through these retainer contracts. These contracts are for services only.

IT Service Categories

Service Categories authorized under the IT Retainer Contracts include the following:

- Business Analyst & Project Management Services
- Infrastructure (Physical/Virtual) Support Services
- SharePoint Support, Services and Development
- Network Consulting and LAN/WLAN Support Services
- Enterprise GIS Services
- Hardware/Software/Application Security Support
- Strategic Planning Assistance
- Independent Review
- Enterprise Content Management
- DBA/SQLDBA/Relational Database Support
- PeopleSoft Application / System Administration Support
- Agile Development Services

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RETAINER VENDORS (Continued)

Important State Agency and Department Requirements

- Any state agency or department may draft a SOW-RFP for their project under \$100K.
- Once finalized, the SOW-RFP shall be e-mailed by the Contracting Agency to all vendors in the category that fits the project.
- Vendors respond with proposals, and come to agreement with the State by signing a SOW Agreement.
- OPC shall maintain oversight and manage the statewide retainer contracts. DII shall have oversight responsibility of project types, but the projects performed under these contracts are the responsibility of the agency or department that executes them.
- The type or number of contracts will vary over time. The intent is to requalify/prequalify vendors every two years.
- Departments and agencies should contact OPC if there is a specific functional area or category of work that is not covered by the vendors in the pool.
- The Contracting Agency shall provide OPC and the Department of Information and Innovation (DII) with a copy of the SOW Agreement, once it has been executed.

Important Vendor Requirements

- Vendors must wait to be contacted by an agency or department that needs some work. The vendor must NOT solicit work from state entities.
- Vendors should respond to SOW-RFPs via e-mail in accordance with the instructions in the SOW-RFP and the terms of the contract they originally signed to become a prequalified vendor.
- Vendor shall submit quarterly reports to OPC and DII. Failure to report on a quarterly basis to OPC can result in the State canceling this Statewide Retainer Contract and any SOW Agreements in place.

For the complete list of currently available retainer contracts please visit our website at [IT Retainer Contracts](#)
There are some DII retainer contracts that will remain active until new contracts have been executed.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTS

New Contracts:

Computer Equipment, Peripherals and Related Service Contracts:

Products and services available through the Master Agreement are categorized within five different Bands. These Bands, and the products and services they represent, are broken out as follows:

Band 1: Desktops, Band 2: Laptops, Band 3: Tablets, Band 4: Servers, Band 5: Storage and Related Peripherals & Services

Master Agreement: Dell [#30103](#) (Bands 1—5)

Reseller: Red River Computer, Inc. [#31665](#)

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTS (Continued)

Data Communications:

Band 5.2.1: Data Center Application, Band 5.2.2: Networking Software, Band 5.2.3: Network Optimization and Acceleration, Band 5.2.4: Optical Networking, Band 5.2.5: Routers, Band 5.2.6: Security, Band 5.2.7: Storage Networking, Band 5.2.8: Switches, Band 5.2.9: Wireless, Band 5.3.0: Unified Communications, Band 5.3.1: Services

Master Agreement: Juniper Networks [#30299](#) (Bands 5.2.2, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, 5.2.6, 5.2.8, 5.2.9 and 5.3.1)

Master Agreement: Palo Alto Networks [#30349](#) (Bands 5.2.6 and 5.3.1)

Smart Board and Audio Visual Equipment Contracts:

The State of Vermont now has contracts with 2 locally present vendors for the sale, service, installation of Smart Boards and Audio Visual equipment.

These contracts allow users to purchase TVs, Interactive Whiteboards, Media Players, Audio Equipment and all accessories. These contracts include turnkey installation. These contracts can be used for the simple purchase of a display or be used to outfit a conference room to servicing your audio visual equipment.

Pro AV Systems [#31100](#)

Audio Video Corp. [#30927](#)

Translation and Interpretation Contract: Telelanguage, Inc. [#31184](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Fazekas at Stephen.Fazekas@vermont.gov or 828-2210

Useful Links

- [Office of Purchasing & Contracting website](http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing): <http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing>
- [Statewide Commodity Contracts that are utilized by more than one agency/department](#) (including those for use by Towns and Schools) To view or print the text of a contract click on the contract number.
- [All Statewide Commodity Contracts](#) List of all commodity contracts that have been issued by the Office of Purchasing & Contracting
- [Monthly Contract Updates](#) List of contracts that have been added or amended in the last 30 (thirty) days by the Office of Purchasing & Contracting
- [IT Retainer Contracts](#) List of available IT retainer contracts