

VIRGINIA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACT STUDY SPECIAL JOINT GENERAL LAWS SUBCOMMITTEE

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Fairfax County Government

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Large County Perspective

- About Fairfax County Government
 - Philosophy: Central control and oversight of contracts, delegated purchase order transactions
 - Purchasing Agent has authority for County government and Fairfax Public Schools procurement
 - Number of term contracts: 2,300
 - Number of contracts professionals: 28
 - Average value of procurement expenditures: \$700 million
 - SWAM spend: 45%
 - Annual department budget: \$4.7 million
 - Contract rebates: \$1.2 million
 - Purchases include: Goods, non-professional services, professional services, construction (renovation only), consultant services

Large County Perspective

- VPPA – What is working
 - Ability to establish alternate procedures
 - Adopt Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution annually
 - Use of eVA – Fairfax posts all solicitation notices and contract awards
 - Collaboration with Virginia Association of Governmental Purchasing
 - Cooperative Purchasing
 - U.S. Communities (national contracts) – rebate for lead agency
 - Regional programs (Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments)
 - Use of state contracts
 - Use of GSA supply schedules
 - Contracts from other public bodies
 - Endorsed for schools systems (JLARC Study 2010)

Large County Perspective

- VPPA – Challenges
 - One size fits all changes to the Act
 - Large and small localities have different needs
 - Proposed changes to the Act that are in conflict with the intent
 - Attorney General opinion – cannot consider factors that are not related to the goods or services being procured
 - Enforcement of documented worker status
 - Preferences
 - Cumulative effect of changes
 - Readability
 - Creates conflicting provisions
 - Adapt to current technology and business practices
 - Model Procurement Code changes