

March 2011

ALL AGENCY PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES

These guidelines apply to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("MTA"), the New York City Transit Authority ("Transit"), the Long Island Rail Road Company ("LIRR"), The Metro-North Commuter Railroad Company ("MNCRR"), Staten Island Rapid Transit Operating Authority ("SIRTOA"), Metropolitan Suburban Bus Authority ("LI Bus"), Manhattan and Bronx Surface Transit Operating Authority ("MaBSTOA"), MTA Capital Construction ("MTACC"), MTA Bus Company ("MTA Bus"), and to the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority ("Bridges and Tunnels") insofar as they are consistent with the provisions of law applicable to Bridges and Tunnels (each of which is referred to severally and together, as the "Authority").

Article I - Applicability of Guidelines

This policy applies to i) purchase contracts for supplies, materials or equipment ("purchase contracts"); ii) public work contracts ("public work contracts"); and iii) leases of equipment with or without an option to purchase, computer software licenses and maintenance agreements, printing contracts (where editorial services do not predominate), and to any other contract which is not otherwise classified under these guidelines or the All Agency Guidelines for Procurement of Services ("miscellaneous procurement contracts"). In the event a proposed contract contains elements of more than one type of contract under these Guidelines or the All Agency Guidelines for Procurement of Services, the elements which predominate shall determine the type of contract for purposes of both Guidelines.

Article II - Delegation of Authority

The Chairman, the presidents of the Authorities, or the designated representative or representatives thereof (each defined for purposes of these guidelines as an "Authorized Officer") are hereby empowered with respect to purchase contracts, public work contracts, and miscellaneous procurement contracts to be entered into by the respective Authority acting on its own behalf or as agent for MTA, as follows:

- A. to establish procedures which shall be competitive to the extent deemed practicable by the Authorized Officer, for the award of purchase contracts estimated to involve the expenditure of \$15,000 or less and public work contracts estimated to involve the expenditure of \$25,000 or less;
- B. to establish procedures for the award of miscellaneous procurement contracts regardless of the estimated expenditure, which procedures shall provide for Board approval of the award if the contract provides for the estimated expenditure of more than \$25,000 and is not awarded pursuant to sealed competitive bidding. A majority of the members of the Board in

attendance at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be required to approve the resolution authorizing such award;

- C. for purchase contracts estimated to involve the expenditure of more than \$15,000 and public work contracts estimated to involve the expenditure of more than \$25,000:
 - 1. to determine the criteria for the evaluation of bids which may include but are not limited to unit or aggregate amount bid, life cycle costs or savings (including but not limited to costs or savings associated with installation, energy use, maintenance, operation, salvage and disposal), discounts and costs of maintenance and inspection services;
 - 2. to determine whether a contract required to be advertised in the New York State contract reporter is exempt from such requirement on the basis of a need to award the contract on an emergency or critical basis;
 - 3. to advertise for, solicit and open bids;
 - 4. to record the name of each bidder and the amount(s) bid;
 - 5. to determine the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, including, in the event two or more responsible bidders submit identical bids which are the lowest bids, to award the contract to any of such bidders or obtain new bids from such bidders;
 - 6. to reject all bids when it is determined to be in the public interest to do so;
 - 7. to award the contract.
- D. to determine whether a bidder or prospective bidder should be ineligible to act or bid as a contractor or act as a subcontractor for a fixed or indefinite period of time with respect to contracts of the Authority in question.
- E. in addition to the other authorizations set forth elsewhere in this document, to establish guidelines governing the qualifications of bidders for public works and public contracts, and to fix the standards for the prequalification of bidders entering into such contracts, for the East Side Access Project in accordance with Section 1265-a.2(c) of the Public Authorities Law.

Article III - Award of Contracts Without Competitive Bidding

- A. A purchase contract estimated to involve the expenditure of more than \$15,000 and a public work contract estimated to involve the expenditure of more than \$25,000 may be awarded without competitive bidding under the circumstances set forth below, provided that the Authorized Officer recommends such an action and the Board adopts a resolution declaring competitive bidding to be impractical or inappropriate and states the

reasons therefore, and summarizes any negotiations that have been conducted. Except in a situation specified in Article III (A) (1), such resolution shall be approved by two-thirds of the members of the Board then in office. A declaration under Article III (A) (1) shall require approval by a majority of the members of the Board in attendance at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

1. The existence of an emergency involving danger to life, safety or property which requires immediate action and cannot await competitive bidding; or when the item to be purchased is essential to the efficient operation of or the adequate provision of service and, as a consequence of an unforeseen circumstance, such purchase cannot await competitive bidding. Competitive bidding is hereby declared to be impractical and inappropriate in any of the foregoing situations where an Authorized Officer must take appropriate action and cannot await action by the Board; provided, however, that notice of such action shall be given to the Board at its next scheduled meeting together with a statement of the reasons for such action and a request for ratification by the Board.
2. The item to be purchased is available only from a single responsible source provided, however, that if bids have not been solicited for such item within the preceding twelve months, a notice must be published pursuant to Article VI(A) hereof which sets forth the Authority's intent to purchase the item without competitive bidding because the item is available from only one source and invites any firm which believes it can provide the item to so inform the Authority and to provide the Authority with additional information which confirms that it can supply the item.
3. Competitive bids are solicited and
 - a. no responsive bid is received; or
 - b. only a single responsive bid is received, and the Authorized Officer rejects the bid.
4. With respect to a product or technology, the Authority wishes to:
 - a. experiment with or test it;
 - b. experiment or test a new source for it; or
 - c. evaluate its service or reliability.

Such a contract may not be awarded until at least thirty days after the date the Board has declared competitive bidding to be impractical or inappropriate.

5. The item is available through an existing contract between a vendor and any of the following and the resolution adopted by the Board includes a determination that, and the reasons, why, it is in the public interest to do so:
 - a. An Authority or any other public authority provided such contract had been awarded through a process of competitive bidding or a competitive request for proposals;
 - b. The State of New York, The City of New York, or (except for Transit and MaBSTOA) the County of Nassau.

It is hereby determined that competitive bidding is inappropriate and, because of the likelihood that a competitive process will not result in better commercial terms, that it is in the public interest to purchase an item through an existing contract of the State of New York, The City of New York or an Authority, or in regard to LI Bus, the County of Nassau, where price and other commercial terms specified in such contract are satisfactory to the Authorized Officer. Such a determination shall be documented in writing by the Authorized Officer.

6. The Authority determines that it is in the public interest to award the contract through a competitive request for proposals ("RFP") in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article IV. For purposes of this subsection, a competitive RFP shall mean a method of soliciting proposals and awarding a contract on the basis of a formal evaluation of the characteristics which are deemed relevant to the Authority's operations, such as quality, cost, delivery schedule and financing, against stated selection criteria. Where the RFP involves the purchase or rehabilitation of rail cars, transit cars or buses, the selection criteria may also include the extent to which the performance of all or a portion of the contract will involve the use of sites within the State of New York or the use of goods produced or services provided within the State of New York.
- B. A public work contract that is estimated to involve the expenditure of not more than \$1 million, is not federally funded and has been designated as a small business mentoring program contract pursuant to Section 1265-b of the Public Authorities Law, may be awarded pursuant to the provisions of Section 1265-b of the Public Authorities Law, notwithstanding any other provision of law or these guidelines. The Chairman or his designee is authorized by said Section 1265-b to designate which eligible public work contracts shall be small business mentoring program contracts.
 - C. A contract, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the purchase of goods, for public works or for a miscellaneous procurement that is not federally funded, may be awarded pursuant to Section 2879(3)(b)(i) of the

Public Authorities Law without competitive bidding or other formal competitive process, notwithstanding any other provision of law or these guidelines, where either (i) the contract involves goods or technology that are recycled or remanufactured or (ii) the proposed award is to a small business concern or a certified minority or women-owned business enterprise (“MWBE”). The Chairman or his designee shall determine which contracts are appropriate for such types of procurements in consultation with the Authorized Officer of the appropriate agency. In the case of contracts that are designated pursuant to Section 2879(3)(b)(i) for award to eligible small business concerns or MWBEs, there shall be notice of the proposed contract on the Authority website inviting responsive bids or proposals from qualified small business concerns and MWBEs. Notice of such procurement shall also be provided to identified organizations that represent or regularly notify small business concerns or MWBEs of the type of procurement opportunity that is the subject of the award. Awards pursuant to Section 2879(3)(b)(i) shall be made to the bidder or proposer determined to have submitted the bid or proposal that is most advantageous to the Authority, price and any other relevant factors considered. An award proposed to be made to a bidder or proposer other than the lowest responsible, responsive bidder or proposer shall require approval by a majority of the Board at which a quorum is present. The Chairman or his designee, in consultation with the Authorized Officer of the appropriate agency, may reject all offers and withdraw the designation of a contract as one to be awarded pursuant to Section 2879(3)(b)(i) if the Chairman or his designee determines that an award will result in the payment of an unreasonable price or otherwise not be advantageous to the Authority.

Article IV - Requests for Proposals

A contract authorized pursuant to Article III (A)(6) may be awarded after the issuance of an RFP in the following manner:

- A. Public notice shall be given of the RFP in accordance with the procedures specified in Article VI(A) and (B). In addition to the information required under Article VI(C), the public notice must include a statement of the selection criteria. Such notice shall also be provided to professional and other organizations that represent or regularly notify certified MWBEs of the type of procurement opportunity that is the subject of the RFP. The Authority may engage in a selection process involving multiple steps such as requests for qualifications, requests for technical proposals and requests for quotations. After the publication of the notice, any or all of the selection criteria specified in the advertisement may be changed, provided that, if the change is material, proposers and potential proposers who, prior to the deadline for the receipt of proposals, have expressed an interest in

the RFP, shall be informed of the change and afforded the opportunity to modify their proposals.

- B. After receipt of the proposals, an Authority may:
1. change the selection criteria provided that, if the change is material, all proposers are informed of the change and afforded the opportunity to modify their proposals;
 2. request that any of the proposers make a presentation. If it does so, it is not required to afford such opportunity to all proposers;
 3. negotiate with any of the proposers. If it does so, it is not required to negotiate with all proposers;
 4. reject any proposal at any time; and
 5. reject all proposals, in which event the Authority may decide to take no further action, solicit new proposals or solicit bids.
- C. A contract may be awarded pursuant to an RFP only after adoption of a resolution by a 2/3 vote of the Board members then in office (the "award resolution").
The award resolution:
1. must be recommended to the Board by the Authority's Authorized Officer;
 2. must identify all proposers;
 3. must set forth the substance of the proposals received;
 4. must, as applicable, summarize the negotiation process including the opportunities, if any, available to proposers to present and modify their proposals; and
 5. must set forth the criteria upon which the selection was made.
- D. The award resolution may be adopted simultaneously with or subsequent to the adoption of the resolution declaring that competitive bidding is impractical or inappropriate because it is in the public interest to use the RFP process specified in the opening paragraph of Article III hereof (the "RFP authorizing resolution"), provided that, if the RFP authorizing resolution and the RFP award resolution are adopted simultaneously or within less than thirty days of each other, the contract may be executed by the Authority no less than thirty days after the adoption of the RFP authorizing resolution.

Article V - Qualified Products Lists ("QPL")

The Board hereby determines that for reasons of efficiency, economy, compatibility or maintenance reliability, there is a need for standardization as to various supplies, materials and equipment which are purchased by the Authorities and authorizes the establishment of a qualified products list ("QPL") identifying such supplies, materials

and equipment as hereinafter provided. A purchase contract for an item which has been included on a QPL duly established and maintained by an Authority, may be entered into by that Authority as hereafter set forth:

- A. The Authorized Officer of the Authority determines as to a specific item that, for reasons of efficiency, economy, compatibility or maintenance reliability, there is a need for standardization.
- B. The QPL is reviewed no less than two times per year. The purpose of this review is to evaluate whether to add or delete items or vendors to or from the QPL.
- C. A notice is published by the Authority no less than one time per year in a general circulation newspaper and in the New York State contract reporter which:
 - 1. advertises the existence of the QPL;
 - 2. states that the QPL is available for public inspection; and
 - 3. specifies the name and address of the Authority's office which may be contacted in regard to the procedure for the compilation of the QPL.
- D. A contract for an item on the QPL may be awarded:
 - 1. without competitive bidding if only one source for the item is specified on the QPL;
 - 2. by competitive sealed bidding but without advertising provided the invitation to bid is sent to all vendors listed on the QPL for the particular item;
 - 3. by competitive sealed bidding after advertising the bid pursuant to Article VI (A) of these procedures.
- E. Two or more Authorities may utilize the same QPL provided that such Authorities jointly comply with the provisions of this Article.

Article VI - Advertising

Except as provided in subsection D of this Article and Article II(C)(2), in those instances where advertising is required under these Guidelines:

- A. For purchase contracts in the actual or estimated amount in excess of \$15,000 for all Authorities and for public work contracts in the estimated amount in excess of \$25,000, the advertisement shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the area served by the Authority and in the New York State contract reporter provided that, if the contract is to be awarded without the solicitation of competitive bids or

RFP, the timing of the publication in the New York State contract reporter shall be determined by an Authorized Officer;

- B. The first publication shall be no less than fifteen business days prior to the planned bid opening date and the second publication shall be within a reasonable period prior to the planned bid opening date.
- C. The advertisement must contain, as applicable, a statement of: (i) the time and place where bids received will be publicly opened and read; (ii) the name of the contracting Authority; (iii) the contract identification number; (iv) a brief description of the public work supplies, materials, or equipment sought, the location where work is to be performed, goods are to be delivered or services provided and the contract term; (v) the address where bids or proposals are to be submitted; (vi) the date when bids or proposals are due; (vii) a description of any eligibility or qualification requirement or preference; (viii) a statement as to whether the contract requirement may be fulfilled by a subcontracting, joint venture or co-production arrangement; (ix) any other information which the Authority deems useful to potential contractors; and (x) the name, address, and telephone number of the person to be contacted for additional information. In addition, if a purchase contract is involved, the advertisement in the New York State contract reporter shall also include a statement as to whether the goods sought had in the immediately preceding three year period been supplied by a foreign business enterprise as that term is defined in Article 4-C of the Economic Development Law.
- D. Advertisement in a general circulation newspaper and in the New York State contract reporter is not required if the Authority regularly purchases the particular supplies, material or equipment and bids are solicited from a list of potential suppliers for the item which has been established and maintained as set forth in Article VII hereof.
- E. In addition to the above advertisements, the Authority shall provide notice to professional and other organizations that regularly notify certified MWBEs of the type of procurement opportunity that is the subject of the solicitation.

Article VII - Contractor Outreach

The Authority shall encourage firms to be interested in competing for Authority contracts. The Authority shall do so in the following manner:

- A. **Suppliers Lists for Purchase Contracts:** The Authority shall compile a list of potential sources of supplies, materials or equipment which it regularly purchases. Such list must be compiled in accordance with the following procedures:

1. Advertisements must be periodically placed in one or more publications which are likely to be read by manufacturers, suppliers and others who deal in the item including firms which may be minority or woman owned businesses, which set forth a general description of categories of items which are regularly procured by the Authority and invites firms to advise the Authority in writing of their interest in being placed on the suppliers list for specific items or categories of items.
2. A periodic effort:
 - i) must be undertaken to identify potential bidders for the item who are not on the list including minority or woman owned businesses. Such effort shall include the use of the Authorities' websites, use of appropriate publications, including those that serve minority and women's business communities, other sources of information, and cooperation with federal, state and local agencies and other Authorities. Where appropriate, a print or electronic letter shall be sent to a new potential bidder which invites it to request that it be added to the list and, if it does not wish to be added, requests that it indicate why.
 - ii) where appropriate, must be undertaken to identify firms which have not responded to bids or expressed an interest in remaining on a list. An effort should be made to contact such firms to determine why they have not bid, whether they are interested in remaining on the list and, if not, why not. A firm may be deleted from the list where it requests deletion, or where the circumstances indicate that it is unlikely that the firm is interested in remaining on the list.
3. The Authority will maintain lists of qualified and certified MWBEs, including professional firms that have expressed an interest in doing business with the Authority and ensure that such lists are updated regularly. The Authority will also consult the lists of certified MWBEs maintained by the New York State Department of Economic Development ("DED").
4. An advertisement must be placed quarterly in the State Register and in the New York State contract reporter.
5. In the event it is not practicable to maintain a suppliers list for a specific item, such item shall be included in a broader category or other appropriate classification which reasonably includes the item, and a suppliers list shall be maintained with respect to the category or classification.

- B. Capital Program Purchase and Public Work Contracts: The Authority shall place an advertisement in the New York State contract reporter no less than four times per year which sets forth a general list of anticipated capital program purchase contracts and public work contracts, and the address of the Authority's office which may be contacted in order to be afforded the opportunity to compete for such contracts and for other Authority contracts. Advertisements will also be placed in publications that serve minority and women's business communities.

Article VIII – Minority/Women Owned and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises

The potential exists for disadvantaged/minority/women owned business enterprise involvement in Authority contracts. The Authority shall use its best efforts to maximize the utilization, as applicable, of DBEs under the Authority's federal program, and MBEs/WBEs under the New York State program set forth in Public Authorities Law §2879, Article 15-A of the Executive Law and these guidelines.

- A. The MTA Chief Diversity Officer ("Chairman's Designee") is responsible for overseeing the programs established by the MTA to promote and assist: i) the participation by certified MWBEs in procurement opportunities and facilitation of the award of procurement contracts to such enterprises; ii) the utilization of certified MWBEs as subcontractors and suppliers to Authority prime contractors; and iii) the utilization of partnerships, joint ventures ("JVs") or other similar arrangements between certified MWBEs and prime contractors. The Chief Diversity Officer reports directly to the Chairman in connection with the responsibilities set forth herein, and will participate in the procurement process either directly or through his or her designees.
- B. For contracts awarded pursuant to these Guidelines, the Authority shall establish appropriate goals for participation by certified MWBEs and for the utilization by prime contractors of MWBEs as subcontractors and suppliers. Statewide numerical participation target goals will be established by the Authority based on the findings of the New York State 2010 Disparity Study, or any subsequent New York State Disparity Study.
- C. The Authority will conduct procurements in a manner that enables the Authority to achieve the maximum feasible portion of the goals set pursuant to Article VIII (B) above, including by taking the following actions: i) establishing measures and procedures to ensure that certified MWBEs are given the opportunity for maximum feasible participation in the performance of Authority contracts and to assist in the identification of those contracts that are best suited for which certified MWBEs may best bid to actively and affirmatively promote and assist their participation in

the performance of Authority contracts so as to facilitate the Authority's achievement of the maximum feasible portion of the MWBE goals; ii) designating the New York State Division of Minority and Women-owned Business Development ("DMWBD") to certify and decertify MWBEs for purposes of these guidelines; iii) setting forth in each contract solicitation the expected degree of MWBE participation based on potential subcontracting opportunities and the availability of certified MWBEs to respond competitively to those opportunities; iv) providing to prospective contractors in writing, or by identifying a link to a specific web site, a current list of MWBEs; v) with regard to joint ventures, allowing a bidder to count toward meeting its MWBE participation goal, the MWBE portion of the joint venture; vi) waiving a contractor's obligation relating to MWBE participation after a showing of good faith efforts to comply with the participation goal; and vii) verifying that MWBEs listed in a successful bid or proposal are actually participating to the extent listed in the project for which the bid or proposal was submitted. In implementing its MWBE programs, the Authority will also consider, where practicable: i) the severability of construction projects and other bundled contracts; ii) the implementation of a program that will enable the Authority to evaluate each contract to determine the appropriateness of the goal pursuant to the New York State 2010 Disparity Study, or any subsequent New York State Disparity Study; iii) compliance with the requirements of any federal law concerning opportunities for any MWBEs which effectuates the purpose of this section; and iv) consultation of the most recent disparity study.

Article IX - Change Orders

- A. A change order which exceeds the lesser of \$250,000 or \$50,000 in the event such change order exceeds 15% of the adjusted contract value, may be entered into by an Authorized Officer, upon the approval of the Board pursuant to a resolution adopted in accordance with Article IX hereof. The submission to the Board shall include an explanation of the need for the change order. All other change orders shall be approved by an Authorized Officer. For purposes of this Article, the "adjusted contract value" shall mean the original amount of the contract plus the aggregate amount of all prior change orders (whether or not approved by the Board). This provision applies to all contracts subject to these Guidelines, including budget adjustments to estimated quantity contracts previously approved by the Board which exceed the threshold.

- B. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Authorized Officer may enter into a change order in any of the following situations as determined by an Authorized Officer:
 - 1. The existence of an emergency; or

2. There is a risk of a substantial increase in cost or delay if prompt action is not taken.
- C. The Chief Operating Officer shall establish policies with respect to the delegation of responsibilities set forth in this Article.

Article X - Form of Board Resolution

- A. Except as otherwise required in Article III and Article IV(C), the procedure for the adoption by the Board and the format of a resolution pursuant to this policy shall be determined by the MTA Chairman. Provided, however, that any Board resolution sought pursuant to these Guidelines shall (i) identify the contract by vendor; (ii) briefly describe the substance of the contract; (iii) specify all the information required under the applicable provisions of this policy; and (iv) specify the estimated or actual cost to the Authority.
- B. To the extent practicable, the request for the resolution shall first be submitted to the standing committee of the Board responsible for the Authority.
- C. The MTA Chairman may modify the procedures in this Article for all Authorities.

Article XI - Miscellaneous

- A. Any provision of this policy may be waived by the Chairman, an Authority President, or the Board except to the extent prohibited by law. A waiver may also be in the form of a ratification.
- B. No Board Committee action or Authority policy, other than one approved by the Chairman, shall be inconsistent with these Guidelines.
- C. An Authority may not divide or split any contract or series of contracts for the purpose of avoiding the requirements of these Guidelines.
- D. If prior to the commencement of an Authority fiscal year, an Authorized Officer reasonably anticipates that, during the next fiscal year, the Authority will expend, in the aggregate, in excess of fifteen thousand dollars for a series of purchase contracts for the same or substantially similar good: i) such requirement shall be met pursuant to a requirements contract awarded pursuant to the applicable provisions of these guidelines; or ii) each such contract shall be awarded pursuant to the provisions of Article II(C), III, IV, V or Article VII of these Guidelines.
- E. If prior to the commencement of an Authority fiscal year, an Authorized Officer reasonably anticipates that, during the next fiscal year, the

Authority will expend, in the aggregate, in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars for a series of contracts for same or substantially the same type of public work: i) such requirements shall be met pursuant to a requirements contract awarded pursuant to the provisions of Article II(C), III, or IV or a procedure determined by an Authorized Officer to be comparable to Article V or VII of these Guidelines; or ii) each such contract shall be awarded pursuant to the provisions of Article II(C), III, or IV or a procedure determined by an Authorized Officer to be comparable to Article V or VII.

- F. Nothing in these Guidelines shall preclude the Authority from accepting bids or proposals in an electronic format, to the extent permitted by law.
- G. A contract awarded by an Authority pursuant to these Guidelines may provide that the contract includes the requirements of one or more other Authorities.
- H. These guidelines are intended for the guidance of officers and employees of the Authority only. Nothing contained herein is intended or shall be construed to confer upon any person, firm or corporation any right, remedy, claim or benefit under, or by reason of, any requirement or provision hereof.