

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

### **City of Worcester Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy**

The purchase and use of products and services can have a profound impact on the environment. The City of Worcester recognizes the positive impact that it can make on the environment through the purchasing decisions that it makes. It is the intent of the City of Worcester to integrate environmental considerations into every aspect of acquisition. Although the environment may not be the core of our professional mission, the integration of these factors will result in economic, health, and environmental gains that will further our goals.

#### **Overall Statement of Policy**

The City will seek to reduce the environmental damages associated with purchases by increasing acquisition of environmentally preferable products and services to the extent feasible, consistent with price, performance, availability, and safety considerations.

Environmental factors will be taken into account as early as possible in the acquisition-planning and decision-making process.

Responsibility for environmentally preferable purchasing will be shared among the program, acquisition, and procurement personnel.

#### **Definitions**

*"Recycled Material"* means material and by-products which have been recovered or diverted from solid waste for the purpose of recycling. It does not include those materials and by-products generated from, and commonly reused within, an original manufacturing process.

*"Post-Consumer Recycled Material"* means material and by-products which have served their intended end-use by a consumer and have been recovered or diverted from solid waste. It does not include those materials and by-products generated from, and commonly reused within, an original manufacturing process.

*"Environmentally preferable products"* means products that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products that serve the same purpose.

#### **Policy Statement**

Bidders able to supply products containing recycled materials or environmentally preferable products which meet performance requirements are encouraged to offer them in bids and proposals. To this extent, the City reserves the right to award under the following circumstances:

- When the bidder submits an offer to supply an environmentally preferable product or recycled material.
- When the bidder documents the offer of environmentally preferable products or recycled materials.
- An environmentally preferred product or recycled material may be considered best value even when the price is greater than that of a non-environmentally preferred product or service by an amount not to exceed ten per cent.