TO: ALL COUNTY PERSONNEL

FROM: VERDENIA C. BAKER COUNTY

**ADMINISTRATOR** 

PREPARED BY: PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT OF ALL NON-CONSTRUCTION

RELATED GOODS OR SERVICES PURCHASED OR

REIMBURSED WITH FEDERAL FUNDS

PPM #: CW-L-049

ISSUE DATEEFFECTIVE DATEJanuary 29, 2025November 16, 2024

### **PURPOSE**:

To establish a countywide procurement policy and procedure for non-construction related goods or services (collectively "goods or services") that are purchased or reimbursed (collectively "purchased") with federal funds. Unless otherwise stated in a federal grant, cooperative agreement between the County and a federal agency, federal law, or federal agency regulation, the provisions set forth in this Policy and Procedure Manual ("PPM") apply to the procurement of all non-construction goods or services purchased with federal funds.

## **UPDATES:**

Future updates to this PPM are the responsibility of the Director of Procurement.

## **AUTHORITY**:

- 2 CFR Parts 200.317-200.327, as may be amended ("Super Circular Procurement Standards or Uniform Guidance")
- 2 CFR Parts 200.400 200.476, as may be amended ("Super Circular Cost Principles or Uniform Guidance")
- Florida Statutes Section 287.057, as may be amended
- Palm Beach County Code, Chapter 2 Article III, Sections 2-51 through 2-63, Palm Beach County Code, as may be amended, ("County Procurement Code")
- Palm Beach County Code, Chapter 2 Article III, Sections 2-80.20 through 2-80.30, Palm Beach County Code, as may be amended, ("County Office of Equal Business Opportunity Code")
- Palm Beach County Code, Chapter 2 Article XIII, Sections 2-441 through 2-460, as may be amended ("County Ethics Code")
- PPM # CW-L-008, Procurement Policy and Procedures, as may be amended ("Countywide Procurement PPM")

• PPM # CW-O-043, as may be amended, ("Small/Minority/Women Business Enterprise (S/M/WBE) Utilization for the Procurement of Goods and Services, Including Construction Related Goods and Professional Services")

### **DEFINITIONS:**

**Federal Funds** - Monies received by the County from the federal government via grants, cooperative agreements, direct appropriations or other financial assistance (except for federal funds being provided solely for loans, loan guarantees, interest subsidies or insurance).

**Federal Requirements** - The federal laws, federal regulations, the Uniform Guidance, and the grant conditions applicable to a particular federal grant.

**Micro-Purchase** - Purchases below the federal micro-purchase amount (currently \$10,000) as may be amended or below the County's DPO amount (currently \$10,000) as may be amended, *whichever is lower (i.e., whichever is the more restrictive)*.

**Pass-through Entity** - An entity (recipient) that directly receives Federal Funds (award) and provides those Federal Funds (sub-award) to the ultimate entity (sub-recipient). This PPM is applicable when the County receives Federal Funds directly from a federal agency or indirectly from a Pass-through Entity. For example, if a federal agency provides a state agency with Federal Funds that the state agency then distributes to the County, the state agency is a Pass-through Entity providing federal funding to the County, which is a sub-recipient of those Federal Funds. The use of those funds by the County is governed by the terms of the federal grant, the Uniform Guidance and other applicable federal laws and regulations though the County received the funds indirectly.

**Small Purchase** - Purchases below the Federal Simplified Acquisition Threshold (currently \$250,000) as may be amended, or below the County's Mandatory Bid/Proposal Amount (currently \$150,000) as may be amended, *whichever is lower (i.e., whichever is the more restrictive)*.

**User Department -** The County department receiving or administering Federal Funds on behalf of the County that has requested the solicitation.

**Vendor Self Service (VSS)** - The County's website where solicitations are advertised which can be found at <a href="https://pbcvssp.co.palm-beach.fl.us/webapp/vssp/AltSelfService">https://pbcvssp.co.palm-beach.fl.us/webapp/vssp/AltSelfService</a>.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Super Circular, also referred to as "Uniform Guidance", was issued to reduce administrative burdens, streamline requirements for federal awards, and to protect Federal Funds from waste, fraud, and abuse. In particular, the Super Circular consolidates the procurement requirements of existing federal agencies and provides consistent guidance for federal awards.

The County as a recipient of Federal Funds is required to implement policies and procedures for compliance with the procurement standards of the Super Circular. <u>Failure to comply with the procurement standards of the Super Circular may result in the de-obligation of Federal Funds.</u>

### **POLICY:**

This PPM is applicable to all User Departments, as well as the Procurement Department, that procure goods or services with federal funds <u>regardless</u> of whether the goods or services are exempt from the County's Procurement Code or whether a pass-through entity other than the County has received a waiver from a federal agency.

The County is required to follow the Procurement Code and the Countywide Procurement PPM unless there is conflict with a provision in federal law, federal rules or regulations, or with the Uniform Guidance. Where there *is* a conflict, the County shall follow its Procurement Code and Countywide Procurement PPM when the County's provision is *stricter* than the federal provision.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES:**

## A. ORDER OF LEGAL PRECEDENCE FOR THE COUNTY'S PURCHASE OF NON-CONSTRUCTION GOODS OR SERVICES WITH FEDERAL FUNDS

The order of precedence is:

- 1. Laws passed by Congress, which are codified in the United States Code ("U.S.C.").
- 2. Rules or regulations adopted by a federal agency that pertain to the particular laws the agency is mandated to implement. These rules or regulations are codified in the Code of Federal Regulations ("CFR").
- 3. The award document, which provides funding to the County, may include additional requirements that are not included in the Federal law, rules or regulations.
- 4. The Uniform Guidance. If a requirement in the award document is in conflict with a requirement in the Uniform Guidance, the award document has precedence.

### **B.** CODE OF CONDUCT

1. The County's Code of Ethics, Sections 2-441 through 2-448 of the County Code ("Ethics Code"), shall serve as the County's conflict of interest policy for federal

awards. The Code of Ethics applies to all County officials and employees.

- 2. The Uniform Guidance requires disclosure of a potential conflict of interest; standards of conduct for "organizational conflicts of interest", which may apply to non-profit sub-recipients of federal funds; and, gift requirements that are different from those included in the Ethics Code. As such, the following provisions will govern in those instances where federal funds are utilized for the procurement of goods or services:
  - a. <u>Conflict of Interest</u>: No employee, officer or agent of the County may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a federal award if he or she has a *real or apparent* conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or may receive a tangible personal benefit from a vendor <u>considered</u> for a County contract.

User Departments shall disclose any potential conflict of interest in writing to the federal awarding agency or pass-through agency. In addition, all federal criminal law violations involving fraud, bribery or gratuity that potentially affect a federal award are required to be disclosed in writing. Failure to make the required disclosures can result in withheld payments, award termination, suspension or debarment of the vendor.

- b. Organizational Conflict of interest: If the non-Federal entity has a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization that is not a state government, local government, or Indian tribe, the non-Federal entity must also maintain written standards of conduct covering organizational conflicts of interest. Organizational conflicts of interest means that because of relationships with a parent company, affiliate, or subsidiary organization, the non-Federal entity is unable or appears to be unable to be impartial in conducting a procurement action involving the related organization.
- c. <u>Gift Policy</u>: No officer, employee, or agent of the County shall solicit or accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from *contractors or parties to subcontracts*.
- 3. **Enforcement.** Section 2-448 of the County Ethics Code and the County's Merit Rules govern the administrative and disciplinary actions for violations of Paragraph 2. a. and c. above by County and the Procurement Department employees.

## C. GENERAL PROCUREMENT STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS

User Departments, as well as the Procurement Department, shall adhere to the requirements of the Procurement Code and the Countywide Procurement PPM when procuring goods or services with federal funds.

Notwithstanding the prior statement, User Departments, as well as the Procurement Department, shall adhere to the additional requirements set forth in the Uniform Guidance pertaining to procurement standards.

The additional Uniform Guidance procurement standards are as follows:

- 1. Required Federal Contract Clauses. The solicitation document and the resulting contract must include certain required federal contract clauses, including:
  - Equal Employment Opportunity (41 CFR Part 60);
  - Davis-Bacon Act (40 USC 3141-3148) and Copeland "Anti-Kickback Act (40 USC 3145), if applicable;
  - Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 USC 3701-3708);
  - Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387);
  - Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689);
  - Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352);
  - Procurement of Recovered Materials (2 CFR 200.323);
  - Domestic Preferences for Procurements (2 CFR 200.322);
  - Subcontracting with Small, Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, Veteran-Owned Businesses, and Labor Surplus Area Firms (2 CFR 200.321(b)(6));
  - Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance equipment or services (2 CFR 200.216); and
  - Other required contract clauses
- 2. In order to ensure objective contractor performance and to eliminate unfair competitive advantage, contractors who develop or draft specification requirements, statements of work, or IFBs or RFPs for the County shall be excluded from competing for such procurements.
- 3. When it is impractical to make a clear and accurate description of the technical specifications of a good, a "brand name or equal" may be used. The salient characteristics or specific features of the named brand must be met by the bidders or proposers. A specification with a "brand name" only shall not be used.

- 4. A User Department may request that its procurement process be reviewed by the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity to determine whether its process meets the federal standards in order for its process to be certified.
- 5. The User Department may self-certify its procurement process. Such self-certification must not limit the federal awarding agency's right to survey the process. Under a self-certification procedure, the federal awarding agency may rely on written assurances from the User Department that it is complying with these standards. The User Department must cite specific policies, procedures, regulations, or standards as complying with these requirements and have its process available for review.
- 6. All solicitations and contracts shall include a termination for cause <u>and</u> a termination for convenience, which shall be at the sole discretion of the County, and the manner by which these terminations are to be implemented (i.e., notice, etc.). For termination for cause, all solicitations and contracts shall include all administrative, contractual, or legal remedies for a breach of contract, and shall provide sanctions and penalties as appropriate.
- 7. For those solicitations and contracts including the employment of mechanics or laborers, the contract must provide for compliance with 40 USC 3702, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Specifically, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer based on a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half (1½) times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week.
- 8. Those solicitations or contracts providing federal funds in support of scientific research and development must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.
- 9. A contract award shall not be made to parties listed on the government-wide exclusions set forth in the System for Award Management ("SAM") (found at <a href="https://www.sam.gov">www.sam.gov</a>), which contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority.
- 10. <u>Procurement of Recovered Materials</u> User County Departments and the Procurement Department must comply with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act ("Solid Waste Act"), as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

- a. Pursuant to the Solid Waste Act, the County must procure only those goods designated by the Environmental Protection Agency "(EPA"), at 40 CFR Part 247 247.17, containing the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable while maintaining a satisfactory level of competition for goods valued above \$10,000 or where the value of the goods procured during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000.
- b. The EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guideline ("CPG") Program lists eight (8) categories of goods that are/can be made with recovered materials. Included are: construction products; landscaping products; miscellaneous products; non-paper office products; paper and paper products; park and recreation products; transportation products; and, vehicular products.
- c. The County shall procure solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and
- d. All solicitations for the procurement of recovered materials shall follow the Methods of Procurement in Section E and outreach considerations provided below.

#### D. USER DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITY

- 1. User Departments shall have knowledge of the applicable federal laws, rules, regulations, required terms and conditions, and award documents applicable to the funding received.
- 2. Review the proposed procurement to ensure the User Department is not procuring unnecessary or duplicative goods or services.
- 3. Consider the consolidation of procurements if the result will save money or time along with the possibility of a joint procurement for the goods or services with another government agency.
- 4. If relevant, consider whether a lease or a purchase of the goods is the most economical approach to the procurement of it.
- 5. If the good required is included within an EPA designated category set forth in Section C.9. above, the User Department shall write the specification for said good consistent with the following EPA CPG Program Guidelines, as may be amended. It is the User Department's responsibility to verify whether or not a specification within the EPA CPG Guideline has changed. The User Departments shall verify through the EPA website, using the sample link, <a href="https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive-procurement-guideline-cpg-program">https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive-procurement-guideline-cpg-program</a>, and determine the products and materials that are applicable to the respective

solicitation.

- 6. Carefully consider the use of a "time and materials" type contract. A time and materials type contract shall *only* be used after it has been determined that no other contract is suitable *and* the contract includes a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. If you can define a statement of work, it is not a time and materials contract. A time and materials type contract requires a high degree of oversight in order to obtain reasonable assurance that the contractor is using efficient methods and effective cost controls. A time and materials type contract means a contract whose cost is the sum of:
  - a. The actual cost of materials; and
  - b. Direct labor hours charged at fixed hourly rates that reflect wages, general and administrative expenses, and profit.
- 7. Carefully consider a use of a "cost plus percentage" type contract. A cost plus a percentage of cost type contract shall not be used.
- 8. Provide the Procurement Department with <u>all</u> required procurement provisions, terms, conditions, forms and attachments for inclusion in the solicitation for the goods or services requested. It is the sole and total responsibility of the User Department to notify the Procurement Department whether or not the procurement is federally funded <u>and</u> to provide the Procurement Department with all applicable information and documents required for the procurement.
- 9. Prior to awarding a federally funded contract, the User Department (or the Procurement Department, if applicable) must verify that the recommended awardee is not listed in SAM. Verification is made by inputting the name of the recommended awardee in the search field at <a href="www.sam.gov">www.sam.gov</a>. If the search does not find the name of the recommended awardee, the User Department (or Procurement Department, if applicable) may proceed with the contract award process. The User Department (or Procurement Department, if applicable) shall print the screen that shows no results were found in SAM and file it in the appropriate procurement file. This documentation will be beneficial during a federal audit.

### E. METHODS OF PROCUREMENT

1. Micro Purchase – A good or service valued less than \$10,000.

Micro purchases shall be made in accordance with the County's Decentralized Purchase Order (DPO) process outlined in PPM # CW-L-048. In addition, the Uniform Guidance mandates the additional requirements:

- a. The User Department shall make a determination that the price the County will be paying for the good or service is reasonable. Said documentation of the determination shall be filed in the appropriate User Department procurement file.
- b. All Micro Purchases must be made equitably among qualified suppliers and, unless the pool of vendors is limited, the same suppliers should not be asked each time to submit prices.

# 2. Small Purchase – A good or service <u>valued equal or greater than \$10,000 and less than \$150,000.</u>

The County's Request for Quote ("RFQ") or Request for Submittal ("RFS") process, as set forth in the Countywide Procurement PPM, shall be used for small purchases. In addition, the Uniform Guidance mandates the below requirements apply:

- a. The User Department shall prepare an independent cost estimate for each small purchase good or service prior to receiving quotes or submittals.
- b. At least two (2) responsive quotes or submittals must be received to be considered a competitive procurement. If two (2) quotes or submittals are not received, the User Department (or the Procurement Department, if applicable) shall determine and document that competition was either adequate or inadequate and shall include said document in the procurement file along with proof of the solicitation, a listing of all responses received, and proof of the advertisement of the solicitation. If the User Department (or the Procurement Department, if applicable) determines and documents that competition was adequate, the procurement Department, if applicable) determines and documents that competition was inadequate, the solicitation shall be cancelled and may subsequently be re-issued.
- c. The User Department shall make a determination as to whether the price the County will be paying for the good or service is reasonable. Said documentation of the determination shall be filed in the appropriate User Department procurement file.
- d. ALL solicitations and contracts for purchases equal to or in excess of \$100,000 must file the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment Certification, per 31 USC 1352. Contractors and sub-contractors shall certify that they will

not, and have not, used federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization in order to influence or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, office or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 USC 1352. Contractors and sub-contractors must also disclose any lobbying with non-federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any federal award.

## 3. Purchases <u>equal to or exceeding \$150,000</u>:

- a. The User Department shall prepare an independent cost estimate for each good or service equal to or exceeding \$150,000 in value prior to receiving bids or proposals.
- b. The User Department shall conduct a cost or price analysis for each bid or proposal received. In addition, a cost or price analysis is required for each contract modification.
- c. The User Department (or the Procurement Department, if applicable) shall document the reason for rejecting any and all bids or proposals. This documentation shall be retained in the procurement file for that particular solicitation.
- d. At least two (2) responsive bids or proposals must be received to be considered a competitive procurement. If two (2) bids or proposals are not received, the User Department (or the Procurement Department, if applicable) shall determine and document that competition was either adequate or inadequate and shall include said document in the procurement file along with proof of the solicitation, a listing of all responses received, and proof of the advertisement of the solicitation. If the User Department (or the Procurement Department, if applicable) determines and documents that competition was adequate, the procurement Department, if applicable) determines and documents that competition was inadequate, the solicitation shall be cancelled and may subsequently be re-issued.
- e. ALL solicitations and contracts for purchases equal to or in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision requiring the County compliance with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 USC 1251 et seq.) Violations must be reported to the federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the EPA.

f. ALL solicitations and contracts for purchases equal to or in excess of \$100,000 must file the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment Certification, per 31 USC 1352. Contractors and sub-contractors shall certify that they will not, and have not, used federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization in order to influence or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, office or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 USC 1352. Contractors and sub-contractors must also disclose any lobbying with non-federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any federal award.

## g. Bids – Based upon lowest price

The County's Invitation for Bid (IFB) process, as set forth in the Procurement Code, shall be used for sealed bid purchases equal to or exceeding \$150,000.

1. Notwithstanding the above, sealed bids shall be *publicly opened* at the time and place set forth in the IFB. The name *and price* of the bidder shall be read aloud. This is different from Florida law.

## h. **Proposals – Based upon evaluation criteria**

The County's Request for Proposal (RFP) or the Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) processes, as set forth in the Procurement Code, shall be used for purchases equal to or exceeding \$150,000.

- 1. Notwithstanding the above, the User Department must have a written method for conducting technical evaluations of received proposals. When a solicitation is processed through the Procurement Department, the User Department must provide the written method for conducting technical evaluations to Procurement for inclusion in the procurement file.
- **4. Sole Source purchases** shall be conducted in accordance with the method of procurement for the good or service described in Paragraphs 1., 2., or 3. of this Section, the Procurement Code, and the Countywide Procurement PPM.
- **5. Emergency purchases** shall be conducted in accordance with the method of procurement for the good or service described in Paragraphs 1., 2., or 3. of this

Section, the Procurement Code, and the Countywide Procurement PPM.

- a. Emergency purchases are for a limited duration of time. Once the actual emergency ceases, a solicitation is required for goods or services required for ancillary damage or a situation caused or related to the emergency, but that are not emergencies in and of themselves.
- **6. Pre-qualification of vendors** shall be conducted in accordance with the Procurement Code and the Countywide Procurement PPM.
  - a. Also, notwithstanding the above, pre-qualification solicitations must not preclude potential bidders or proposers from qualifying during the solicitation period. Vendors may apply to qualify for pre-qualification contracts at any time during the term of the contract.
- 7. **Piggyback Purchases may be utilized,** in limited circumstances, when procuring goods or services with federal funds. Piggyback purchases shall be conducted in accordance with the method of procurement applicable for the dollar value of the good or service described in Paragraphs 1., 2., or 3., of this Section, the Procurement Code, and the Countywide Procurement PPM. Notwithstanding the previous mandate, all federal procurement standards and requirements *must be in the original solicitation*.

### F. OUTREACH CONSIDERATIONS

For goods or services to be purchased with Federal Funds, when possible the County should ensure that small businesses, minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses and labor surplus area firms are considered whenever they are deemed eligible as potential sources.

- 1. Responsibilities of the Office of Equal Business Opportunity ("OEBO") and the Procurement Department
  - a. **Business Outreach.** To assure that small, minority, women's, veteran business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are solicited as potential sources, OEBO shall conduct outreach efforts aimed at identifying eligible businesses and assisting them in becoming certified and registered with the County. The Procurement Department shall be responsible for managing registration through the County's VSS system ensuring that eligible businesses are linked to the applicable commodity codes.

- b. **Email Distribution.** For each solicitation, the Construction Department will select the commodity codes for advertisement. The Procurement Department, through VSS, will ensure that a notification regarding the advertisement goes out to all eligible business registered under the selected commodity codes (i.e., the "Business Outreach List").
- c. Work with User Departments in developing their procurement transactions into separate procurements, when economically feasible, to permit maximum participation by small businesses, minority businesses, women's business enterprises and veteran-owned businesses.
- d. Work with User Departments in establishing delivery schedules that encourage participation by small businesses, minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and veteran-owned businesses.

## 2. User Department Responsibilities

- a. Developing procurement transactions into separate procurements, when economically feasible, to permit maximum participation by small businesses, minority businesses, women business enterprises, and veteran-owned businesses;
- b. Establishing delivery schedules to encourage participation by small businesses, minority businesses, women's business enterprises and veteran-owned businesses;
- c. Ensuring that all solicitations and ensuing contracts include the requirement that the prime contractor, if subcontracts are to be let, utilize the outreach considerations set forth in this Section.

### G. PROTEST PROCESS

- 1. Protests for goods or services valued in *excess* of \$150,000 and paid or reimbursed with federal monies shall be handled in accordance with the Procurement Code.
- 2. A protest process for goods or services equal to or in excess of \$10,000 and less than \$150,000 is required by many federal agencies. If the federal funding agency requires a protest process for these purchases, the same process delineated within the Procurement Code, Section 2-55, Protested Awards shall apply.

## H. USER DEPARTMENT CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION AND REVIEW

1. User Departments, working collaboratively with the Procurement Department,

are required to maintain oversight to ensure that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contract or purchase order. Vendor Performance Reports should be filed with the Procurement Department when a vendor, for a contract solicited through the Procurement Department, fails to perform in accordance with the contract.

- 2. A contractor may be suspended or debarred by the Director of Procurement in accordance with the Procurement Code.
- 3. The User Department, working collaboratively with the Procurement Department is responsible for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of the procurement. Violations of the law by a contractor shall be referred to the local, state or federal authority having proper jurisdiction.

### I. PROCUREMENT RECORDS AND RECORDS RETENTION

- 1. User Departments and the Procurement Department must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of the procurement. These records shall include, but not be limited to, independent cost estimate, cost or price analysis of the good or service if required, the solicitation, proof of advertisement, rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price, and documentation regarding protests, if any.
- 2. All records pertaining to the procurement of the goods or services paid with federal funds shall be retained for a period of three (3) years from the date of submission of the final financial report for the entire federal allocation or, for federal awards that are renewed quarterly or annually, from the date of the submission of the quarterly or annual financial report, respectively, as reported to the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. Please note, this requirement is different from the Florida public records law. Exceptions include:
  - a. If any litigation, claim or audit is started before the expiration of the three (3) year period, the records must be retained until all litigation, claims or audit finding involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.
  - b. When the County has received written notification to extend the records retention period from the federal awarding agency, agency for audit, oversight agency for audit, agency for indirect costs, or pass-through entity.
  - c. Records for equipment acquired with federal funds must be retained for three (3) years after final disposition.
  - d. When records are transferred to or maintained by the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity, the three (3) year retention requirement is

e. Where a longer retention period is required by any other applicable federal or state requirements.

## J. QUESTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

All questions and clarification relating to particular requirements of federal law, rule, regulation or the Uniform Guidance pertaining to a federal award shall be referred to the federal agency providing the award with your Department's designated Assistant County Attorney.

VERDENIA C. BAKER

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** 

**Supersession History** 

1. PPM# CW-L-049, effective 03/12/2018