



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release:
March 1, 2012

Release: 2012 - 49

For more information contact:
Tony Jones
301-475-4200 ext. 1342 or pio@stmarysmd.com

New Procurement Policy Includes Simplified Preference for Local Vendors

The St. Mary's County Board of Commissioners has approved a new procurement policy which includes a preference for vendors whose principal place of business is located in the county.

The Local Vendor Preference Program will allow St. Mary's County Government departments to work directly with local vendors on small purchases, making it simpler for firms to do business with the county.

Commissioners say the goal is to increase spending with local vendors within St. Mary's County. "It was an easy decision for us to approve the policy and this program," said Commissioner President Jack Russell. "We now have a new policy which allows us to sustain our business community and keep more money in the county."

"Similar programs in other counties created more paperwork and work for their staffs," said Commissioner Dan Morris. "Our program provides additional points for our local vendors, is budget sensitive and simpler for everyone involved."

The new program provides a preference for larger purchases, as well as providing for a contract award as long as the cost is not more than 10 percent above the cost the county would pay for goods and services, and gives additional points to local vendors.

Vendors can automatically be notified of all County bid opportunities by signing up for the auto notifier on the County web site www.co.saint-marys.md.us/, E-Notices, as well as at the EMaryland Marketplace at <https://emaryland.buyspeed.com/bs/>. Notices are also posted on the bid board located on the 2nd floor of the Chesapeake Building, 41770 Baldrige Street, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650.

###

St. Mary's County Government will be responsive and accountable to the county's citizens; provide high quality, cost effective and efficient services; preserve the county's environment, heritage and rural character and foster opportunities for present and future generations