

NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul
Biane

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Board Adopts “Green” Purchasing Policy

SAN BERNARDINO – On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors adopted a new policy to encourage County Departments to consider energy and water efficiency and other environmental factors when purchasing products and services.

The Environmentally Preferable Purchasing policy aims to reduce waste and to prompt County vendors and service providers to be more environmentally friendly.

“The County of San Bernardino spends about \$350 million annually on products and services, and that means County Departments can make a huge difference by simply taking environmental considerations into account when they are making purchasing decisions,” said Second District Supervisor Paul Biane, who requested the policy.

The County Purchasing Department is developing detailed standard practices that will – among other things – identify environmentally preferable products and services, list hazardous substances targeted for reduction, and provide legal language for County bids and contracts.

Under the new policy, County Departments will have the ability to procure products and services that are environmentally friendly even if the products and services cost more than the lowest bid. However, the policy also provides County Departments with the flexibility to select the lowest cost product or service if the environmentally friendly alternative is too costly or does not meet the needs of the Department.

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