

FTA Procurement Updates

Micah M. Miller

*FTA, Regional Counsel
Atlanta, GA*

Legal Affairs Seminar



Overview

- Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM)
 - Recently updated
- Third Party Contracting Guidance (Circular 4220.1F)
- Third Party Procurement FAQs
- “Ask a Question” function
- Sign up for updates (FTA website)

Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM)

- Recently updated (October 2016)
- Provides FTA grant recipients with information about third-party procurement requirements
- Designed to cover the entire procurement cycle: (1) Planning, (2) Selecting Type of Contracting Method, (3) Evaluation of Proposals and Contract Award, and (4) Contract Administration.

Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM) - updates

- The **small purchase** threshold references in the BPPM have now been updated to be consistent with the SuperCircular (2 CFR part 200)
- The small purchase threshold is now set at \$150,000 but will be periodically adjusted for inflation

Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM) - updates

- Protest Procedures:
- FTA's involvement in bid protests is somewhat limited with the publication of the SuperCircular.
- SuperCircular did not include the language found in 49 C.F.R. 18.36(b)(12) that provided for a direct appeal to FTA
- Violations of Federal Law or Reg
 - Discretionary: limited to issues impacting FTA's overall transportation program

Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM) - updates

- Protest Procedures:
- Notifying, and updating, the FTA when you receive a third party contract protest is a **best practice** but is **no longer a requirement**.



Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM) - updates

- FAST Act Sec 3019
 - Innovative Procurement & Leasing
 - Sets the parameters for joint cooperative purchasing of rolling stock and related equipment.
 - Addresses capital leases for rolling stock and related equipment, specifically for zero emission vehicles.

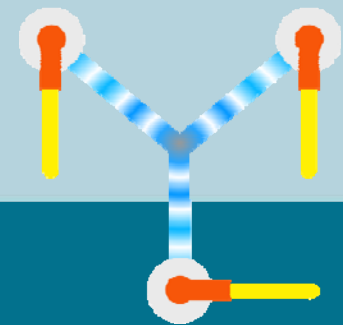
Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM) - updates

- FAST Act Sec 3019
 - Cooperative procurements
 - Highlights
 - Under the FAST Act, a grantee may now purchase rolling stock and related equipment from any State's cooperative procurement contract or schedule
 - “Procurement Not Limited to Intrastate Participants”
 - Pilot Program for Non-Profit Cooperative Procurements
 - Joint Procurement Clearinghouse



Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM) - updates

- FAST Act Sec 3019 cont...
 - Leasing
 - Highlights
 - The FAST Act encourages capital leasing arrangements in lieu of purchases, and encourages the capital leasing of zero emission vehicle components, particularly power sources (e.g. flux-capacitor).



Best Practices Procurement Manual (BPPM) - updates

- Appendix B.
 - Examples of Procurement Practices / Lessons Learned
- Geographic Preference
 - The DOT has extended the contracting initiative pilot program until **March 6, 2022**. This pilot program became effective on March 6, 2015.
 - <https://www.transportation.gov/regulations/textextension-dot-contracting-initiative-pilot-program>

Third Party Contracting Guidance (Circular 4220.1F)

- Circular 4220.1F is also due for an update, see last slide for a reminder to sign up for updates

Third Party Procurement FAQs

- <https://cms.fta.dot.gov/funding/procurement/third-party-procurement/third-party-procurement-faqs>



Sign up for updates (FTA website)

- <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOTFTA/subscriber/new>



Questions

