



Rocky Mountain Governmental Purchasing Association Newsletter

Fall 2022

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UPCOMING:

Oct 26	Quarterly Board Meeting
Oct 28	RMGPA Award Nominations Due
Dec 7-8	RMGPA Winter Conference
Jan 1	Submissions due for winter newsletter

To submit articles, news about your agency, awards/accomplishments, photographs, etc., email to: newsletter@rmgpa.org



Jon Babcock,
NIGP-CPP, CPSCM

Letter from the President

NGIP Forum – Boston 2022

I am very thankful for the opportunity to attend Forum this year. It was my first time and was very worthwhile. Each day started with a great speaker to help get in the right mindset for the day. A couple of the speakers really helped with some attitude adjusting that ended up filling a need that I didn't know I needed. Networking was next on the agenda.

Meeting with fellow procurement professionals from all over the country that work in K-12 school districts was great. It is good to be surrounded by like-minded people and engage in conversations about the challenges that most of us are facing. What a great way to benchmark some of the things that are going on in our own agencies.

Next came the learning opportunities. So many to choose from. I chose to spend some time learning about Job Order Contracting (JOC) and focusing on contracting a little bit, but also had time to learn about career paths in procurement, Finance, and procurement relationships, navigating market volatility, and leadership. Many of these sessions really filled my cup and helped me think about things in my life and my work in different ways. Not to mention learning about some great opportunities to bring back to my agency.

We also had a couple opportunities to attend the Expo Hall that was filled with suppliers wanting to talk with each of us about new and exciting advancements they have made. There was something for everyone with the opportunity to stop and dig in a little to some of the ideas or products that we had been wondering about. All in the same room!

Sadly, it did have to come to an end. I flew home with a head full of thoughts and some things that I wanted to follow up on. Also carrying a certificate of recognition from NIGP for the 35 years that RMGPA has been a chapter. I also came home with the hope that maybe I could influence some fellow professionals to attend Forum in the future and gain what I have gained.

I am looking forward to the RMGPA Winter Conference where we will have more great content and the chance to network with some great suppliers. There is so much work that goes on by RMGPA volunteers to put these events on. I hope you decide to attend and bring your team with you. It will be so worthwhile!

Thank you!

Jon Babcock – President RMGPA

RMGPA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



If you are interested in taking an active role in RMGPA and would like to volunteer for a position on any of our committees, please reach out to RMGPA Vice President, David Musgrave.

vicepresident@rmgpa.org

vicepresident@rmgpa.org

Nominate a deserving individual or team today!

Do you know of an outstanding RMGPA member/team who deserves to be recognized for their hard work and dedication? Nominate them for one of RMGPA's many awards:

- Buyer of the Year
- Manager of the Year
- Procurement Team
- Future Leader
- Risk Management
- Volunteer of the Year

[2022 RMGPA Award Nomination Form](#)

Click on the link above to submit your nomination. The deadline for nominations is **Friday, October 28, 2022** by the close of business.



SPOTLIGHT: Bethany Swank



Tell us about your background.

I was born and raised in the State of Delaware where I started my governmental career with Delaware Transportation Corporation (Also known as DART).

Did you work in other professions prior to procurement and if so, where and for how long?

Prior to starting my purchasing career, I worked as a waitress and in the retail industry throughout high school and college. I then worked as a dietary clerk where I stayed for about a year before accepting a position with DART.

What organization do you currently work for and how long have you been there?

I am a purchasing agent with the Regional Transportation District of Denver. I made the move from Delaware to Colorado the weekend before Thanksgiving 2021 and started that Monday!



SPOTLIGHT: Bethany Swank

How did you get into the procurement field?

I began as a receptionist at DART before being encouraged to apply for a contract specialist position that opened within the company. I guess you could say the rest is history as I found I love the procurement field.

What is the most interesting purchase/project you have been involved in and what was your role?

As a purchasing agent with experience in co-op agreements I am so excited to take on the extensive training to become proficient so that I can take on the role of training my coworkers to help allow for more efficiency and to help elevate unnecessary processes!

When did you join RMGPA and what have you enjoyed most about being a member of our organization?

I only recently joined RMGPA when I moved to Colorado almost a year ago now. The best part about becoming a RMGPA member is not only the conferences but also the ability to increase one's connections and contacts in the industry!

How long have you been RMGPA's Marketing Chair and what responsibilities do you have in this role?

I have been RMGPA's marketing chair for only a short while but am so excited to begin this new journey with such a wonderful team!

Are there any professional and/or personal accomplishments you're proud of?

My biggest accomplishment is when I started my career in the procurement field! It has allowed me the opportunity to move to the beautiful State of Colorado where I have fallen in love with everything it has to offer!

SPOTLIGHT: Bethany Swank

Tell us about your interests/hobbies outside of work.

Since moving to Colorado, I have expanded both my hobbies and interests outside of work. I am an avid reader, watcher of movies and TV shows, and video gamer (COD Zombies). I love anything outdoors, swimming, hiking, watching the sunrise and sunset. I have not had a chance yet but hopefully this winter I will be able to try snowboarding and next summer I can try paddleboarding! I am also a mother of three children and two big fur babies.





Chapter Enhancement Update

All of the committees are working hard to plan and prepare for the 2022 RMGPA Winter Conference at Cheyenne Mountain Resort in Colorado Springs. We need your help in getting word out to vendors about the opportunity to participate in the Trade Show. Keep an eye out for an email with the vendor information sheet which you can forward on to any vendors that you think may want to participate. This is a great opportunity for vendors to connect with our members.

I hope to see you all in Colorado Springs in December!

Thank you,

Shelly Henderson
Chapter Enhancement Chair

CONGRATULATIONS RMGPA!!!



Arizona State Capitol Chapter
Columbia Chapter

Rocky Mountain Governmental Purchasing Association
South Carolina Association of Governmental Purchasing Officials
Tampa Bay Area Chapter
Virginia Association of Governmental Procurement

**The following agencies are celebrating
milestone anniversaries with NIGP**

25 Years:

Adams County Government
City of Arvada
City of Thornton

30 Years:

Douglas County Government
Mesa County Valley School Dist. #51

35 Years:

City of Steamboat Spring
St. Vrain Valley Schools

40 Years:

City of Cortez
Jefferson County Public Schools
Laramie County Community College

55 Years:

City of Aurora

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NIGP PRESS RELEASE

NIGP SELECTS THE MILE HIGH CITY OF DENVER TO HOST THE 2025 NIGP FORUM AND PRODUCTS EXPOSITION

August 12, 2022

NIGP is privileged to announce that the competitive proposal from the City of Denver's Convention and Visitors' Bureau was selected to host the Institute's milestone 80th Annual Forum and Products Exposition on July 26-30, 2025. NIGP employs a competitive RFP process to select future Forum cities and the Bureau offered the best overall value to NIGP and our attendees for the 2025 Forum.

Denver last hosted the NIGP Forum and Expo in 1995. That year was the 50th NIGP Forum and the theme was "See the Sky from a Mile High".

Denver's selection provides a wonderful opportunity for the leadership and membership of the Rocky Mountain Governmental Purchasing Chapter of NIGP to engage with the NIGP team on the local planning task force leading up to 2025. In the past, the ability to welcome NIGP attendees across North America to a leading city within the state/local NIGP chapter's geographic area boosted its membership growth and enthusiasm. Such was the case in 1995. The two co-Chairs of the 1995 Forum's Local Planning Committee – Ron Watkins and Rick Grimm - went on to impact the Institute in many ways; Ron served as NIGP's President in 2004-05 and Rick became NIGP's fifth Chief Executive in 1998.

NIGP is excited to bring this annual educational showcase to the doorsteps of RMGPA.

Experience Leadership Summit 2023 February 2-5 St. Louis, MO



NIGP is developing our future leaders by drawing on the expertise and experiences of our current ones.

Join us in person for a new leadership learning experience as we bring together procurement professionals from various career stages to participate in our three flagship leadership programs.

- **Leaders Edge** - a unique development program for emerging leaders.
- **Chapter Academy** - a customized program developed for newly elected Chapter Leaders and designed to strengthen chapter operations, increase member engagement, and member services.
- **Leading for Impact** - NIGP's latest innovation and designed to meet the needs of our most senior and experienced members.

Leadership Summit 2023 multiplies the benefits of each individual program with cross-program networking and engagement for triple the learning and triple the impact.

[READ MORE](#)

MEMBER RESOURCES

RESOURCES
MEMBER



NSite – NIGP’s Online Member Networking Community

Connect, Communicate and Collaborate with peers from across the country at all different stages in their careers.

Get answers from colleagues who have been there, done that. Share ideas, challenges and opportunities 24/7.

[Join a Community Today](#)



MEMBER RESOURCES

RESOURCES MEMBER

How well are you managing your contracts and programs?

Competency Module: Contract Management and Performance

October 21 - 22

Draft and finalize a legally enforceable contract and manage all parties and stakeholders to ensure obligations are fulfilled as defined within the contract while documenting and maintaining the contract file.

2 Days | Contact Hours: 16 | CEUs: 1.6

Price: \$445 Member | \$545 Non-Member

Core Certificate: Foundations of Planning and Analysis

October 24 - November 7

Analyzes the requirements for a project and provide the best solutions for the entity.

2 Weeks | Contact Hours: 15 | CEUs: 1.5

Price: \$445 Member | \$545 Non-Member

Competency Module: Program Implementation and Management

October 26 - 27

Develop and manage project scope through effective oversight and management of budgets, schedules, and timelines.

2 Days | Contact Hours: 16 | CEUs: 1.6

Price: \$445 Member | \$545 Non-Member

Don't Miss Out!

NEW: NIGP WEBINARS

You asked for more content, and we listened. Our webinars, always free to members, provide valuable learning on hot topics in procurement, helping you stay informed.

- 60% increase in content, means more contact hours to meet your professional learning goals
- Snack-sized learning to fit all schedules
- Topics geared to learners at all levels
- Designed to complement other NIGP learning resources

Upcoming Webinars

2:00 - 3:30 PM ET

1 Contact Hour

[Driving Bid Competition with Vendor Diversity Initiatives](#)

November 9

[NIGP Certified Procurement Professional: Connecting Certification to Your Learning and Career Aspirations](#)

November 10

[Procurement's Role in the Use of Non-Emergency Federal Funds](#)

November 14

[The Evolving Practitioner-Supplier Conversation: Bringing Value to the Procurement Profession](#)

November 30



Trusted by your peers.

Solutions for sourcing & contract management.

Over 360 public buying organizations and over 24,000 suppliers throughout the Rocky Mountain region utilize Bidnet Direct.



Contract Management

Manage every aspect of the contract lifecycle from one secure location.

Explore our Contract Management solution today.



**Every
Stakeholder.**



**Every
Workflow.**



**Every
Budget.**



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
purchasing system

bidnetdirect.com/colorado

2022 RMGPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

POSITION	OFFICER NAME	E-MAIL
President	Jon Babcock	president@rmgpa.org
Vice President	David Musgrave	vicepresident@rmgpa.org
Secretary	Trudi Peepgrass	secretary@rmgpa.org
Treasurer	Marisa Donegon, CPPB	treasurer@rmgpa.org
Past President	Diana Cantu, CPPB, NIGP-CPP	pastpres@rmgpa.org

2022 STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

POSITION	OFFICER NAME	E-MAIL
Awards	Sherri Maxwell, CPPB	awards@rmgpa.org
Chapter Enhancement/ Vendor Liaison	Shelly Henderson, CPPB, NIGP-CPP	vendorevents@rmgpa.org
Communications	Molly McLoughlin, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB	info@rmgpa.org
Elections	Skylar Thimens	elections@rmgpa.org
Historian	Pat Johnson	historian@rmgpa.org
Legislative	Farrah Bustamante, CPPB, MBA	legislative@rmgpa.org
Marketing	Bethany Swank	marketing@rmgpa.org
Membership	Doug Clapp	membership@rmgpa.org
Newsletter	Chelsey Axtell	newsletter@rmgpa.org
Pro-D and Education	Vera Braeckman- Kennedy	prod@rmgpa.org
Programs	Cheryl Gray	programs@rmgpa.org

2022 STANDING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

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Awards	Mandy Zila	awards@rmgpa.org
Chapter Enhancement/ Vendor Liaison	Sol Ybarra	vendorevents@rmgpa.org
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Elections	Tim Wellmann, CPPB, NIGP-CPP	elections@rmgpa.org
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