



Rocky Mountain Governmental Purchasing Association

Summer 2025 Newsletter

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UPCOMING RMGPA EVENTS

Aug 27 Amazon Fulfillment Center Tour
Sep 3 Lunch & Learn: Leveraging AI
Sep 17 Lunch & Learn: Smarter IT Procurement
RMGPA Board Meeting

Sep 25 Emerging Professionals Session
Oct 1-2 Competency Module: Contract Mgmt.
Oct 1 Lunch & Learn: SOVRA
Oct 15 RMGPA Board Meeting

Letter from the President

Time is flying—it's hard to believe the new school year has already begun for some!

I hope everyone who attended the NIGP Forum in Denver, whether in person or virtually, gained valuable insights, tools, and experiences to support their work in the procurement field.



A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the Forum a success—especially Trudi Peepgrass for her outstanding coordination with NIGP and Rosalyn Potter for helping source the volunteer shirts and 80's swag that was give out to in person attendees. RMGPA truly shined!

As summer winds down and fall approaches, don't forget to sign up for upcoming educational opportunities:

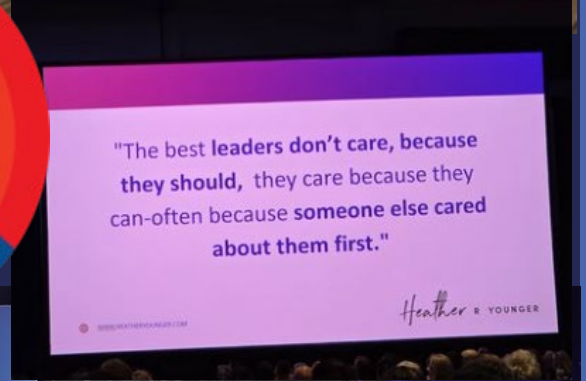
- 8/27:** Amazon Fulfillment Center Tour & Emergency Response Discussion
- 9/3:** Lunch & Learn – *Leveraging AI to Boost Your Procurement Efficiency*
- 9/17:** Lunch & Learn – *Smarter IT Procurement Strategies*
- 9/25:** Emerging Professionals Session

Also, registration is now open for the **RMGPA Winter Conference** in December! Sign up now to take advantage of even more learning opportunities.

Thank you all for the incredible work you do for your agencies. Your dedication is what makes this profession great!

Doug Clapp, MA, MS, CPPB
President, RMGPA

NIGP FORUM RECAP 2025: 80th ANNUAL

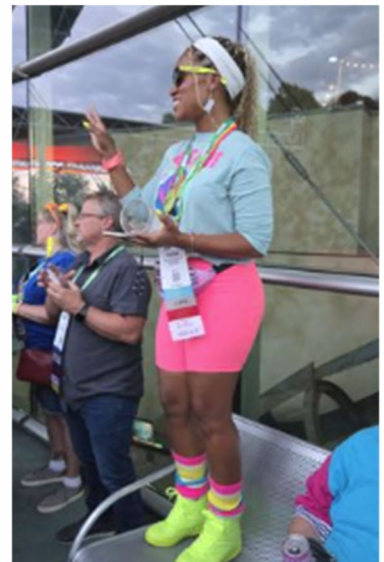


NIGP FORUM RECAP 2025: 80th ANNUAL

The RMGPA was proud to be the host chapter of the 80th Annual NIGP Forum. From amazing speakers, to deep learning, old friends and new, 80's style, a vast vendor hall, and dedicated dogs and their handlers. The RMGPA was represented in person at 200+ members strong and virtually as well. RMPGA were welcoming hosts suppling 40 volunteers, running the welcome table, guiding colleagues to the totally radical 80's social event at the Denver Aquarium, assisting with crowds and ambassadorship for the Freedom Service dogs, and capturing lasting Forum memories for attendees at the photobooth.

**NIGP
FORUM
2025**

Rooted in History, Leading with Vision



NIGP FORUM RECAP: PROCUREMENT EXCELLENCE SHOWCASE

RMGPA Presenters:

- Rosalyn Potter, Vice President
- Stephanie Glockzin, Secretary
- Aran Raz, Webmaster

NIGP
FORUM
2025

Rooted in History, Leading with Vision

From Scholarships to Success: RMGPA's Virtual Conference Breaks Records!

The Rocky Mountain Governmental Procurement Association (RMGPA) successfully produced a virtual Fall Conference in September 2024 that significantly expanded access to quality procurement training for its members and the broader NIGP community. RMGPA offered six hours of expert-led RFP training at a highly affordable registration rate of only \$49 per attendee. Total revenue from the conference was well below the session cost charged by the RFP Dream Team, who delivered the content - but RMGPA chose to maintain the low price point in order to maximize accessibility, absorbing the difference through scholarship funding.



In previous years, scholarship utilization had been limited, but by creatively lowering the registration fee, RMGPA enabled a greater number of participants to benefit from these funds. The innovative pricing strategy resulted in an impressive 102 registrants—more than four times the attendance of the 2023 Fall Conference. Notably, more than 50 attendees were non-RMGPA members, demonstrating successful outreach beyond the local chapter.

RMGPA's marketing efforts for this conference were robust and far-reaching. The virtual format allowed for promotion to the entire NIGP membership, extending beyond local boundaries. Marketing channels included NSITE, other chapters, Chapter Ambassadors, and heavy marketing at the 2024 Forum in Charlotte. This strategic outreach attracted procurement professionals from across regions, increasing awareness and participation in a cost-effective educational opportunity.

NIGP FORUM RECAP: PROCUREMENT EXCELLENCE SHOWCASE

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From Scholarships to Success: RMGPA's Virtual Conference Breaks Records!

The decision to host a virtual conference was driven by its timing immediately following Forum, anticipating limited travel budgets among agencies. By providing accessible, affordable training shortly after Forum, RMGPA ensured continued professional development without the barriers of travel expenses. Overall, the RMGPA Fall Conference exemplified innovation and commitment to member service by combining scholarship support, strategic pricing, and targeted marketing to broaden educational access.

This approach not only boosted attendance and engagement but also strengthened connections across the NIGP community, setting a new standard for cost-effective, inclusive professional development.



RMGPA offers a variety of affordable development opportunities and scholarship options in support of member annually.

To learn more about RMGPA Scholarships visit:
[Scholarships - Rocky Mountain Governmental Purchasing Association](#)



NIGP FORUM RECAP: FIRST TIMER PERSPECTIVES

Elizabeth Watts

Procurement Specialist
City of Englewood

Attending the 2025 NIGP Forum in Denver this year was a full-circle moment for me. While this was my first time participating as a procurement professional, it wasn't my first exposure to the Forum.



In 2013, I had the chance to attend the social event in Orlando as a high school student – my mom was then the procurement director for Garfield County. At the time, I had no idea what she was doing there, what procurement was, the important role it plays, or how cool my mom was (and is) for her passion and dedication to the field.

Fast forward to today, I've developed a deep appreciation for this field and the incredible professionals who lead it. Forum was an inspiring experience - from seeing powerhouse figures sharing their knowledge in sessions to connecting with them in such a personable, welcoming environment. I learned so much and left feeling energized and proud to be part of this profession. I'm honored and humbled to be following in the footsteps of the incredible leaders at this year's forum and my icon of a mother.



NIGP FORUM RECAP: EMERGING PROFESSIONALS

We asked some of the Emerging Professionals Group about their Forum 2025 experience. Here's what they had to say:



**David Pollitt, Purchasing Agent IV
CDOT**

My most valuable Forum experience was the opportunity to network with fellow public procurement professionals, which provided fresh perspectives and new ideas for addressing common challenges.

**Jeff Rau, Business Services Supervisor
Town of Erie**

What was your most valuable Forum experience?

Opening Keynote Speaker sharing about Creating a Shared Vision, Identify Team Roles, Push Together to accomplish a goal/bucket list item.

What's one thing you plan to implement at your agency?

Including debrief language in our bidder response letters

Creating/updating a protest policy and procedure

Contract Closeout Checklist / Construction Contract Project Excel Document (start to close, pending Construction Attorney Review)

What's one personal or professional action you're taking as a result of attending Forum?

Strategically partnering with our Finance Department to review our SOPs on Creating Contracts and Solicitations

The RMGPA Emerging Professionals Group was formed in 2025 to provide a welcoming, safe space for those newer to the public procurement profession. Under the leadership of our Past President, Trudi Peepgrass, we have grown to over 50 members!

NIGP FORUM RECAP: FREEDOM SERVICE DOGS

RMGPA was proud to host Freedom Service Dogs at Forum 2025. Freedom Service Dogs (FSD) located in Englewood, Colorado, transforms lives by partnering people with custom-trained assistance dogs.



Possibly the most popular booth at Forum, RMGPA member volunteers assisted the Freedom Service Dog team, in being able to share some of their skilled canine companions at registration and the vendor expo. Bringing smiles, educating on FSDs program, and providing crowd control for our honored guests, RMGPA member volunteers created an exemplary experience for Forum attendees and our partners at FSD.

To learn more about Freedom Service Dogs , their mission, services, and volunteer opportunities visit:
<https://freedom servicedogs.org/>



NIGP FORUM: ELLA PIERCE AWARD



**KEITH ASHBY
WINS**

**NIGP ELLA PIERCE
AWARD FOR
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION**

Retired, Purchasing Manager
Arapahoe County, CO

The Ella Pierce Award for Inclusion and Diversity was first introduced in 2020. This award recognizes trailblazers, like Ella Pierce, who broke through barriers in their professional careers and serve as beacons who inspire us to think and act differently.

Our 2025 recipient, Keith Ashby, didn't just practice public procurement—he transformed it with his influence, charm, and encouragement. Keith brought decades of leadership experience as purchasing director for Denver Public Schools and then as purchasing manager for Arapahoe County, Colorado. He applied his leadership experience to his biggest passion – volunteering as chair of NIGP's Education and Professional Development Committee in 2004 and Chair of the NIGP Diversity Committee in 2009, as member of the NIGP Governing Board in 2011, a member of the inaugural Talent Council in 2014, as President of our Rocky Mountain Chapter in 2018 and as a Council liaison to the Leadership Development and Mentorship committees in 2019.

NIGP FORUM: ELLA PIERCE AWARD

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Although his volunteer work is widely recognized, so is his dedication to the NIGP Classroom. Keith inspired a generation of students as a master instructor for NIGP. He's a mentor whose calm confidence, real-world wisdom, and passion for public service leaves a lasting impression.

Long before his procurement career began, Ashby lived another dream—playing drums with Earth, Wind and Fire. As a studio musician, he also played with legends like Stevie Wonder, Chicago, Phil Collins, the Commodores, and Rick James. For about six years, he traveled the world, performing on stage and in the studio with some of the most iconic names in music.

But perhaps the most profound shift in Keith's life came in 2006, when he received a life-saving kidney transplant. That second chance gave him more than time—it gave him purpose. He has since become a passionate advocate for organ and tissue donation. "There is no greater gift than the gift of life to another person who is in need," he says.

Keith's story isn't just about changing careers or overcoming illness. It's about reinvention, responsibility, and resilience. It's about how life's twists—whether they happen onstage, in the classroom, or in a hospital—can shape someone into a quiet leader who inspires others by example. Keith Ashby's journey reminds us that greatness often grows in unexpected places—and that giving back, in whatever form, is the most powerful legacy of all.



**KEITH ASHBY
WINS**

**NIGP ELLA PIERCE
AWARD FOR
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION**

Congratulations Keith!



NIGP FORUM RECAP: MEMBER REFLECTION

David Musgrave

Statewide Equity Manager, Supplier Diversity
Colorado Department of Personnel & Administration

As a born and bred Coloradoan, it gave me great pride to welcome the 2025 NIGP Forum to Denver, Colorado. Working as a local-chapter volunteer of RMGPA, I greeted colleagues as they arrived at the aquarium. It was THE BEST! I was able to see participants arrive in their fun '80s attire and provide them with instructions to settle in for an evening filled with food, activities, entertainment, and connecting with others. Throughout the conference, I enjoyed seeing friendly faces from that night.



In the session, Meaningful Impact for your Community: How to Expand Small Business Opportunities, where I participated as a panelist, I welcomed visitors with the message that I hoped they experienced a sense of belonging in our state and I was able to share Colorado's vision of a #ColoradoForALL where anyone can succeed regardless of how they identify. As it relates to State procurement, this means identifying and removing barriers giving all businesses the opportunity to easily sell their goods and services, and being intentional about going to communities that may not have the knowledge of how to work with the State. Attendees enjoyed learning about the [Colorado Supplier Diversity Directory](#) that helps connect buyers and sellers, accepts all private and public certifications, and can be used by any local government agency and purchasing entity.

NIGP FORUM: MEMBER REFLECTION

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The NIGP Forum is a “choose your own adventure” so attendees decide what sessions to participate in. Learning paths allow for focused areas of learning, and sometimes it is difficult to decide what to attend. Because the sessions are recorded, it is easy to go back to review them or view sessions you couldn’t attend in person. Slides, session content, and materials are easily accessible within the forum site/app, enhancing the experience for everyone. The keynote sessions were a fun way to start out the day and were of high value. My favorite keynote was Wednesday’s presentation by Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe teaching us that we can do hard things and we can do great things as we stress wisely, living and working well.



This year’s conference was a milestone year as attendees reflected on 80 years of professional development, leadership, and collaboration in support of government procurement. The closing session paid tribute to Rick Grimm and his 30 years working with NIGP.

This year’s conference was a milestone year as attendees reflected on 80 years of professional development, leadership, and collaboration in support of government procurement. The closing session paid tribute to Rick Grimm and his 30 years working with NIGP. He shared that we are superheroes in public service, impacting communities every day (view parts of his speech in the newsletter). There is strength in community and doing things together. That is what stands out to me most about our profession. We don’t have to do it alone. National resources like NIGP and local resources like RMGPA allow us to be even better superheroes than what we would be on our own in Rick’s words, “Saving the world one contract at a time!” So find those resources and together let’s continue doing great things!

NIGP FORUM: RICK GRIMM FAREWELL



Rick Grimm, Farewell Speech 2025 NIGP Form in Denver, Colorado



“Because of the work in our profession, public procurement saves the world one contract at a time.”

- You support life from it's earliest beginnings
- You secure medical supplies and contract for medical research - you are a member of the public health team
- You equip doctors and nurses to handle emergencies - you save lives!
- You buy school busses so kids arrive safely and ready to learn - you are integral to student success
- You make sure teachers have textbooks & supplies for education - you provide tools for learning
- You work with school nutritionist to provide healthy meals - you ensure that students are ready to learn
- You maintain public buildings for citizens to transact business - you make government accessible and accountable
- You purchase technology and software to keep systems running - you ensure public effectiveness

NIGP FORUM: RICK GRIMM FAREWELL

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“Because of the work in our profession, public procurement saves the world one contract at a time.”

- You maintain transit systems - you keep the city's workforce productive
- You design and maintain roadways to keep traffic flowing - you keep North America moving safely
- You support community safety through street lights and traffic signals - you make citizen safety a top priority
- You keep wastewater treatment plants operational (Please Doo) - you control contamination and avoid a public health crisis
- You buy chemicals and supplies to keep our drinking water safe - you ensure healthy lives
- You build airport expansions and contract for concessions - you connect family members and friends
- You support the community's electrical grid - you keep the lights on
- You contract for garbage and trash removal - you ensure clean and sanitary communities
- You provide services that support the public judicial system - you provide a safe space for due process, fairness and justice
- You buy parts to keep public fleets moving - you provide responsiveness of public service
- You build and curate museums to enrich understanding- you preserve historic context
- You purchase the weirdest things for the zoo - you provide a space for learning and exploring
- You contract with social service network for those in need - you provide a life-line for those who need services



Celebrating Local Impact: Small Business Showcase at NIGP Forum Highlights the Power of Procurement Networks

This year's NIGP Forum proved what many of us in public procurement already know: when we create the right environment, small businesses show up.

The Small Business Showcase, co-hosted by RMGPA, Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade, and SOVRA, was more than a networking event. It was a demonstration of what's possible when we shift from passive to active support of our local and small business ecosystems. Fourteen small, minority- and women-owned businesses engaged in conversations with buyers throughout Colorado and beyond.

As many of you know, the NIGP Forum is about collaboration. Public procurement plays a powerful role in supporting local economies, and events like Forum remind us of the difference we can make when we're intentional about inclusion and access.



RMGPA remains deeply committed to building a strong network of public procurement professionals who value and uplift small business participation. SOVRA shares that commitment, working together to ensure that public procurement reflects the communities it serves: diverse, resilient, and full of potential.

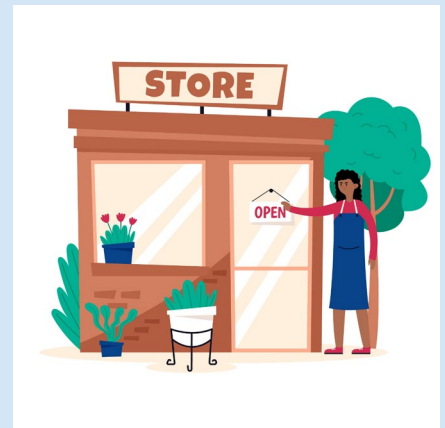
We're grateful to everyone who made the Small Business Showcase a success, and we look forward to building on this momentum. Let's continue to champion local suppliers, expand our networks, and create lasting opportunities that extend beyond the conference. Because small businesses aren't asking for favors or handouts, they're just asking for a fair shot.

Celebrating Local Impact: Small Business Showcase at NIGP Forum Highlights the Power of Procurement Networks

We encourage you to review the list of small businesses below to learn more about them and continue to drive participation throughout your communities.

- Above The Rest Staffing www.atrstaffing.net
- ACMEWERX <https://acmewerx.com/>
- AIS Industrial & Construction Supply www.aisind.com
- AMICUS Chemical Solutions www.amicuscdp.com
- Anna Snow LLC: Baby Luck <https://babyluckretail.com/>
- ASquared Promotions <https://www.a2promos.com/>
- Colorado Golf & Turf <https://cologolfandturf.net/>
- Ellipsis Construction <https://www.ellipsisconstruction.com/>
- GeoLanes www.geolanes.com
- High Country Low Voltage <https://www.highcountryllc.com/>
- Office Furniture EZ <https://www.officefurnitureez.com/>
- Remedy HealthCare Consulting <https://remedyhealthcareconsulting.com/>
- Undercover <https://getundercover.com/>
- WATERBUZZ www.water-buzz.com

We hope that everyone who attended the Forum found the event as beneficial as we did. We look forward to our continued collaboration with RMGPA and to seeing you at the virtual Lunch and Learns and the bi-annual conferences.



RMGPA is offering members a \$200 rebate upon successful completion of the course!

**October 1-2, 2025
Englewood, CO**



COURSE

Competency Module: Contract Management and Performance

DATE: 10/01/2025 - 10/02/2025

START TIME: 8:00 AM Mountain Time

END TIME: 5:00 PM Mountain Time

LOCATION: City of Englewood, 2nd fl Community Room, 1000 Englewood Pkwy, Englewood, CO, 80110

HOSTED BY: Rocky Mountain Governmental Purchasing Association Chapter of NIGP

INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Carolyn L. Everett, CPPO, CPPB

LEVEL: Foundation

FORMAT: In-Person

CONTACT HOURS: 17

CEUS: 1.7

FOCUS AREAS:

Contract Administration

Contract Management and Performance

“Contract management and performance are at the heart of public procurement, with legally-enforceable contracts fulfilling the needs of our entities, our stakeholders, and our communities at large.”

[Register Here!](#)

Agency Host Locations for Professional Development

Do you have a classroom space to host an NIGP In-Person Course?

RMGPA will be scheduling the following courses in 2026 and 2027 and need host agencies:

**HOST
AGENCY
RECEIVES A
FREE
REGISTRATION!**

2026

- Competency Module: Sourcing and Contracting Methods - 1-day Course
- Specialization Certificate: Construction Procurement - 3-day Course
 - April 14-16, 2025, Adams County
- Core Certificate: Foundations in Leadership - 2-day Course
- Competency Module: Market Analysis and Forecasting - 1-day Course

2027

- Introduction to Public Procurement - 2-day Course
- Specialization Certificate: Technology Procurement - 3-day Course
- Advanced Legislation and Legal Environment - 2-day Course
- Competency Module: Business Management and Continuity - 1 1/2 day course

**Sign Up
Here:**

Agency Host Locations for Professional Development

Memorie Dudley

Purchasing Manager
Weld RE-4 School District
RMGPA Member Since 2023



Q: Tell us a little about your background.

A: My professional background is in office and project management, where I've developed strong skills in organization, process improvement, and supporting teams. Prior to my current position, I worked in technology purchasing for six years. This gave me valuable experience in vendor relationships, contract management, and ensuring schools had the tools they needed to succeed. Throughout my career, I've had the opportunity to start two brand-new positions. I've really enjoyed the challenge of stepping into roles without a roadmap, where I could design processes and systems from the ground up. Creating structure in new spaces has been both challenging and rewarding, as it has allowed me to apply my skills in building sustainable practices, fostering collaboration, and laying a strong foundation for others to build upon.

Q: Did you work in other professions prior to procurement? If so, where and what did you do?

A: Before moving into procurement, I worked in office management. I also spent time self-employed in the service industry. This gave me insight into customer service, adaptability, and the importance of building strong relationships. Working as an entrepreneur also provided the flexibility I needed while raising a young family. Both experiences have shaped the way I approach problem-solving and collaboration in my professional life today.



Q: How long have you been at your agency? Tell us about your current position.

A: I've been with my agency for two years. Much like other purchasing managers, I manage solicitations, contracts, and purchasing processes that support schools and departments across the district. A key part of my role is balancing compliance with creativity; ensuring transparency and fairness while also finding the best solutions for our needs.

Q: What is the most interesting purchase or project that you have ever been involved in?

A: One of the most interesting projects I've been involved in is the opening of new schools. This work appealed to my project management background as well as my skills in organization and meeting deadlines. Being part of such a large, meaningful effort was demanding and meaningful, and I enjoyed seeing how my role contributed to creating spaces that directly serve students and the community.

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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Q: If you currently volunteer for RMGPA or have volunteered in the past, please tell us your role.

A: I haven't had the opportunity to volunteer much yet, but I plan to be more involved this coming school year. So far, I've participated in the Emerging Professionals group, which has been a great way to connect with others in the field and learn from their experiences. I look forward to finding more ways to contribute to RMGPA in the future.



Q: What is your favorite thing about your career?

A: My favorite thing about my career is growing an environment and purchasing team that feels supported and validated. I want those I work with to know I have their back and that we're moving forward together. Creating that sense of trust and shared purpose is what makes the work most meaningful to me.

Q: What are your interests, hobbies, or passions?

A: Outside of work, I enjoy spending time in the mountains, hiking, and practicing yoga. Music is also a big part of my life. I sing in a Denver-based party rock band as well as perform solo gigs. These outlets give me balance and creativity, and they're a big part of how I connect with people and express who I am. I also love spending time with my husband, our six kids, and six grandchildren.

Q: Have you ever had a nickname? What is it?

A: I have had a variety of nick names, but most being Mem or Mems. (I don't care what you call me, just don't call me late for dinner, haha).

Q: What is the best gift you have ever been given?

A: The best gift I've been given is a true second chance at life. I've experienced what it's like to feel stuck, and I've also experienced the freedom of starting over and discovering that life can be beautiful and promising if I have faith to step into the dark. That perspective has given me gratitude for every new day and excitement for what's ahead.

Q: What motivates you to work hard?

A: Family. They keep me grounded and are at the heart of everything I do.

Q: What is your proudest accomplishment?

A: My proudest accomplishment is my children growing into adulthood. They've grown into amazing, kind, and capable people - in spite of my parenting rather than because of it! Watching them build their own lives and seeing them walk in truth has given me both pride and joy.

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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Q: What did you want to be growing up?

A: I wanted to be a mom and a star on Broadway. I just didn't know how to do both.

Q: If you could meet three famous people – living or dead – who would they be?

A: Dolly Parton, Joan of Arc, and of course, Jesus.



Q: If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to and why?

A: I could go back in time, I'd choose December 1991 and give my younger self a little nudge to skip saying "I do" to the wrong person and chase that Broadway dream a bit longer instead. Life has turned out beautifully, but I wouldn't mind editing that particular chapter of the story given the chance - plus, who wouldn't want a second shot at Broadway?

Q: What is your favorite meal?

A: If I could only eat one meal for the rest of my life, I'd be in big trouble - I'm a total Michelin-star food snob! I love so many different things, especially bold and funky flavors like fermented foods, that picking just one feels impossible. I hope I never have to choose just one.

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: One of my favorite authors is Fredrik Backman. I especially love *Anxious People* - his writing is so clever and interwoven with both emotion and surprise. I also love how he brings out both the complicated and the simple sides of humans.



Q: If you could live anywhere, where would it be?

A: Europe - somewhere like the Mediterranean coast of Spain, the mountains of Austria, or the Dolomites in Italy. I'm drawn to the history, culture, and natural beauty of those places, and I love the idea of being surrounded by both mountains, coastlines and delicious food.

Q: Who is your hero?

A: My hero is my paternal grandmother, Ruth Coon. She was everything to me. Like Christmas, Easter, birthdays, sunshine, and laughter all wrapped up in one.

Q: What makes you laugh the most?

A: I love quick wit and dry, sarcastic humor. Especially when it's delivered with perfect timing. I also appreciate a little playful, cheeky humor that catches me off guard and keeps me entertained in a long meeting.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT is featured in every RMGPA newsletter.

Want to nominate someone for Member Spotlight?

Email newsletter@rmgpa.org.

MEET YOUR RMGPA BOARD

We are delighted to welcome Dana Reichers to our board. Dana has been hugely helpful in bringing in vendor support for RMGPA, and we're really looking forward to his involvement in all the great things ahead!



I'm excited to serve as the Chapter Enhancement Committee Chair this year, helping strengthen member engagement and build lasting vendor relationships. I was recently promoted to Purchasing and Procurement Manager for School District 49 in June 2025, where I oversee procurement operations, contracts, and asset management for one of the fastest-growing districts in Colorado.

Before joining D49, my career included leadership roles in sales, operations management, and real estate — but one constant has been baseball. I've coached high school and/or college baseball for over 20 years, and I'm still coaching today. Mentoring athletes and working as part of a team has shaped how I approach leadership and problem-solving.


I'm currently pursuing my UPPCC-CPPB and NIGP-CPP certifications, with my CPPB exam set for October. I enjoy collaborating with colleagues, finding innovative solutions, and making procurement processes more efficient. If we haven't met yet, please say hello — I'm always up for talking shop... or baseball.

Look for more RMGPA Board of Directors member profiles in upcoming issues! If you're interested in volunteering on a committee or helping out at an event, email vicepresident@rmgpa.org.



RMGPA JOBS BOARD

Did you know that you can browse local career opportunities, and create your own job postings, on the RMGPA website?



PURCHASING MANAGER

view more

Posted: 8/6/2025
City of Boulder

1 Position
Full Time

APPLY

PURCHASING AGENT/BUYER

view more

Posted: 8/1/2025
City of Loveland 200 N Wilson Ave, Loveland CO 80537

1 Position
Full Time

APPLY

BOND SENIOR BUYER

view less

Posted: 7/31/2025
Adams 12 Five Star Schools Adams 12 Educational Support Center

Focus on this position is in construction procurements.

Details

Required Qualifications	Bachelor's degree in business, finance or a related area. Four years of relevant experience may be substituted for this requirement.
Required Experience	Minimum of five (5) years purchasing experience, contract administration experience preferred
Salary	\$70,999-\$104,307
Duration	6 years

1 Position
Full Time

APPLY

PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST

view more

Posted: 7/29/2025
City of Littleton Littleton, CO

1 Position
Full Time

APPLY

SENIOR PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST

view more

Posted: 7/18/2025
City of Arvada City of Arvada, Colorado

1 Position
Full Time

APPLY

Help

Click on [Member Resources > Jobs Board](#) and click search to view current postings or go to your Member Profile to post a job opening!



RECRUITMENT & STAFFING SERVICES

We Are Here to Help!

ATR is a Colorado based full-service recruitment and staffing firm with over 20 years of experience supporting the staffing needs of educational and governmental facilities locally and nationwide. We understand the importance of cost-effective, compliant, and results-driven partnerships. Our proven track record includes consistently delivering qualified candidates who align with your project requirements—on time and within budget.

When you work with ATR, you gain a dedicated off-site HR partner committed to advancing your departments' goals. Whether you're sourcing talent for a short-term assignment or a long-term initiative, ATR offers the strategic processes, industry insight, and flexibility to meet your staffing objectives while upholding the highest standards of service and accountability.

Temporary, Temp to Hire, Direct Hire & Payroll Service:

- Accounting, Administrative, Clerical, & Customer Service
- Executive Level, Management & I.T.
- Facilities / Grounds Maintenance & General Labor
- Skilled Trades & Construction
- Warehousing / Distribution & Bindery
- Special Projects & more!

We Will Work With You and Your Budget:

At ATR, we recognize the importance of working within budget constraints while still delivering exceptional results. Our goal is to help you maximize value by providing highly qualified talent that supports your projects effectively and efficiently—without compromising on quality.

We'd welcome the opportunity to discuss your department's goals and explore how our staffing solutions can support your procurement strategy. Let's connect to see how we can achieve success together.

"The reason I choose to work with ATR Staffing goes beyond the staff they send. It is their professionalism, attitude and integrity that stands out from all the other staffing companies that I have worked with in the past. It is refreshing to team with a company that is realistic and motivated in finding effective business solutions that fits not only my needs, but the company I work for. Their proven consistency is appreciated and I recommend them highly."

*- Katie B,
Staffing & Compliance Manager*



Cooperative Contracts
Available!

CONTACT INFO

Jennifer Leach, COO

D: 720-716-5803

E: jennifer.leach@atrstaffing.net

W: www.atrstaffing.net

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The 2025 Legislative Session focused heavily on budget constraints and cost-cutting by eliminating and consolidating Acts and Grants. Our RMGPA Legislative committee reviewed over 700 Colorado bills to assess their relevance to membership interests.

Key Bills Signed into Law:

- **HB25-1025: Stockpile of Essential Materials Distribution**
Expands authority to distribute essential materials during disasters and other situations benefiting public health, including nonprofit and faith-based groups, with required annual reporting.
- **HB25-1061: Community Schoolyards Grant Program**
Creates a grant program for planning and building community schoolyards, with grants up to \$1 million and reporting due by 2028.
- **HB25-1130: Labor Requirements for Government Construction Projects**
Allows project labor agreements to ensure skilled labor, cost-efficiency, safety, and timely completion.
- **HB25-1152: Technology Accessibility Liability for Public School Contractors**
Requires contractors to meet accessibility standards and hold schools harmless for related liabilities.
- **SB25-158: State Agency Procurement & Disposal of Firearms and NFA Items**
Sets procurement rules for firearms and regulated items, effective January 2026.

Notable Bills Postponed or Vetoed:

- **HB25-1052:** Income Tax Credit for PERA Retirees was postponed indefinitely.
- **HB25-1158:** Digital Education Materials Integrity failed in the House on 3rd reading.
- **SB25-135:** Colorado Government Efficiency Authority was postponed indefinitely.
- **SB25-077:** Modifications to Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) was vetoed by the governor. The bill would have modified response times, fee structures, and public record definitions but did not pass.

This session's legislative efforts reflect a strong focus on fiscal responsibility, improved public safety and health protocols, and enhanced transparency and accessibility in government and education.

Read the Legislative Subcommittee's detailed June 2025 report
(Click on "Legislative Updates" in the Document Folders section.)

RMGPA WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



Official Chapter **NIGP** The Institute for
Public Procurement

Registration is Open!

RMGPA 2025 Winter Conference & Advance Colorado Procurement Expo

**December 1 - 2, 2025
Delta Hotel
10 E 120th Ave
Northglenn, CO**

PROCUREMENT PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION - 2025 Winter Conference - 12/1/2025

SUPPLIER REGISTRATION - Advance Colorado Procurement Expo - 12/1/2025

Protecting Budgets in a Time of Price Volatility: Strategic Procurement with Amazon Business

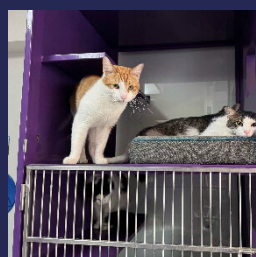
Budgets Are Under Attack from Price Volatility — Here's How to Stay Ahead

Across Colorado, procurement teams are facing a new reality: price volatility is no longer an occasional challenge — it's constant. Costs can spike mid-project with little warning, forcing difficult choices, delaying timelines, or shrinking project scopes. What you approve today may cost significantly more tomorrow, unless you have a strategy in place to secure pricing and protect your budget from the start.

How Amazon Business Puts You in Control

Amazon Business helps agencies get ahead of price swings by becoming a strategic partner — not just a small dollar transnational supplier. By involving us early in your quoting and purchase order process, you can:

- **Lock in competitive pricing** before market shifts impact your budget
- **Maximize every dollar** with built-in price ceilings and cooperative-compliant purchasing
- **Simplify department and multi-agency projects** with PO and Blanket PO workflows that streamline approvals and centralize spend.



Giving Back at the NIGP Forum

At last month's NIGP Forum, several attendees and RMGPA members joined together to support ***Soul Dog Rescue***, packaging supplies and taking a few minutes to help the mission of rescuing and protecting animals in Colorado. Your generosity reflects the same spirit we bring to procurement: anticipating needs, taking action, and creating impact that lasts.



Let's Protect Your Next Project

If your agency is planning a large purchase or facing budget uncertainty, now is the time to lock in pricing and secure your budget. Contact [Ken Moore](#) or [Manny Coya](#) to explore how Amazon Business can help you defend your budget and deliver more for your community, especially in these uncertain times. This approach gives your team the leverage to plan confidently, protect budgets, and deliver on commitments — even in unpredictable market conditions.

Sourcwell Update – Fall 2025



Teaming up to tackle student debt

More than 100,000 New York City employees and their families now have free access to online tools and expert guidance to help enroll in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program and Income-Driven Repayment plans. Through a cooperative purchasing contract with Sourcwell, the city partnered with awarded supplier Summer PBC to launch the largest municipal debt relief program of its kind in the U.S., offering an easier path to an estimated \$360 million in forgiveness. The program supports public employees' financial wellness, helps the city attract top talent, and keeps more dollars in the local economy.

[See how NYC is guiding public employees toward financial stability >](#)

What's new for Sourcwell contracts?

Cooperative contracts are designed to make your job easier. Take a look at these recently announced cooperative purchasing categories:

Road Right-of-Way Maintenance Equipment

Manned, robotic, or remote road right-of-way maintenance equipment, including flail, boom, rotary, wing, sickle, and slope mowers; brush cutters; seeders, tillers, mulchers, and sprayers; erosion control products; ditch maintenance equipment; dust abatement water trucks; and complementary equipment and accessories.

(continued on next page)

Facilities Maintenance Services

Janitorial, groundskeeping, administration, and other services for maintenance, cleaning, inspection, servicing, and repair of facilities.

Passenger and Crowd Flow Management Solutions and Related Products

Passenger and pedestrian flow management solutions, including detection, tracking, and counting technologies; entrance-to-gate analytics; occupancy and service level monitoring; automatic passenger counting (APC); queue and wait time management; foot traffic pattern analysis; asset utilization; unusual behavior and incident detection; smart transit displays; 3D vision and AI sensors for people and vehicle movement; traffic flow dividers, panels, and stanchions; and electronic or mobile check-in kiosks.

Pest Control Services with Related Products

Pest control services for managing, mitigating, eradicating, and repelling insects, rodents, reptiles, birds, aquatic species, and other pests; complementary equipment, devices, products, and supplies; and related services, including consultation, inspection, biological control, planning, training, smart pest control solutions, removal, relocation, baiting, pest-proofing, and support.

Risk Management, Employee Benefits, and Insurance Consulting Services

Risk management, employee benefits, and insurance consulting services, including policy placement and solicitations; risk analysis; claims prevention and mitigation; incident response and recovery; workers' compensation safety programs; regulatory compliance; data analytics and technology integration; and strategic advisory services, offered regionally across the Northeast, Midwest, South, and West United States, with related and complementary services as applicable.

Tree Maintenance Equipment, Attachments, and Accessories

Tree cutting, trimming, and removal equipment; stump cutters and grinders; brush and limb chippers; arborist equipment and safety gear; grapples, chainsaw bars, and grinders; and vehicle and equipment attachments.

Procurement resources are always at your fingertips. Access hundreds of contracts and suppliers at sourcwell-mn.gov/contract-search.

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS GROUP

The RMGPA Emerging Professionals Group was formed in 2025 to provide a welcoming, safe space for those newer to the public procurement profession. Under the leadership of our Past President, Trudi Peepgrass, we have grown to over 50 members!

What is an Emerging Professional?

An emerging professional is defined as someone who is in the **early stages of their career**, often within the **first 5 years** of entering Public Procurement.

Key Characteristics of an Emerging Professional:

- Networking: engaging & developing with other emerging professionals within the public procurement industry
- Skills: developing Public Procurement knowledge
- Developing leadership skills
- Professional Development: working towards certification (NIGP-CPP or CPPB)



Eligibility Requirements:

- Open to all RMGPA Members
- Those with less than five (5) years of public procurement, contracting and supply chain experience, or
- Members looking to grow from a practitioner to a leadership role

Goals of the Emerging Professionals Group:

- Provide a judgement free environment for public procurement professionals to learn, grow, and ask questions of procurement leaders
- Identify and establish long-term training and career goals, with career path forward
- Create connection space with other public procurement professionals locally and national public entities

(continued on next page)

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS GROUP

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- Support knowledge sharing, professional development, and certification to encourage talent development and career advance within the public procurement profession
- Ensure information and experience of procurement leaders is available and successfully shared

2025 Session Overview:

- Kickout Session was held February 27th with 38 attendees
- March 27th - Cooperative Purchasing by Pavilion
- April 24th – Data Driven Decisions by Amazon – 21 attendees
- May 22nd – Contracts – 23 attendees
- June 26th – Tips & Trends for IT Procurement by SCW
- July 24th – cancelled due to Forum
- August 28th – no session
- September 25th – Your Journey to Professional Development – Todd Slater @ NIGP
- October 23rd – Understanding UPPCC Certification – Derrick Strand @ UPPCC
- November 13th – luncheon for participants (in person – details TBD)
- December – no session

Sessions are virtual on the fourth (4th) Thursday of every month at 2:00 pm. Look for more details on 2026 Emerging Professionals sessions in your inbox soon!

**Interested in joining
Emerging Professionals?**

We'd love to have you.

To sign up, or to suggest topics
for future sessions,
email Trudi Peepgrass at
pastpresident@rmgpa.org.



NEW CPPB RECIPIENTS



Congrats!



Tyler Mellecker



Whitney Moore

Kimberly Myers

David Pollitt

Chariety Riggs

Bethany Swank

Amelia Thompson



TO THE NEW CPPB'S FROM CO

We are excited to recognize these RMGPA members!



If you're interested in learning more about CPPB or CPPO certifications, check out these resources:

- [UPPCC](#) (Universal Public Procurement Certification Council)
- [NASPO Procurement U](#) (free prep courses)
- [RMGPA Emerging Professionals Session](#) (October 23 at 2:00 PM)



NEW NIGP-CPP & CPPO RECIPIENTS



2024-2025 Class of NIGP-CPP Recipients at NIGP Forum 2025 in Denver

CONGRATULATIONS, RMGPA NIGP-CPPs!

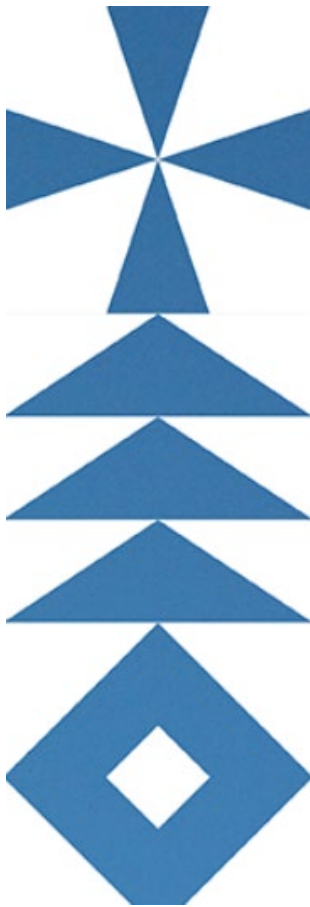
- Mike Bakke, NIGP-CPP, Douglas County School District, Castle Rock, CO
- Heidi Casteel Ellis, NIGP-CPP, CPPB, C-P.H.M., City of Aurora - CO Aurora, CO

CONGRATULATIONS, RMGPA CPPOs!

- Farrah Bustamante, CPPO, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

Scholarships are Available!

February 19 – 21, 2026
Tuscon, AZ



Applications Due August 31
[Apply Now](#)



EDGE: For emerging leaders, the Edge program offers a transformative learning experience to elevate your leadership skills and potential.

IMPACT: For mid to senior-level procurement leaders, the Impact program dives into the most sought-after topics, enhancing the skills you need to excel in your role.



Coveted leadership programs for a fully immersive and transformational experience

UPCOMING ONLINE EVENTS

Courses

NIGP Pathways courses are designed for **busy procurement professionals**, offering flexible options to meet diverse learning needs.

[Search for a Course](#)

[Upcoming Offerings Catalog](#)

Learning Labs

An educational series that provides learners with **best practice guidance** on a variety of technical and hard skills needed for public procurement success.

Federal Funds Learning Labs Coming Fall 2025

Webinars

NIGP webinars, always free to members, provide **valuable learning on hot topics** in procurement, helping you stay informed.
90 min | Contact Hours: 1

[View Schedule](#)

Mastermind

The Mastermind Program is geared towards empowering **mid-to-senior leaders** to sharpen their skills and maximize their role as an influencer and leader in public procurement.

New Courses coming Fall 2025!

FORUM WRAP UP

Relive the best of NIGP Forum 2025 with on-demand access to all session content.

Whether you want to catch a session you missed or review a presentation for key takeaways, you can access everything through the virtual platform until September 28th. Simply to the virtual platform to get started!

[Access the Virtual Platform](#)

[Contact Hour Tracking Form – General Session:](#)

Don't forget to complete and submit your contact hour tracking form from Forum to receive credit hours.

- [NIGP-CPPP CEH Tracking In-Person](#)
- [NIGP-CPPP CEH Tracking Virtual](#)

Complete any Learning Path Assessments through [ASPIRE LMS](#).



When you register for a NIGP-hosted course, be sure to identify yourself as a member of RMGA. NIGP will give back 5% of gross revenue to RMGPA for each registration.



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](#)

Radio NIGP

View the current show and past episodes **[HERE](#)**

DOCUMENT LIBRARY

Thousands of solicitation templates to aid in your development activities

[SEARCH THE LIBRARY](#)

DICTIONARY OF TERMS

Comprehensive reference for commonly used procurement terms and concepts

[VIEW DICTIONARY](#)

NIGP CODE

Universal taxonomy for identifying commodities & services in procurement systems

[GO TO NIGP CODE](#)



Free CPPB/CPPO Certification Prep

There's never been a better time to get certified

In addition to the new practice tests, take advantage of NASPO's FREE CPPB and CPPO self-study tools available to any public procurement professional seeking their certification!

These resources are designed as a self-study tool to assist in your personal study efforts to achieve your prestigious certification.

Note: There is no instructor for these resources.

These study tools include:

- Practice exam questions as a self-assessment tool
- Links to readings and free resources aligned by NASPO staff to the new UPPCC Body of Knowledge and Competency (BoK-C)
- Recordings of previous instructor-led class recordings discussing the six domains
- Access to a discussion board to engage with other professionals preparing for the exam
- Other helpful tips and resources to help you study

[Learn More](#)



COOPERATIVE CONTRACTS

STATE OF COLORADO PRICE AGREEMENTS

COLORADO GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENTS –
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CDOT)

NASPO VALUEPOINT

OMNIA PARTNERS

SOURCEWELL

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL PURCHASING COUNCIL (CEPC)

COLORADO BOCES ASSOCIATION/AEPA

EQUALIS GROUP

BUY BOARD

TIPS

MULTIPLE ASSEMBLY OF PROCUREMENT OFFICIALS (MAPO)

PAVILION



Powering the critical work of public procurement in Colorado



Helping you overcome public procurement challenges



Increase Competition

With access to a vast supplier network, increase your vendor participation by 75%.



Automate Bid Evaluations

Reduce evaluation time by up to 50%, with automated bid analysis.



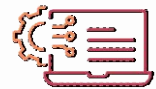
Simplify Compliance

Built-in regulatory compliance helps streamline your auditing processes.



Modernize Contract Management

Reduce contract cycle time by up to 45%.



Public Sector-Specific Solution

Don't change to meet your technology, have your technology meet you.

Learn more at sovra.com

SOVRA

2025 RMGPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

POSITION	OFFICER NAME	E-MAIL
President	Doug Clapp	president@rmgpa.org
Vice President	Rosalyn Potter	vicepresident@rmgpa.org
Secretary	Stephanie Glockzin	secretary@rmgpa.org
Treasurer	Marisa Donegon	treasurer@rmgpa.org
Past President	Trudi Peepgrass	pastpresident@rmgpa.org

2025 STANDING COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE	MEMBER NAME	E-MAIL
Budget & Finance	Marisa Donegon (Chair) Derrell Walton	treasurer@rmgpa.org
Education & Programs, including: • Conferences/Events • Educational Classes & Seminars	April Cooke (Chair) Trudi Peepgrass	vendorevents@rmgpa.org programs@rmgpa.org
Governance, including: • Nominations/Elections • Strategic Planning	Derrell Walton (Chair)	elections@rmgpa.org vicepresident@rmgpa.org
Membership, including: • Awards & Scholarships • Legislative • Mentoring	Diana Cantu (Chair) Tate Hedgespeth Whitney Mugford-Smith Beth Hewes Heather MacMillan Nancy Allen Trudi Peepgrass Doug Clapp	membership@rmgpa.org legislative@rmgpa.org pastpresident@rmgpa.org
Chapter Enhancement, including: • Community & Vendor Outreach • Vendor Expos & Reverse Trade Shows • Sponsorships	Dana Reichers (Chair) David Musgrave	vendorevents@rmgpa.org
Website, Marketing & Communications, including: • Newsletter • Social Media • Photography • Historical/Resource Library	Tara Larwick (Chair) Aran Raz Lisa LaMunyon Rosalyn Potter Jamie Kastler	marketing@rmgpa.org newsletter@rmgpa.org info@rmgpa.org

If you are interested in taking an active role in RMGPA and would like to volunteer for a position on any of our committees, OR if you would like to help out on a one-time basis, please reach out to the RMGPA Vice President at vicepresident@rmgpa.org.



Official Chapter **NICP** The Institute for
Public Procurement

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