

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Newly Signed MOU Creates Exclusive Partnership on Cooperative Procurement

In anticipation of March's National Procurement Month, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between National Cooperative Procurement Partners (NCPPE) and NIGP: The Institute for Public Procurement, to collaborate and advocate the value of cooperative procurement.

With over 3,000 member agencies representing 16,200 professionals across the United States, Canada and other countries, NIGP is North America's largest procurement association. NCPPE is the premier Association for cooperative procurement, representing many of the largest cooperative organizations across the United States and Canada, with an inclusive membership of cooperatives, suppliers with cooperative contracts and public procurement professionals. In recognition of the growing adoption and dependence of cooperative contracts by government teams, the two professional associations have an expressed commitment to embrace the value and advancement of public service and trust through cooperative procurement.

Through this 3-year agreement, NCPPE serves as a "Strategic Advisor" to NIGP, providing assistance on the formation, creation and/or design of cooperative procurement content offered by NIGP. Tammy Rimes, MPA, Executive Director of NCPPE states, "we are enthusiastic about this opportunity to advise and provide stellar educational content to support both NIGP and NCPPE members. We have begun early collaboration efforts to develop a first-time offered Cooperative Procurement TRACK for the 2020 FORUM conference in Chicago. Through our ongoing discussions with NIGP, we soon will take the next steps to co-host a new white paper on best practices in cooperative contracting to serve as a key resource for public procurement professionals."

Over the past decade, cooperative purchasing has created an avenue for agencies to "piggyback" on already established contracts to leverage volume spend across multiple agencies, thus driving savings. This strategy provides an optimal way for smaller agencies to leverage similar buying power of a much larger institution. Another benefit is the time savings of using an already competed solicitation process to enable procurement teams to respond quickly to their growing customer demands. Recognized by the American Bar Association, as outlined in its Model Procurement Code for State and Local Governments, the concept of cooperative procurement is a proven, accepted means for the procurement of goods, services and construction across the nation. As a result, a growing percentage of public procurement professionals rely on cooperative purchasing as a much-needed tool in public contracting.

Rick Grimm, CPPO, CPPB, FCIPS, NIGP's Chief Executive Officer states, "I firmly believe that the NCPPE/NIGP relationship is greatly beneficial to both parties and will have a profound impact on the education and coordinated activities surrounding the cooperative procurement industry. On behalf of our professional team at NIGP headquarters, we look forward to working with NCPPE as we move these initiatives forward."

### About National Cooperative Procurement Partners (NCPPE)

NCPPE's Vision is to support all stakeholders in leveraging and utilizing a cooperative procurement strategy to best serve the public good. Through its membership of cooperative organizations, strategic suppliers and public procurement professionals, the Association serves as the premier resource for educational content, legislative advocacy and collaborative projects on cooperative procurement. [www.NCPPEssociation.org](http://www.NCPPEssociation.org)