

- a. procurement while the procurement process is ongoing. Elected officials who receive inquiries from suppliers related to any specific procurement shall immediately direct those inquiries to the Manager of Purchasing and Supply, or the City Treasurer.
- b. The only exception to the above relates to selection of **internal** auditors or an integrity commissioner whereby elected officials are specifically part of the evaluation team.

#### 6.1 Official Point of Purchasing Contact and Lobbying Prohibition

- a. The City is committed to the highest standards of integrity with respect to the purchase of goods and/or services and managing the processes by which goods and/or services are acquired. The official point of purchasing contact shall be a member of the Purchasing and Supply Team. Should it be necessary or desirable to have a contact person to respond to technical issues that person shall be named in the competitive bid documents. All communications will be made by these individuals and during the procurement process, no bidder or person acting on behalf of the bidder or group of bidders shall contact any elected official, consultant or any employee of the City to attempt to seek information or to influence the award of the contract. Any activity designed to influence the decision process, including, but not limited to, contacting any elected official, consultant or employee of the City for such purposes as meetings of introduction, social events, meals or meetings related to the selection process, shall result in disqualification of the bidder for the project to which the influential activity is deemed to be directed.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, this prohibition does not apply to meetings specifically scheduled by the City Purchasing and Supply group for presentations or negotiations. Any bidder found to be in breach of this Policy shall be subject to immediate disqualification from the procurement process and may be prohibited from future opportunities at the discretion of City Council.

- b. In addition, no bidder who has been awarded the contract shall engage in any contact or activities in an attempt to influence any elected official or any employee of the City with respect to the purchase of additional enhancements, options, or modules. However, a contractor may communicate with the appropriate member of the Purchasing and Supply Team, the Manager of Purchasing and Supply or the City Treasurer for purposes of administration of the contract during the term of the contract.
- c. The determination of what constitutes influential activity is in the sole discretion of the Manager of Purchasing and Supply, acting reasonably, and not subject to appeal.