

Press



Release

11 New Hempstead Road, New City, NY (845) 638-5100 Fax: (845) 638-5675 e-mail legclerk@co.rockland.ny.us.

For Immediate Release

Contact:	Hon. Alden H. Wolfe	(845) 638-5754
	Hon. Edwin Day	(845) 638-5752
	Betsy Saetre, Media Contact	(845) 638-5184

County Legislators Wolfe and Day Introduce Measure to Establish a “Green” Procurement Policy for County Purchasing

New City, NY (September 30, 2009) - Rockland County Legislators Alden H. Wolfe and Ed Day have introduced a bipartisan resolution to amend the County of Rockland Procurement Policy to authorize a sustainable procurement policy, integrating fiscal, health and environmental factors into the County 's process of acquiring goods and services.

Examples of sustainable or green procurement range from the purchase of energy-saving light bulbs, appliances, low emission vehicles, recycled paper products and other products with a higher recycled content to the purchase of energy from renewable resources, alternate fuels and avoidance of purchases of products or equipment with high global warming potential. The County Legislature has long been involved in the area of sustainable purchasing. In 2006, Legislator Wolfe introduced legislation calling for the use of green cleaning products in County government, a policy that has been adopted by the Purchasing Division. In 2007, the County entered into the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, a pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 7% below 1990 levels by the year 2012. In 2008, the Legislature passed a measure eliminating the use of polystyrene foam products in County facilities.

“The adoption of a formal Sustainable Procurement Policy is an important step in memorializing our County's obligation to make responsible, meaningful changes in the way we do business,” said Legislator Wolfe. “In adopting this policy, we will be able to provide a healthier working environment for our employees, and make positive changes in the world around us. I firmly believe that even small changes can have a great impact.”

Legislator Day said, “The most common denominator in our community is the environment we all share. The objective here is to establish an efficient and balanced “green” procurement policy that respects that reality, and to do so without inflicting our overburdened taxpayers with unnecessary costs. Working together with our purchasing professionals, I believe we have achieved that goal.”

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