

## **Board of Trustees Agenda Item**

**Board Meeting Date:** August 29, 2011

**Title of Item:** Authorization to Purchase Products from W.W. Grainger Inc. Pursuant to State of California Contract 7-11-51-02

### **Background and Analysis:**

During fiscal year 2011-2012, District Purchasing Services expects to issue several purchase orders to W.W. Grainger, Inc. ("Grainger") that in an aggregate amount will exceed the current statutory bid threshold of \$78,900.00. Plant Services plans to purchase custodial supplies in the amount of \$57,500 and other District Plant Services supplies in the amount of \$45,000. Additionally, the Measure C Construction Team plans to purchase \$10,000 of construction materials.

In accordance with the California Public Contract Code (PCC) Section 20651, only the governing board may authorize award of purchase orders that exceed the legally mandated bid threshold, and the board must award the orders to the lowest responsible bidder or reject all bids. However, in lieu of conducting a bid process, Public Contract Code (PCC) section 20652 provides that community college districts may utilize contracts that have been awarded by other public entities. Grainger products are available to the District through the State of California/Western States Contracting Alliance (WSCA) Contract 7-11-51-02.

WSCA is a contracting consortium for state government departments, institutions, agencies and political subdivisions in the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Based upon a competitive bid, the State of Nevada has awarded a contract to Grainger on behalf of the Western States Contracting Alliance (WSCA) effective July 25, 2011. The contract is valid through February 28, 2014 and may be renewed for one additional three-year term. A copy of the State of California Participating Addendum can be found at the following link: <http://www.dgs.ca.gov/pd/Programs/Leveraged/wsca/WSCAFacilitiesMRO.aspx>.

A bid based only upon the District's anticipated purchases would be unlikely to result in lower prices than those available through the State of California/WSCA contract. WSCA contract pricing is based upon the combined volume of several states and their political subdivisions.

**Recommendation:** The Board is requested to authorize the Director of Purchasing Services to issue purchase orders in an aggregate amount that exceeds \$78,900 per fiscal year for Grainger products pursuant to the State of California/WSCA Agreement 7-11-51-02 for as long as the contract is valid.

Submitted by:	Carmen Redmond, Director, Purchasing Services and Material Services
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Is backup provided?	No