



## Staff Report

April 15, 2024 Council Workshop Meeting

Washington School Information Processing Cooperative (WSIPC) Interlocal Agreement

Presenter: Michelle Jackson, Information Technology Director

Time Estimate: 5 minutes

Phone	Email
360.817.7005	<a href="mailto:mjackson@cityofcamas.us">mjackson@cityofcamas.us</a>

**BACKGROUND:** Information Technology is looking to be able to leverage the Washington School Information Processing Cooperative (WSIPC) interlocal agreement. We currently are not utilizing this contract for technological purchases, and we would like to add it to our available contracts to purchase from.

**SUMMARY:** IT is requesting to enter an interlocal agreement, WSIPC. We would like to leverage this contract for the purchase of the Access Control Security Software/Hardware project, among other technologies, utilizing this agreement at state negotiated pricing.

The benefits of entering into this agreement:

1. Cost Savings:

**Volume Purchasing Power:** WSIPC's collective bargaining power means members benefit from reduced prices on technology purchases, as the cooperative negotiates favorable rates with vendors based on the aggregated demand of its members.

**Reduced Procurement Costs:** By leveraging pre-negotiated contracts through WSIPC, City of Camas can save on the costs and time associated with individual bid processes.

2. Collaborative Opportunities:

**Sharing Best Practices:** Membership allows for the exchange of knowledge and best practices among various educational and government institutions. Members can collaborate on the development of custom solutions that meet the specific needs of their institutions, leveraging the collective expertise within the cooperative.

3. Streamlined Procurement Process:

**Simplified Purchasing:** Utilizing WSIPC's contracts streamlines the procurement process, making it easier and faster to acquire new technology solutions.

**Compliance Assurance:** The cooperative ensures that all contracts comply with state procurement laws and regulations, reducing the administrative burden on members.

#### 4. Support and Training:

**Dedicated Support:** WSIPC provides members with support services, which can include technical support, training, and implementation assistance, helping institutions maximize the value of their technology investments.

**Professional Development:** Access to training and professional development opportunities helps staff stay current with the latest technologies and best practices in IT.

#### 5. Risk Mitigation:

**Vendor Vetting:** WSIPC vets vendors and products, reducing the risk associated with technology investments and ensuring that members have access to reliable and high-quality solutions.

**Contract Management:** The cooperative manages contracts on behalf of its members, ensuring that vendors adhere to agreed-upon terms and conditions, further mitigating risks.

By entering into an interlocal agreement with WSIPC, we can leverage these benefits to enhance our technological capabilities, improve outcomes, and operate more efficiently and effectively.

**Figure 1: Figure Name** *this is the format to name your image. If there will only be one image, there's no need to number it. Delete if not necessary.*

**BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY:** The partnership between our organization and the Washington School Information Processing Cooperative (WSIPC) for technology purchases extends numerous indirect but significant benefits to our citizens, notably in the realm of public service efficiency. By harnessing WSIPC's collective bargaining power and specialized technology offerings, we are positioned to enhance the quality, accessibility, and effectiveness of public services in the following ways:

**Increased Operational Efficiency:** By streamlining the procurement process and utilizing WSIPC's vetted technology solutions, we can deliver public services more efficiently and responsively. This leads to quicker, more reliable services for our citizens.

**Cost Effectiveness:** The cost savings from WSIPC's volume purchasing agreements allow us to allocate financial resources more strategically, potentially redirecting savings towards other critical community needs and services.

**Long-term Sustainability:** Investing in reliable, scalable technology solutions through WSIPC ensures that our technological infrastructure can adapt and grow, meeting the community's needs both today and in the future.

**POTENTIAL CHALLENGES:** N/A

- **BUDGET IMPACT:** There is no negative financial cost to entering into the WSIPC agreement. There are many benefits, but not limited to:
- Secure lower prices on technology products and services than individual organizations might achieve independently.
- Leverages pre-negotiated contracts will save on the time and expense associated with conducting individual bid processes and negotiations.
- Agreements may include favorable terms for ongoing maintenance and support, potentially offering cost advantages over separate contracts.

**RECOMMENDATION:** This will be brought to the regular meeting for consent.