



Case Study

THE CITY OF EL CAJON

California

City of El Cajon Partners with PlanetBids

The City of El Cajon is located in Southern California, about 18 miles east of San Diego. Nestled in a valley surrounded by mountains, the city's name originated from the Spanish phrase "el cajón," which means "the big box" or "the drawer."

Over ten years ago, the City partnered with PlanetBids to streamline their bid process, eliminate a paper intensive, manual process and implement a vendor self-registration program. Bringing on three key modules— Vendor Management, Bid Management and Insurance Certificate Management—their procurement team moved quickly to the new system and started reaping the benefits of easy tracking of projects, minimization of errors, better reporting and elimination of paper intensive processes. Using the system for quick quotes and formal bids, the procurement team enjoys a flexible, easy-to-use system and is appreciative of the outstanding customer service offered by the PlanetBids support team.

Besides the easy transition for the city procurement team, it was also an simple transition for vendors. PlanetBids was available to answer questions and provide training for the vendor community and helped with outreach to build the successful database that the City uses for its bid process.

PlanetBids signature is our commitment to outstanding customer service. Just ask our current customers, "What is PlanetBids greatest strength?," and the resounding answer is over-the-top customer service! Whether our customers have a question, need assistance, or request training, our mission is to be responsive in a quick, informative and friendly manner. Technology is important, and so are the people who use it!

PLANETBIDS

Innovative eProcurement Solutions

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Advantages of eProcurement

Across the nation, local government teams are making the right decision to move forward with tools to help run their purchasing departments more efficiently and allow vendors greater access to their bid opportunities. eProcurement brings easy to use tools for purchasing teams to handle the purchasing cycle. Best of all, eProcurement systems have become more affordable and can interface with the current financial systems already used within your organization.

- Quicker processing times with automated bid tabulations.
- Data sharing across the organization and with other procurement teams to leverage purchasing power.
- Prequalification of vendors for quicker bid times.
- Up-to-date vendor database and profile maintenance.
- Larger pool of vendors and increased competition.
- Seamless audit trail for greater transparency and ad hoc reporting.
- No printing, copying, or mailing costs.

Insurance Certification Management

One of the most tedious, time-consuming tasks for any government purchasing office is to collect, track and maintain insurance information from vendors.

PlanetBids' Insurance Certificate Management module enables risk managers, procurement, public works, and contract administrators to automate, maintain and retrieve up-to-date relevant information regarding vendors or contractors insurance certificates.

Using this module, the City replaced a previous manual spreadsheet system. The system now automatically tracks expiration dates, sends reminders, forwards emails to vendors and ensures that all contracted vendors have current and acceptable proof of insurance for compliance purposes.

PlanetBids is the proud recipient of the "Innovation Through Technology Business of the Year Award"
- US Small Business Administration