

# Board of Lucas County Commissioners



**TITLE:** LOCAL VENDOR PREFERENCE

**POLICY NUMBER:** 61

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 2025-304

**SUPERSEDES POLICY:** N/A

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 22, 2025

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## **I. SCOPE**

This policy applies to the Board of Lucas County Commissioners departments and agencies to promote the growth and sustainability of local businesses.

## **II. PURPOSE**

Lucas County encourages a preference to local vendors for purchases under the competitive bidding threshold, as established by 307.86. This is intended to encourage the growth of local businesses and enhance the local economy while ensuring competitive and fair procurement practices.

## **III. Eligibility for Local Vendor Preference**

A vendor is considered "local" if it:

- The vendors principal place of business is within the geographical boundaries of 50 miles of Lucas County.
- Holds all necessary licenses and permits required by the county and state to operate.

## **IV. Application of Local Vendor Preference**

- For procurements under the competitive bidding threshold, when more than one quote is required, preference may be given to a local vendor.
- The local vendor must meet all other terms, conditions, and specifications of the solicitation.
- If a local vendor's price is within 2% of the lowest bid, Lucas County may request the local vendor to match the lowest quote received.

## **V. Limitations**

- Local preference will not apply if prohibited by federal or state funding requirements tied to the procurement.
- The county reserves the right to waive the local preference if it is determined to not be in the county's best interest.

## **VI. Verification of Local Status**

To qualify for local preference, vendors must provide:

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- The business must demonstrate that its principal place of business has been located within a 50-mile radius of Lucas County for at least three (3) years as registered in official documents filed with the Secretary of State of Ohio or
- The business must be a business organization with a significant economic presence within a 50-mile radius of Lucas County. For the purpose of this policy, significant economic presence is defined as:
  - Physical Presence – owning or leasing property, maintaining offices, or operating facilities within a 50-mile radius of Lucas County
  - Employment – hiring and maintaining a workforce within a 50-mile radius of Lucas County
  - Tax Obligations – paying local taxes, such as sales tax, property tax, or payroll taxes.
  - Business Activity – engages in consistent commercial transactions with customers or businesses within a 50-mile radius of Lucas County
- Certification of compliance with applicable licensing and regulatory requirements.

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*John Borell*

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Signature of Lucas County Prosecutor  
John Borell

4/25/2025

Date

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*Jessica M. Ford*

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Signature of County Administrator  
Jessica Ford

4/25/2025

Date

Revision History: Policy #61, Resolution, Passed