



# City of Bristol Tennessee

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## **City Announces Roll-out of New Vendor Registry**

Want to become a business partner with the City of Bristol Tennessee? The City's Purchasing Division procures a wide range of materials, products, services, and equipment each year. With that type of purchasing, comes a tremendous number of active vendor lists that must be maintained by the city. Sometimes those lists are difficult to keep current. The city is now working with Vendor Registry, a company that assists local governments and the business communities connect. "The city wants everyone to have the opportunity to bid on whatever is announced and advertised or quote on those products regularly purchased by various City Departments," said Terry Napier the city's Purchasing Agent.

For the first time, the city will have one place for businesses to register and maintain products and series profiles so they don't miss out on bids. It will be easier for the City to notify vendors of open bids, while also allowing vendors across the region to participate. "One of the best by-products of the new system is it will not require city vendors or those who wish to be a city vendor to spend hours searching for bids in newspapers," Napier continued.

Currently the registration process is free, and the city just made the process much simpler by offering it online. All a vendor must do to register is complete a free online profile that will include the products or services they offer. The city will enter bids online and Vendor Registry will distribute bid notices to all registered city vendors as well as recruit new vendors. For the first time the city will manage all vendor contacts online which will result in time savings in the Purchasing Division. The registry will also allow purchasing employees to better serve and be more responsive to the city's vendors, spend more time working and evaluating vendors as opposed to data entry. "This new service makes city government more efficient and good stewards of taxpayer dollars," said Bill Sorah, Interim City Manager. "It can be used by not only our purchasing division but department heads who are required to gather quotes for products over a certain dollar value."

To begin the registration process, go to the city website [www.bristoltn.org](http://www.bristoltn.org) and click on the registration link located on the Purchasing page.

For more information contact Terry Napier, City Purchasing Agent at 423-764-4023 or [tnapier@bristoltn.org](mailto:tnapier@bristoltn.org).