

MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL (MARC)

The MARC cooperative purchasing program serves the Kansas City metropolitan area and communities in the Midwest through the [Kansas City Regional Purchasing Cooperative \(KCRPC\)](#). MARC has entered into a cooperative agreement (interlocal agreement) with the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) that makes HGAC contracts, such as those with Mohawk Lifts, available to its members and other communities in the Midwest.

The Mid-America Regional Council, commonly referred to as MARC, serves as the association of city and county governments and the metropolitan planning organization for the bistate Kansas City region. MARC seeks to build a stronger regional community through cooperation, leadership and planning. Through MARC's leadership, area jurisdictions and diverse community interests sit down together to address the region's problems and identify the opportunities for cooperative solutions. These efforts, in turn, enhance the effectiveness of local government. MARC's region consists of eight counties and 117 cities in the bistate metropolitan Kansas City region.

MARC/HGAC

MARC and the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) have entered into a first-of-its-kind agreement between regional councils that allows members of MARC and the Mid America Council of Public Purchasing (MACPP) to use H-GAC Cooperative Purchasing Program contracts. HGAC has been in the cooperative purchasing business for more than 30 years. Their experience and volume purchasing power can provide significant savings for local governments on major equipment purchases. This arrangement is administered by the Kansas City Regional Purchasing Cooperative (KCRPC).

The [Kansas City Regional Purchasing Cooperative \(KCRPC\)](#) is the Kansas City region's local government purchasing cooperative. The KCRPC is a partnership of the [Mid-America Regional Council \(MARC\)](#), the [Mid-America Council of Public Purchasing \(MACPP\)](#) and local governments. Inquiries regarding the HGAC/MARC agreement and MARC cooperative purchasing programs should be directed to [Rita Parker](#).

BENEFITS

HGAC requires any non-participants (outside the state of Texas) to obtain an "Interlocal Contract" form from H-GAC's website and affix the signature of the End User's chief elected/appointed official. The benefit to utilize the interlocal agreement established between MARC and HGAC eliminates this process, providing the end user references the interlocal agreement #04-1443 on any purchase orders, as well as the HGAC contract number. Benefits of the Program include expedited procurement, volume purchasing discounts, on-duty professional staff assistance, research and development of technical specifications, and contract administration. The Partnership between the HGAC and MARC expands the availability of competitive contracts to a wider circle of local governments and other agencies.

To be most effective, it is important to use the H-GAC Cooperative Purchasing Program as early as possible in your purchasing process. Your jurisdiction will save not only in the final purchase price, but also in the time and expense of preparing specifications and bidding the equipment. You can work with H-GAC contracted vendors to build the piece of equipment that you need, knowing that the price for the base unit and many of the options are locked in through the H-GAC contract. Or, if you prefer, you can use the H-GAC contracts for comparison with other vendors.