



PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Division of Procurement Services.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please provide the requested information in the white spaces below. All responses (except signatures) must be typed; no hand-written forms will be accepted. See the guidance document posted with this form on the Division of Procurement Services intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW
Table with 4 columns and 10 rows containing contract details such as Department Office/Division/Program, Amount (\$17,875.80), Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name (Pollen Sense, Provo, UT), and Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant (Purchase of four Automated Particulate Sensors, Model 400).

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION
Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)
Table with 4 columns and 7 rows listing justification options A through L. Option C (Single Source/Unique Vendor) is checked.

Please respond to ALL of the questions in the following sections.

### PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

The goods and services being sought from the vendor are to carry out a funded federal grant activity of the Maine Centers for Disease Control (CDC), to which Maine DEP is a partner. Maine CDC was awarded specific funding in their Building Resilience Against Climate Effects (BRACE) grant to implement a statewide network of aeroallergen monitoring sites in order to make continuous measurements (e.g. pollen and mold spore counts) to share with the public and to track long-term trends related to climate change. DEP's Ambient Air Monitoring Program has been tasked with obtaining, siting, operating and maintaining the specific aeroallergen monitoring equipment to be provided by the vendor, as well as managing the resulting data that will be accessed via a portal to the vendor's online cloud storage site, where the data will be sent continuously by the samplers. This work is also in support of a recommendation from the Governor's Maine Climate Council as described in their report [Scientific Assessment of Climate Change and Its Effects in Maine \(September 2020\)](#). ([link to report](#))

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the RFP number, if applicable.

Pollen Sense is the only entity I am aware that provides the needed samplers which continuously provide Artificial Intelligence (AI)-derived identification and counts of aeroallergens from the ambient air sampled. They are the only manufacturer in North America of this type of continuous sampler, which has several important and key advantages over other available sampling methods, which require manual operation and delayed delivery of sample results. Unlike the other methods, samples are not destroyed during the analysis of their aeroallergens, so they can be reanalyzed whenever necessary and as often as needed.

3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.

Pollen Sense's quoted costs are their standard prices charged to their other customers, which we consider to be fair and reasonable, given our knowledge of commercial rates associated with this and other types of aeroallergen sampling.

4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.

Maine DEP will continue to stay abreast of any other emerging vendors that offer the needed equipment and services that Pollen Sense currently does. .

### PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)

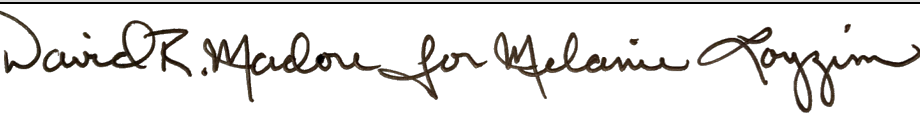

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

Yes – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

No – If No, proceed to Part V.

**PART V: APPROVALS**

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:	Melanie Loyzim	Date:	Jan 10, 2023
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small> 		
Typed Name:	<small>2D5B6E39F57E44A...</small> William J.E. Allen	Date:	1/24/2023

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