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**Oregon, WSCA/NASPO and STMA announces the
WSCA/NASPO Travel Center and multi-state air carrier agreement**

The State of Oregon, in partnership with the WSCA/NASPO Cooperative Purchasing Organization and State Travel Managers Alliance (STMA), announces implementation of a nationwide air carrier agreement and comprehensive online booking program called the WSCA/NASPO Travel Center.

This is the first multi-state nationwide air carrier program ever created. Twenty-eight states representing over \$250 million in potential air spend signed intents to participate prior to the release of the RFP. This was WSCA/NASPO's largest solicitation with state participation where previous RFP experience in this type of service didn't exist. It represents a true need for this type of contracting.

The solicitation process was led by Tim Hay from the State of Oregon. Other members of the sourcing team were Tami Nelson from Utah, Lenora Kingston from Colorado, Jason Soza from Alaska, Marcy Troescher from Nevada and Melissa Hernandez from Texas.

Oregon and the WSCA/NASPO sourcing team selected Southwest Airlines to serve as the official air carrier to the states that elect to sign up for this program. The program is also available to cities, counties, universities and other political subdivisions that participate under their respective states co-operative purchasing programs. "An air service consortium contract of this magnitude has never been achieved before and we are pleased to partner with Southwest to launch this program" said Tim Hay from the State of Oregon.

In conjunction with the air program, Oregon and WSCA/NASPO are launching the new WSCA/NASPO Travel Center. Oregon and the WSCA/NASPO sourcing team selected Anchorage based US Travel to provide an online booking program using GetThere. The WSCA/NASPO Travel Center will host all of the WSCA travel contracts which include air fares with Southwest, deeply discounted vehicle rental rates with Enterprise/National and Hertz Rent a Car and access to over 11,000 hotels representing over 50 major chains that offer at or below GSA per-diem rates to state and local government employees while on official travel. All of the preferred Contractors shown in the WSCA/NASPO Travel Center resulted from competitively solicited agreements and are designed to meet government travel needs. The WSCA/NASPO Travel Center is available to all states, cities, counties, universities and other political subdivisions that participate under their respective states co-operative purchasing programs.

ABOUT WSCA/NASPO:

The WSCA/NASPO Cooperative Purchasing Organization is a subsidiary of the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) and was established to manage its national cooperative purchasing program. A 21-member Management Board of state procurement officials across the nation oversees the operations and activities of the organization.

Since 1993, WSCA served as the primary cooperative purchasing arm of NASPO and encouraged, fostered, and guided participating members to work collaboratively in an effort to create true procurement cooperatives. The current WSCA/NASPO portfolio of 40 plus cooperative contracts covers a broad portfolio of commodities and services. These cooperative contracts benefit countless public entities including states, cities, counties, and higher education institutions.

The WSCA/NASPO Cooperative Purchasing Organization represents a unified, nationally-focused cooperative purchasing program that leverages the collective expertise and experience of WSCA and NASPO, aggregate the demand of all 50 states and their political subdivisions, and help spur innovation and competition in the marketplace.

NASPO: The National Association of State Procurement Officials is a non-profit association dedicated to strengthening the procurement community through education, research, and communication. It is made up of the directors of the central purchasing offices in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the territories of the United States. NASPO is an organization through which the member purchasing

officials provide leadership in professional public purchasing, improve the quality of purchasing and procurement, exchange information and cooperate to attain greater efficiency and economy. Please visit www.naspo.org for additional information.

ABOUT STMA: The State Travel Managers Alliance (STMA) was formed in 2004 Society of Government Travel Professionals (SGTP) conference. This alliance consists of State government travel managers from the United States. STMA is dedicated being a united voice in finding solutions facing the state government travel industry; provide resources to other states in establishing a travel program and joining forces in solicitations to achieve the best value for each state. Its mission: "To provide leadership, education, tools and resources to assist States with creating and maintaining a travel management program that benefits their respective States' citizens & employees with responsible business travel."

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