

RFP 25-041 - Durham County Food System Assessment & Strategic Plan

Committee Vendor Selection – Key Environmental Consulting

Justification: Key Environmental Consulting was deemed the most qualified firm for the project due to their strong experience, credentials, and clear understanding of the project's requirements and vision. They bring extensive expertise in community engagement, and their subcontractor is uniquely equipped to implement innovative strategies for gathering community feedback. The team also has a strong background in data collection and analysis, aligning well with the assessment component of the project. Their work across various sectors of the food system—including prior contracts with local governments—aligns well with this project. They also adjusted their budget to fit the County capacity while still including all necessary project components. Additionally, the team has deep-rooted experience collaborating with institutions, organizations, and food system partners throughout Durham and the broader Triangle region which was a preferred qualification in the RFP.

Evaluation method –

1. Individual scoring forms
2. Group meeting and discussion
3. Follow up meetings with top two vendors

Evaluation Committee – scores and final decision

		Committee Member #1	Committee Member #2	Committee Member #3	Committee Member #4	Committee Member #5	Committee Member #6	Average
Vendor 1 - Key Environmental Consulting		212	206	169	191	190	195	193.83
Vendor 2 - CoSpero Consulting LLC		202	214	182	170	180	202	191.67
Vendor 3 - Social Contract		206	209	171	173	172	175	184.33
Vendor 4 - New Venture Advisors LLC		214	159	155	186	191	190	182.50
Vendor 5 - JG Research & Evaluation		192	195	162	169	175	178	178.50
Vendor 6 - Agritecture LLC		200	206	167	168	157	164	177.00
Vendor 7 - Community Food Strategies		172	197	167	167	172	182	176.17
Vendor 8 - Sweet Grass Consulting		198	206	132	166	161	171	172.33
Vendor 9 - SE Community Resources		178	197	134	145	150	146	158.33
Vendor 10 - HR&A Advisors Inc		193	126	130	150	143	154	149.33

Vendor 11 - North Carolina Always		N/A	130	158	117	77	126	121.60
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