



Robyn Nichols
CRCOG Principal Program Manager
Municipal Services
rnichols@crcog.org

PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE AUGUST 13, 2024

RFI – Consulting Services for Food Waste/Food Scraps, Food Donation/Food Rescue, and Organic Waste Reduction ,Diversion, Collection, and Processing

CRCOG Background

Who is CRCOG?

- Capitol Region Council of Governments is a voluntary council of governments formed over 50 yrs. ago to initiate and implement regional programs and initiatives to benefit our 38 member towns in/around Hartford/Tolland counties in CT and the region
- CT does not have county government
- largest regional planning organization in CT (9 total)
- Represents a diverse population of almost 1 million residents and a land area of 1,047 square miles
- promotes responsible land use, sustainable transportation systems, economic vitality, and quality of life and provides various shared services to facilitate governmental efficiency, including waste management and diversion

CT has a Waste Crisis – Why does this matter?

- Closing of CT Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA), a quasi-public waste-to-energy facility and entity of the State of CT that provided waste disposal and recycling services to more than fifty (50) municipalities in CT, including many CRCOG Members
- MIRA closure in July 2022 prompted a regional need to develop long-term municipal solid waste (MSW) management solutions, as in-state disposal and processing capacity reduced significantly
- CRCOG issued RFP and conducted a multi-phased Waste Study – emphasized need for a regional waste authority(ies) and regional approach to short and long-term initiatives and strategies
- Study found (among other things) – significant need and opportunity to divert organics from solid waste stream (would reduce tip fees/transportation costs and increase waste capacity in CT)
- State of CT CMMS, Senate Bill 191, and EPA – significant reductions of food loss and organic waste diversion will positively impact the environment and reduce GHG emissions
- CT also faces food insecurity – food reuse/rescue could address many of these needs

CCSWA (Central CT Solid Waste Authority), CRCOG’s regional waste authority, and CRCOG targeted food waste and organic material diversion for beneficial reuse as priorities

Request for Information – RFI Information

Intent:

- consulting services to advise, consult, and recommend short and long-term action plans addressing the region's food waste/food scraps, food donation/food rescue, and organic waste reduction, reuse, diversion, collection, and processing; AND
- vendors to collect, process, and market food waste/food scraps and organic materials at a regional level as part of an effort to reduce, reuse, and divert these materials from the MSW stream, and provide alternative energy solutions, such as biogas

Purpose: identify strategies and partners toward increasing organic diversion throughout the 38-town CRCOG region

This is NOT an RFP – Goal is to illicit broad range responses with program, service, and strategy options (and build possible RFP)

Who should respond to the RFI?

- along with consultants and vendors, seeking broad range of responses from public/private market, including waste haulers, processors, alternative energy providers, and organic/food scrap industry leaders interested in reduction, diversion, and reuse

RFI Mandatory Questions for Response

CRCOG RFI Additional Questions

MANDATORY and **MUST be answered** for proposal to be considered for submission.

Responses allowed in multiple formats, including Word, Excel, PPT

Must adhere to font, page length, Bonfire hub submission by deadline, etc.

1. Non-Collusion Statement
2. Current, valid and/or required license, registration, and/or certificate to do business in CT? State of incorporation/formation?
3. In good standing in the State of CT/State of incorporation/formation?
4. Experience working with counties, regions, municipalities, government entities, such as EPA, DEEP, etc.?
5. Knowledge/expertise in municipal law, legislation, public ordinances, permits, planning and zoning, etc.?
6. Proven and demonstrated experience in food waste, organic collection, processing, marketing, reuse, recycling, composting, etc.?
7. Key advisory personnel with at least five (5) year's experience in Scope of Work of RFI.

RFI Mandatory Questions for Response

8. Company Information

- a. Company Name and d/b/a
- b. Company Address
- c. Company Key Point of Contact Name and Title
- d. Company Phone Number
- e. Key Point of Contact Email
- f. Key Point of Contact Phone Number

9. Project Team, including resumes of at least three (3) personnel/team members with expertise related to the RFI Scope of Work.

10. Company Background, including, company background, experience, methodology, practice work, approach to services, including specific examples relevant to the RFI Scope of Work.

RFI Mandatory Questions for Response

11. Detailed Responses to the following questions:
- a. Why has CT struggled to implement a viable long-term solid waste plan, especially for food waste and organics?
 - b. What other areas, similar to CT in demographics/geography, have implemented a successful food waste/organics plan and how?
 - c. How can CRCOG and its members successfully implement a regional, municipal food waste and organics program?

All response submissions MUST be posed to CRCOG through the bonfire portal at crocog.bonfirehub.com and proposals submitted no later than September 5, 2024 at NOON ET to be accepted for consideration

RFI IMPORANT Dates and Deadlines

Issue Date: July 25, 2024 (12:00 noon EST)

Pre-Proposal Conference (Non-Mandatory): August 13, 2024 (12:00 noon EST)

Questions Due: August 15, 2024 (12:00 noon EST)

Response Date/Time: September 5, 2024 (12:00 noon EST)

Response Location: crcog.bonfirehub.com

***All responses MUST be submitted online through Bonfire** – Vendors should create an account with User Name and Password to access documents and submit proposals

WRAP UP

Final Thoughts & Questions??

Robyn Nichols

CRCOG – Principal Program Manager/Municipal Services

Questions must be submitted through crcog.bonfirehub.com

Deadline for Questions: August 15, 2024 at NOON (ET)

*Do NOT contact CRCOG directly or submit proposals to CRCOG – they will not be answered or considered valid submissions