



Date: August 18, 2015

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Wanda Page, Deputy City Manager
From: Kerry L. Goode, CIO/Director of Technology Solutions
Subject: OPENDATASOFT Platform

Executive Summary

The City and County of Durham endeavors to create an Open Data Platform (ODP) to enable economic development opportunities, internal efficiency and community development benefits. The ODP will support the City and County's goal to use technology to foster open, transparent, accessible and collaborative government by sharing data freely. The City and County of Durham seek to develop opportunities for entrepreneurship, economic development, commerce, increased investment and civic engagement through the creation of an ODP. The proposed agreement is a two-year contract with OPENDATASOFT to provide an ODP for the City and County for a total cost of \$90,000.

Recommendation

The Administration recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a service contract with OPENDATASOFT in the amount of \$90,000 for a two-year period to procure an ODP for the City of Durham.

Background

The City and County both were looking into ways to share data that were cost-effective and efficient. It was proposed that the City and County embark on this initiative together so as to provide a better experience and a cohesive portal to internal and external users. By doing this, the cost will be shared thus reducing the total cost for the City and County to complete an Open Data initiative.

The first step in this process was to hire a consultant to guide the City and County selection team through the process of evaluating vendors to develop the ODP. The consultant conducted an analysis of all the leading vendors and provided the information to the selection team (City and County Staff). After reviewing the information provided by the consultant and conducting a proof of concept utilizing OPENDATASOFT Platform for several months at no charge, the selection team chose OPENDATASOFT.

OPENDATASOFT provided the best value for the City and County. The vendor also gave the City and County a free one year trial for evaluating their product with no commitment to contract service from their company as part of the selection process. This provided the implementation team the opportunity to beta test the product before entering into a contract. The beta test was successful and is now in production using the one year free trial subscription.

The contract under consideration will provide the City and County the right to use the OPENDATASOFT data portal to foster open, transparent, accessible and collaborative

government by sharing data freely for the next two years. Starting in January 2016, the City will be responsible to pay \$45,000 per year for the next two years, for a total of \$90,000.

The costs of the platforms evaluated are as follows:

<u>COMPANIES</u>	<u>TOTAL AGREEMENT</u>
*OPENDATASOFT Cary, North Carolina	\$90,000 /2 years
Socrata, Inc. Seattle, WA	\$149,625.00 /3 years

*** Lowest Quote, includes one year free for development and proof of concept**

Issues/Analysis

Data sharing is done on a cloud-based platform, which the City and County will manage, publish, reuse and share structured data. Sharing data is a cost-effective approach to getting the best out of data collection, transformation, and sharing.

The one year free trial provided by OPENDATASOFT has afforded the City and County the opportunity to test and successfully evaluate the ODP, allowing for open, transparent, accessible and collaborative government. The platform has proven to be easy to use, compatible with any device and easily integrated with other ODPs.

Alternative

If the City does not execute the contract with OPENDATASOFT, the joint Open Data initiative by the City/County will face major setbacks. The OPENDATASOFT platform that has been developed, tested, and evaluated would become obsolete and an alternative ODP development would be initiated which will increase costs to the City. If OPENDATASOFT cannot fulfill this agreement, the City can contract with the next lowest responsive vendor at an increased cost and usage loss due to development, testing and evaluation time.

Financial Impact

This is a project jointly funded by the City and County of Durham equally. The City's and County's share of the project for a two year period is \$45,000 each. The City/County has funds available to cover the OPENDATASOFT project for the two year term at a total cost of \$90,000. OPENDATASOFT provided the platform as part of a proof of concept for FY2015 at no charge. The cost for FY2016 is \$45,000 and the cost for FY2017 is \$45,000. Since the proof of concept was successful the City received the benefit of using the platform for FY2015 at no charge, lowering the cost per year to \$30,000.

SDBE Summary

The Equal Opportunity/Equity Assurance Department has reviewed the proposal submitted by OPENDATASOFT and has determined that they are in compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Opportunities in City Contracting.

SDBE Requirements

There were no SDBE firms to provide this service.

Workforce Statistics

The workforce statistics for **OPENDATASOFT, LLC** are as follows:

Total Workforce	13	100%
Total Females	2	15%
Total Males	11	85%
Black Males	1	8%
White Males	10	77%
Other Males	0	0%
Black Females	0	0%
White Females	2	15%
Other Females	0	0%