The Environment and Public Space program uses the following criteria to assess a project’s alignment with the program’s strategies.

**Alignment with Objective**
- **ABSENT**: Conveys no meaningful connection to any EPS objectives.
- **EMERGENT**: Would make an indirect and marginal or uncertain contribution to advancing an EPS objective.
- **DEVELOPING**: Would make an indirect but important contribution to advancing EPS objective.
- **STRONG**: Would make a direct contribution to advancing EPS objective.

**Beneficiaries**
- **ABSENT**: Does not identify expected beneficiaries of the project.
- **EMERGENT**: Identified beneficiaries of the project do not include prioritized communities.
- **DEVELOPING**: Identifies prioritized beneficiaries but without precision.
- **STRONG**: Precisely identifies prioritized community/communities that are expected to benefit from the project.

**Meaningful Community Engagement**
- **ABSENT**: No meaningful engagement of intended beneficiaries.
- **EMERGENT**: Cursory engagement of intended beneficiaries.
- **DEVELOPING**: Meaningful engagement of intended beneficiaries in development of proposal or implementation of project.
- **STRONG**: Meaningful engagement of intended beneficiaries in development of proposal and implementation of project.

**Partnership and Collaboration**
- **ABSENT**: Does not address partnerships that will be necessary for success.
- **EMERGENT**: Identified relevant partners but has not adequately incorporated collaboration with those partners into the proposal.
- **DEVELOPING**: Identifies relevant partners and describes collaboration with those partners.
- **STRONG**: Identifies relevant partners and provides evidence of partners’ commitment to fulfilling the roles described.

**Scientific and Technical Awareness**
- **ABSENT**: No apparent awareness of relevant scientific and technical aspects of the project.
- **EMERGENT**: Limited awareness of some of the relevant scientific and technical aspects of the project.
- **DEVELOPING**: Developing awareness of relevant scientific and technical aspects of the project.
- **STRONG**: Detailed awareness of relevant scientific and technical aspects of the project.

**Sustainability and Maintenance**
- **ABSENT**: Does not address maintenance and sustainability of the proposed project.
- **EMERGENT**: Partially address maintenance or sustainability but not both.
- **DEVELOPING**: Partially address maintenance and sustainability of the proposed project.
- **STRONG**: Fully address maintenance and sustainability of the proposed project.

**Strategic Clarity**
- **ABSENT**: Imprecise definition of success and unclear strategy for achieving objectives.
- **EMERGENT**: Clear definition of success, but unclear or questionable strategy for achieving objectives.
- **DEVELOPING**: Precise definition of success and clear strategy for achieving objectives but does not address expected consequences for intended beneficiaries.
- **STRONG**: Precise definition of success, persuasive strategy for achieving objectives, and clear expectations of intended consequences of project for beneficiaries.

**Gentrification**
- **ABSENT**: Does not address gentrification risks of proposed project.
- **EMERGENT**: Acknowledges gentrification risks but includes no strategy for mitigating or minimizing them.
- **DEVELOPING**: Acknowledges gentrification risks and has a limited strategy for mitigating or minimizing them.
- **STRONG**: Includes strategy to minimize and mitigate gentrification risks.