

Decision-Making Framework

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

Alignment with Objective			
<b>ABSENT</b> Conveys no meaningful connection to any EPS objectives.	<b>EMERGENT</b> Would make a marginal and/or uncertain contribution to advancing an EPS objective.	<b>DEVELOPING</b> Would make a clear contribution to advancing an EPS objective.	<b>STRONG</b> Would make a clear and major contribution to advancing an EPS objective.
		“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED	
Beneficiaries			
<b>ABSENT</b> Does not identify expected beneficiaries of the project.	<b>EMERGENT</b> Project beneficiaries are identified, but do not include prioritized communities.	<b>DEVELOPING</b> Identified beneficiaries of the project include prioritized communities.	<b>STRONG</b> Prioritized communities will receive significant benefits from the project.
		“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED	
Meaningful Community Awareness of Proposed Work			
<b>ABSENT</b> No meaningful evidence of community awareness of, interest in, or demand for proposed work.	<b>EMERGENT</b> Minimal evidence of community awareness of, interest in, and/or demand for proposed work.	<b>DEVELOPING</b> Meaningful evidence of community awareness of, interest in, and/or demand for proposed work.	<b>STRONG</b> Specific involvement of community members and/or community-based organizations in development of proposal.
		“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED	
Meaningful Community Engagement in Proposed Work			
<b>ABSENT</b> No meaningful community engagement included in implementation plan for proposed work.	<b>EMERGENT</b> Limited community engagement in implementation plan for proposed work.	<b>DEVELOPING</b> Significant community engagement as audience for proposed work (e.g. outreach and education).	<b>STRONG</b> Substantial community engagement as both audience for and also implementers of proposed work.
		“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED	
Partnership and Collaboration			
<b>ABSENT</b> Does not address partnerships that will be necessary for success.	<b>EMERGENT</b> Explains the partnerships that will be necessary for success, but does not identify specific partners or describe the role that partners will play in the proposed work.	<b>DEVELOPING</b> Identifies specific partners, provides at least a general description of the role that they will play in the work, and includes letters of support from at least some of them.	<b>STRONG</b> Identifies specific partners, provides a detailed description of the role that they will play in the work, and includes letters of support from each of them.
		“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED	
Organizational Capacity			
<b>ABSENT</b> Insufficient evidence of leadership, resources, staffing, partnerships, and/or experience necessary to achieve project goals.	<b>EMERGENT</b> Evidence of leadership, resources, staffing and/or partnerships, but insufficient evidence of ability to successfully implement work of the type being proposed.	<b>DEVELOPING</b> Evidence of leadership, resources, staffing and partnerships, and some experience with successful implementation of the type of work being proposed.	<b>STRONG</b> Evidence of all necessary leadership, resources, staffing and partnerships in place to achieve project goal. Applicant and/or partners also have extensive experience with successful implementation of the type of work being proposed.
		“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED	
Project Design and Feasibility			
<b>ABSENT</b> Does not provide a clear, specific, or realistic approach to the work. Project outcomes and success are not clear and well-defined.	<b>EMERGENT</b> Provides a clear approach to the work, but some aspects of the approach are vague or seem unrealistic. Project outcomes are defined, but are of uncertain achievability, based on the details provided.	<b>DEVELOPING</b> Provides a clear approach to the work and successful outcomes are defined and achievable. Some aspects of the project design may require further clarification to assess feasibility.	<b>STRONG</b> Provides a clear approach to the work, successful outcomes are defined and achievable, and the proposal includes a sound project design and feasible implementation plan.
		“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED	