

# Build Trust and Participation in Democratic Processes Decision-Making Framework

The Democracy and Civic Initiatives program uses the following criteria to assess a project's alignment with this strategy.

## Alignment with Objective

### ABSENT

Project activities and goals are unrelated to the defined objective.

### EMERGENT

Project activities and goals may advance the defined objective, but connection is vague.

### DEVELOPING

Project will make a clear but indirect contribution to advancing the defined objective.

### STRONG

Project will make a clear and direct contribution to advancing the defined objective.

“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED

## Equity and Inclusion

### ABSENT

No plan to prioritize underrepresented communities. No apparent community engagement.

### EMERGENT

Limited efforts to prioritize underrepresented communities. Sporadic or cursory engagement of relevant community members.

### DEVELOPING

Project prioritizes access and creates opportunities for underrepresented communities. Meaningful engagement of relevant community members in project planning, goal-setting and implementation.

### STRONG

Underrepresented communities are leaders in project planning, goal-setting, and implementation.

“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED

## Organizational Capacity

### ABSENT

No evidence of plan, timeline, resources, staffing, or partnerships necessary to achieve project's goals; no prior relevant experience with proposed work.

### EMERGENT

Some elements of project plan and resources are in place, but plan to fill gaps is vague or nonexistent.

### DEVELOPING

Project has a realistic plan and timeline; some resources, staffing, and partnerships are in place, with a clear plan to fill remaining gaps.

### STRONG

Evidence of credible, realistic plan, timeline, resources, and staffing to achieve the project's goals; history of successful implementation of similar work.

“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED

## Collaboration and Partnerships

### ABSENT

No identified partners or plans for collaboration.

### EMERGENT

Intended partners are identified but there are no clear commitments to collaborate that would strengthen the work.

### DEVELOPING

Some committed partners and a clear plan to build new partnerships that will address gaps in perspective and expertise.

### STRONG

Evidence of commitment to collaborate from partners who will strengthen the work through diverse perspectives and expertise.

“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED