

# 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

**ABSENT**

Conveys no meaningful connection to any EPS objectives.

**EMERGENT**

Would make a marginal and/or uncertain contribution to advancing an EPS objective.

**DEVELOPING**

Would make a clear contribution to advancing an EPS objective.

**STRONG**

Would make a clear and major contribution to advancing an EPS objective.

“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED

## Beneficiaries

**ABSENT**

Does not identify expected beneficiaries of the project.

**EMERGENT**

Project beneficiaries are identified, but do not include prioritized communities.

**DEVELOPING**

Project beneficiaries are identified, include prioritized communities, and will significantly benefit from the project.

**STRONG**

Project beneficiaries are identified, include prioritized communities, and will receive significant and major benefits from the project.

“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED

## Meaningful Community Engagement

**ABSENT**

No meaningful engagement of community in preparation of proposal or implementation of the project.

**EMERGENT**

Limited engagement of community in preparation of proposal or implementation of the project.

**DEVELOPING**

Meaningful engagement of community in preparation of proposal *or* implementation of the project.

**STRONG**

Robust and sustained engagement of community in preparation of proposal *and* implementation of the project.

“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED

## Partnership and Collaboration

**ABSENT**

Does not address partnerships that will be necessary for success.

**EMERGENT**

Identifies relevant partners but does not describe the role that partners will play in the project.

**DEVELOPING**

Identifies relevant partners and fully describes collaboration with those partners.

**STRONG**

Identifies relevant partners, fully describes the role that partners will play in the project, and provides evidence of partners’ commitment to fulfilling the roles described such as through an included letter of support.

“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED

## Organizational Capacity

**ABSENT**

Insufficient evidence of leadership, resources, staffing, partnerships, and/or experience necessary to achieve project goals.

**EMERGENT**

Evidence of leadership, resources, staffing and/or partnerships, but insufficient evidence of ability to successfully implement work of the type being proposed.

**DEVELOPING**

Evidence of leadership, resources, staffing and partnerships, and some experience with successful implementation of the type of work being proposed.

**STRONG**

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

**ABSENT**

Does not provide a clear, specific, or realistic approach to the work. Project outcomes and success are not clear and well-defined.

**EMERGENT**

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.

**DEVELOPING**

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.

**STRONG**

Provides a clear approach to the work that describes the organizational capacity to carry out the proposed project, a feasible plan to implement the work, and a plan to track project outcomes and the impact on an EPS objective.

“DEVELOPING” OR “STRONG” REQUIRED