



MEMORANDUM

DATE February 22, 2018
TO Measure A Steering Committee
FROM Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District
SUBJECT Competitive Grant Scoring Criteria Themes

The themes listed below resulted from the initial discussion of scoring criteria that occurred at the January 11 Steering Committee meeting. This list has been revised slightly since it was first published on February 15.

At its March 1 meeting, the Steering Committee will discuss each of these themes, with the goal of giving guidance to the PlaceWorks team to allow for drafting of new scoring criteria.

Scoring Criteria Themes:

1. Category Type
 - a. Scoring criteria need to reflect how well the project matches the category name.
 - b. Scoring criteria should reflect the overall goals of Measure A, including issues such as equity and meeting identified needs
2. Level of Need
 - a. How important should level need be, given that 30% of funds will be dedicated to projects in High and Very High Needs Study Areas?
 - b. Should there be points for subarea need?
 - c. How will “direct benefit to High/Very High Study Area” be evaluated?
3. Multi-benefit Criteria
 - a. The criteria need to more closely match the measure language
 - b. These criteria should be grouped into “water” and “air” categories, rather than broken down into small parts
 - c. The relative number of points among criteria need to be adjusted
4. Social Outcomes
 - a. Consider points for gang prevention, health, language and cultural sensitivity, displacement prevention and other social outcomes

5. Open Space Projects Have Different Needs than Urban Space Projects and Should be Evaluated Differently

- a. Regional Benefit: the scoring system does not work for open space projects as these projects have different requirements
- b. Amenity Condition: if an agency didn't participate in the Parks Needs Assessment, they can't score here. Additionally, many open space projects don't have amenities and so can't score even if they participated in the PNA.
- c. Accessibility: open space areas that are primarily for wildlife shouldn't be expected to have lots of access, as it's not always appropriate.
- d. Should acquisition-only grant projects, including for both open space and urban projects, be evaluated and scored separately and differently from other competitive Category 3 and 4 grant projects?

6. Community Engagement

- a. Necessity of evaluation criteria when most Measure A grants have minimum community engagement requirements
- b. Program categories (i.e., Category 5 and Recreation Access) and Planning & Design funds do not have minimum community engagement requirements

7. Leveraging Funds and Partnerships

- a. Importance of leveraging funds
- b. Difficulty of leveraging funds, especially for agencies with low capacity

8. Innovation

- a. Needs to be rewarded with more points in all categories

9. Subjectivity

- a. Scoring should be as objective as possible, with subjective criteria limited to the greatest extent possible.