

## Round 6 FY 2019-2020 AHSC Narrative Rubric

**Instructions:** This rubric is used by AHSC narrative reviewers to score applications. All applicants should first reference the instructions in the [AHSC Guidelines' Narrative Based Policy Scoring section \[link\]](#).

### Collaboration & Planning

#### Max Points—4 points\*

*\*Both Local Planning Efforts and Housing & Transportation Collaboration are considered together and will receive a single score within the Collaboration & Planning section.*

#### Local Planning Efforts

- Identify what local planning efforts the Project implements, and if applicable, describe what particular components of the Project are derived from a local plan.
- Explain how local government agencies were involved in the process of creating the proposed AHSC Project.

#### Housing & Transportation Collaboration

- Describe the relationship between the joint-applicants or partners that worked together to create the proposed AHSC Project.
- Explain the process involved in coming together to create a larger vision for the Project Area
- Describe how housing, transportation, and urban greening infrastructure components are integrated to make a cohesive Project that benefits Project Area.

#### Uploads:

*Local Planning Document, Site Plan, Project Area Map*

#### Example Score

0 points:  
Applicant does not identify local plan or planning efforts that the Project implements. No local government agencies or partners were involved in development of the Project. Applicant makes no effort to explain an integrated Project.

1-2 points:  
Applicant provides vague answers regarding local plans or planning efforts being implemented (e.g. "city needs more housing, provide more bike lanes"). Local government agencies or partners were minimally involved in development of the Project components. Applicant explains or demonstrates partial integration of housing, transportation, and urban greening components.

3-4 points:  
Applicant provides explicit detail on integration of local planning efforts that include multiple program goals (e.g. housing, active transportation, community connectivity, transit oriented development) into the Project. Multiple local government agencies and Project partners were engaged to identify and develop Project components from early on and through full Project development. Applicant explains or demonstrates full integration of housing, transportation, and urban greening components, and explains how interaction of Project components is beneficial to Project Area.

#### Guiding Questions

- Which planning efforts are addressed?
- How thoroughly are identified planning efforts addressed by Project?
- Which local agencies are engaged (e.g. Planning Department, Public Works, Transit Agency) and what was their input?
- At what stage(s) in the Project development process did Applicant seek local agencies' input?
- Does Applicant describe how agencies' input shaped the Project in material way?
- Does Applicant demonstrate a collaborative relationship between joint- applicants or partners throughout development of Project vision and components?
- Does Applicant describe the process for selection and development of proposed AHSC Project components by joint-applicants or partners?
- Does Applicant explain how housing, transportation, and urban greening components are integrated into a cohesive Project that will benefit Project Area?

## Community Benefits & Engagement

### Max Points—6 points\*

*\*Both Community Engagement and Leadership and Addressing Community Needs are considered together and will receive a single score within the Community Benefits & Engagement section.*

### Community Engagement & Leadership

- Describe how Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and local residents have been meaningfully involved in the visioning and development of this Project.
- Explain in which stage(s) of the process community members and CBOs have been and will be engaged.
- Explain efforts made to involve disadvantaged and/or low-income community residents, including how meetings were advertised and made accessible.

### Addressing Community Needs

- Demonstrate how the proposed AHSC Project meets one or more identified community needs, articulating how these needs were identified.
- Describe how the proposed AHSC Project addresses community needs beyond the provisions of housing and transportation.

Uploads:  
Letter of support,  
Engagement Tracker

### Example Score

0 points:  
CBOs and residents were not informed of or involved in Project development. No plan is laid out for future engagement. Applicant conducted no engagement to identify community needs. Community needs beyond housing and transportation are not addressed.

1-2 points:  
CBOs and residents were informed of, but not involved in, Project development. Plan is laid out for future engagement, but provides no or minimal details. Applicant conducted no or limited engagement to identify and meet community needs. Community needs beyond housing and transportation are not addressed. For engagement conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic, engagement strategies were safe and accessible.

3-4 points:  
CBOs and residents were brought into Project development process after Project component selection. Plan is laid out for future engagement but does not consider how to ensure broad CBO or resident participation. Applicant conducted engagement to identify community needs, and requested community input on how to meet those needs. Applicant made some effort to make opportunities for involvement accessible to all Project Area residents. Community needs beyond housing and transportation are minimally addressed. For engagement conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic, engagement strategies were safe & accessible.

5-6 points:  
CBOs and residents were involved from initial visioning of the Project, and a clear, detailed plan is laid out for how they will be engaged as Project moves forward. Applicant made strong effort to make opportunities for involvement accessible to all Project Area residents, including the area's most vulnerable populations. Applicant conducted in-depth engagement to identify community needs, and incorporated community input on how to meet those needs. For engagement conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic, engagement strategies were inclusive, safe, and accessible and special efforts were made to include impacted and vulnerable populations.

### Guiding Questions

- Were community residents or CBOs involved in development and selection of Project components included in application?
- Did Applicant make efforts to inform stakeholders about Project development process in order to solicit their input?
- Did Applicant demonstrate that opportunities for resident involvement were marketed and made accessible to multiple constituencies, especially low-income, disadvantaged, and otherwise vulnerable groups? If special consideration was given to targeting, attracting, or centering the involvement of the area's most vulnerable populations, please make note of this.
- Does Applicant detail a clear process for identifying needs of residents and key stakeholders from Project area?
- Does Project demonstrate the incorporation of community input and identified needs?
- Are a broad spectrum of community needs addressed, beyond housing and transportation?
- If applicable, how did the Applicant adapt their engagement strategies to account for COVID-19 related limitations to safe methods of engagement?
- Did the applicant submit a completed [AHSC Round 6 Community Engagement Tracker \[link\]](#)?

## Community Climate Resiliency

Max Points—3 points

### Climate Adaptation

- Using an up-to-date climate vulnerability assessment, identify climate vulnerabilities for Project Area and surrounding community.
- Describe how potential climate impacts are taken into consideration in the design of the proposed Project.

Uploads:

*Climate Adaptation Assessment Matrix*

*Note: Applicants may state adaptive measures being taken in the Climate Adaptation Assessment Matrix and not mention those measures in the narrative response, though they are encouraged to describe adaptive measures in detail.*

*Note: If available, use localized climate impact projections. For tools to help assess general climate impacts, please visit [Cal-Adapt's Local Climate Snapshot and Sea Level Rise tools](#) [link].*

*\* For adaptation tools, resources, strategies and case studies visit the [state's Adaptation Clearinghouse](#) [link].*

### Example Score

0 points:  
Applicant does not discuss consideration of climate adaptation or vulnerability in design of the Project or how Project seeks to address adaptation needs significantly beyond State mandated requirements.

1 point:  
Applicant identifies climate vulnerabilities but may not reference Cal-Adapt or other reliable data source. Applicant gives site-specific description of how Project addresses adaptation needs. Adaptive measures to address climate vulnerabilities have minimal to moderate impacts.

2 points:  
Applicant identifies climate vulnerabilities found in Cal-Adapt or other reliable data source. Applicant gives site-specific description of Project Area's adaptation needs. Adaptive measures have substantial impact to mitigate multiple vulnerabilities in the near future.

3 points:  
Applicant identifies climate vulnerabilities found in Cal-Adapt or other reliable data source. Applicant gives site-specific description of Project Area's adaptation needs. Adaptive measures substantially mitigate multiple vulnerabilities in the near future and intermediate future, or are at least scalable to address heightened vulnerabilities expected in 2100.

### Guiding Questions

- Are impacts identified through Cal-Adapt or a vulnerability assessment using widely accepted scientific assumptions?
- Does Project incorporate design features that increase community's resilience to climate change?
- Does applicant display understanding of vulnerabilities from climate impacts and describe how adaptation measures work together to address them?
- Does Project address vulnerabilities expected in the near and intermediate future?
- Does Applicant go beyond program and California minimum requirements to address climate vulnerabilities?
- Did the Applicant submit a completed [AHSC Round 6 Climate Adaptation Assessment Matrix](#) [link]?

## Community Air Pollution Exposure Mitigation

Max Points—2 points

### Air Pollution Exposure Mitigation Strategies

- Identify pollutants of concern using CalEnviroScreen 3.0 or other reliable data source.
- Identify known sources of pollution in Project Area, and describe how air pollution mitigation strategies are utilized in the design of the Project

*Note: A geographic area's percentile for a given indicator simply tells the percentage of areas with lower values of that indicator. A percentile does not describe the magnitude of the difference between two or more areas. For example, an area ranked in the 30th percentile is not necessarily three times more impacted than an area ranked in the 10th percentile.*

### Example Score

0 points:  
Applicant does not discuss consideration of air quality in Project Area, or how Project seeks to address air quality needs significantly beyond State mandated requirements.

1 point:  
Applicant identifies levels of pollutants of concern indicated in CalEnviroScreen 3.0 or other reliable data source. Applicant gives general description of how Project design mitigates exposure to pollutants of concern or improves air quality. Measure(s) described to address air pollution have moderate impact.

2 points:  
Applicant identifies pollutants of concern indicated in CalEnviroScreen 3.0 or other reliable data source. Applicant identifies local pollution source(s), and uses appropriate measures to mitigate exposure to source(s) in a significant way.

### Guiding Questions

- Are impacts identified through appropriate indicators in CalEnviroScreen 3.0 or another reliable data source?
- Does Project identify one or more known pollution sources in greater Project Area?
- Does the Applicant use proven strategies to mitigate project area residents to exposure from air pollutants?
- Does the Applicant describe the mitigation strategies and if they reduce source or exposure pollution?
- Does Applicant go beyond Program and California minimum requirements and local requirements to mitigate air pollution exposure?
- Does the Applicant commit to specific mitigation strategies?