

AHSC Round 7 Narrative Rubric

Instructions: AHSC narrative reviewers will use this document to score applications. Applicants may use this document in conjunction with the Narrative Prompts and Required Materials to respond to the outlined prompts. Reviewers will use this rubric in conjunction with the Prompts document to score each Project's narrative.

In addition to reviewing the required materials uploads, reviewers may also look at any materials submitted by applicants, including the AHSC Application workbook. It is incumbent on the applicant to ensure the content is correct and consistent throughout application materials. Inconsistent or demonstrably false statements may result in reviewers issuing a score of zero on any or all portions of the application review process, including Narrative. To have a basis of the project and its components, reviewers will first read the Project Description in the Application Overview tab. Reviewers will use differentials of no less than 1.0 to differentiate scores between projects.

Note: Defined terms are **bolded** throughout the document. Refer to Appendix A in [AHSC Round 7 Guidelines](#) for complete definitions.

Community Benefits and Engagement – 6 Points Maximum

Community Engagement & Leadership (3 pts)

3 points: **Developer** has strong ties and/or relationship to the community immediately around the **Affordable Housing Development (AHD)** and including the **Project Area**. Local Community Based Organizations (CBOs (i.e. schools, churches, advocacy non-profits, etc.) were involved from initial visioning of the **Project** and/or had a strong influence on **Project** components. Community Engagement Tracker contains information that is relevant and clearly tied to the proposed AHSC **Project** components. There is a clear, detailed plan for how CBOs or stakeholders will be engaged as the Project continues to move forward and includes a strong Letter of Support.

The inclusion of a **Joint Venture** can go to the **Developer's** relationship with the community if the **Joint Venture** is a partnership with a local (i.e. from the immediate or surrounding community) developer with significant ties to the community and the partnership will result in a meaningful learning experience for the co-developer.

2 points: **Developer** has some ties and/or relationship to the community immediately around the **AHD** and including the **Project Area**. Local CBOs (i.e. schools, churches, non-profits, etc.) were involved in the visioning of the **Project** and had an influence on several **Project** components. Community Engagement Tracker contains information that is relevant and clearly tied to the proposed AHSC **Project** components. There is a clear plan for how CBOs or stakeholders will be engaged as the **Project** moves forward.

The inclusion of a joint venture can go to the **Developer's** relationship with the community if the **Joint Venture** is a partnership with a local (i.e. local to the region) developer with some ties to the community and the partnership will result in a meaningful learning experience for the co-developer.

1 point: **Developer** has some ties and/or relationship to the broader community around the **Project Area**. Local CBOs (i.e. schools, churches, non-profits, etc.) had some influence on several Project components. Community Engagement Tracker contains information that is relevant and somewhat tied to the proposed AHSC **Project** components. There is a minimal plan outlined for future engagement.

The inclusion of a **Joint Venture** can go to the **Developer's** relationship with the community if **the Joint Venture** is a partnership with a local (i.e. local to the region) developer with some ties to the community and the partnership will result in a meaningful learning experience for the co-developer.

0 points: **Developer** has limited ties and/or relationship to the broader community around the **Project Area**. Local CBOs (i.e. schools, churches, non-profits, etc.) had minimal influence on **Project** components. Community Engagement Tracker contains information that is not relevant or minimally related to the proposed AHSC **Project** components. There is a minimal plan outlined for future engagement. 0 points if applicant did not provide any information or any relevant information.

Addressing Community Needs (3 pts)

*If a **Project** is permitted by-right, community engagement can be focused on outreach to potential residents within the community, rather than the participatory planning processes.

3 points: Information in Community Engagement Tracker is relevant, complete, and clearly tied to the proposed AHSC **Project** components. **Applicant** cites key factors from the Healthy Places Index (HPI) at the local level. **Applicant** demonstrates a strong effort to make opportunities for community involvement, particularly for the area's most vulnerable populations, using a variety of approaches that are considerate of community context and culturally appropriate. Themes and/or needs identified through community engagement are strongly supported by Community Engagement Tracker. **Project Area*** residents are involved from initial visioning of the project as evidenced by the tracker. **Project** clearly addresses the needs identified by the community and HPI factors, including those beyond housing and transportation.

2 points: Information in the Community Engagement Tracker is relevant, complete, and tied to some of the proposed AHSC **Project** components. **Applicant** cites key factors from the Healthy Places Index (HPI). Applicant demonstrates an effort to make opportunities for community involvement, to **Project Area*** residents. Themes and/or needs identified are mostly supported by tracker. Residents involved after AHSC **Project** components selection, as evidenced by the tracker. **Project** clearly addresses the housing and transportation needs identified by the community, and at least one HPI factor. Minimally meets needs identified beyond housing and transportation.

1 point: Information in Community Engagement Tracker is mostly relevant and complete, and tied to some of the AHSC **Project** components. **Applicant** cites some factors from the Healthy Places index. Demonstrates an effort to make some opportunities for community involvement, to **Project Area*** residents. Themes and/or needs identified are generally supported by tracker. Residents mostly involved after AHSC **Project** components selection. Project clearly addresses most of the housing and transportation needs identified by the community. Does not meet needs identified beyond housing and transportation.

0 points: Information in Community Engagement Tracker is not relevant or demonstrates no or limited engagement. Themes and/or needs identified are not supported by tracker (e.g. most of the events do not describe the feedback gathered from that engagement). Residents minimally involved in AHSC **Project** components selection. **Project** clearly addresses some of the housing and transportation needs identified by the community. Does not address HPI factors and does not meet needs identified beyond housing and transportation.

Climate Adaptation & Community Resiliency – 5 Points Maximum

To be eligible for points for points in this section the Climate Adaptation and Assessment Matrix upload needs to be complete, meaning all tabs (under either Provided Sources or Local Sources) have Tables 1-3 fully filled out (or applicant has affirmed that there is no applicable data).

5 points: Technical aspects of adaptive measures addressing identified climate threats in Table(s) 2 in are described in significant detail. Selected adaptive measures substantially mitigate the respective vulnerability both in the near (mid-term) and intermediate (long-term) future. Addresses multiple vulnerabilities, beyond the one most pressing to the **Affordable Housing Development**. Table 3 provides a detailed explanation of why adaptive measures were chosen. Applicant displays understanding of vulnerabilities from climate impacts and fully describes how adaptation measures work together to address them or how the selected adaptive measures address multiple climate risk categories.

4 points: Technical aspects of adaptive measures addressing identified climate threats in Table(s) 2 in are described in sufficient detail. Selected adaptive measures substantially mitigates the respective vulnerability both in the near (mid-term) and intermediate (long-term) future. Addresses multiple vulnerabilities, beyond the one most pressing to the **Affordable Housing Development**. Table 3 provides an explanation of why adaptive measures were chosen. Applicant displays understanding of vulnerabilities from climate impacts and partially describes how adaptation measures work together to address them or how the selected adaptive measures address multiple climate risk categories.

3 points: Technical aspects of adaptive measures addressing identified climate threats in Table(s) 2 in are described in sufficient detail. Adaptive measures chosen mitigate the respective vulnerability in the near (mid-term) future and attempts to mitigate the respective vulnerability in the intermediate (long term) future. Addresses multiple vulnerabilities, beyond the one most pressing to the **Affordable Housing Development**. Table 3 provides an explanation of why adaptive measures were chosen. Applicant displays some understanding of vulnerabilities from climate impacts and partially describes how the selected adaptive measures address multiple climate risk categories.

2 points: Technical aspects of adaptive measures addressing identified climate threats in Table(s) 2 in are described in sufficient detail. Selected adaptive measures moderately mitigates the respective vulnerability in the near (mid-term) future and attempts to mitigate the respective vulnerability in the intermediate (long term) future. Addresses one other vulnerability, beyond the one most pressing to the **Affordable Housing Development**. Table 3 provides a sufficient explanation of why adaptive measures were chosen. Applicant displays some understanding of vulnerabilities from climate impacts and partially describes how the selected adaptive measures address multiple climate risk categories.

1 point: Technical aspects of adaptive measures in Table(s) 2 in are described in sufficient detail. Selected adaptive measures minimally to moderately mitigates the respective vulnerability in either the near (mid-term) future or the intermediate (long-term) future. Addresses one other vulnerability, beyond the one most pressing to the **Affordable Housing Development**. Table 3 partially provides a sufficient explanation of why adaptive measures were chosen.

0 points: No response or “Climate Matrix” upload is incomplete and/or the majority of adaptation measures proposed do not address the identified vulnerabilities of the **Project Area**.

Collaboration & Planning – 4 Points Maximum

In addition to looking at the required materials uploads, reviewers should also look at the AHSC Application workbook, summary of the project (found in the overview tab), and Project Area Map.

Local Planning Efforts (1 point)

1 point: The upload “Local Plans” only contains relevant content from plans and well organized or information in table is clear and organized, with working links. Two of the local plans referenced are mostly Project Area specific. Plans referenced support claims that specific components of the AHSC project were selected because of the local plans.

0 points: Applicant provides no response or minimally addresses how general plans connect to specific components of the AHSC project.

Housing and Transportation Collaboration (3 points)

3 points: Housing and transportation partners determine, refine, and finalize the vision through extensive and meaningful collaboration and take into account community-identified needs, local needs, and specific site needs. Partners for other Project components like Programs, Anti-Displacement, and/or Workforce Development also have a meaningful collaboration with the **Developer** to help determine, refine, and finalize their respective **Project** component.

The majority of the proposed large-scale transportation components improve mobility and access of future residents of the **Affordable Housing Development (AHD)** by connecting them to improved transit lines or by directly connecting them with high opportunity areas/job dense areas. Cites credible sources to show that it is an improved transit line or high opportunity areas/job dense areas. Potential sources are Policy Map, TCAC opportunity maps, and transit agency timetables for the respective line.

2 points: Housing and transportation partners determine, refine, and finalize the vision through significant collaboration and considers local needs, specific site needs, and some community identified needs. Partners for other **Project** components like Programs, Anti-Displacement, and/or Workforce Development have some collaboration with the **Developer** to help refine and finalize their respective **Project** component.

Some of the proposed large-scale transportation components improve mobility and access of future residents of the **AHD** by connecting them to transit lines or by directly connecting them with high opportunity areas/job dense areas. Cites some credible sources to show that it is a more effective transit line or high opportunity areas/job dense areas. Potential sources are Policy Map, TCAC opportunity maps, and transit agency timetables for the respective line.

1 point: Housing and transportation partners determine, refine, and finalize the vision with some collaboration and considers mainly local needs and specific site needs. Partners for other **Project** components like Programs, Anti-Displacement, and/or Workforce Development have at least some collaboration with the **Developer** to help realize their respective **Project** component.

One of the large-scale transportation components improve mobility and access of future residents of the **AHD** by connecting them to transit lines or by directly connecting them with high opportunity areas/job dense areas. Does not cite source.

0 points: No response or no local government agencies or partners were involved in development of the **Project**. **Applicant** makes no or little effort to explain the connection between proposed transportation components and the mobility and access of future residents of the **AHD**.

Equity and Transformation – 3 points

Equity (2 points)

2 points: Social equity was clearly considered and substantially incorporated in at least 3 of the outlined components and is evidenced throughout the narrative submission. *Applicants must identify the disadvantaged or underrepresented population they are intentionally considering and contextualize how the identified population impacted or influenced the components as outlined below.*

- a. **Outreach and Feedback** – Things to consider in this category: outreach extensively considered the accessibility considerations for that specific population; applicant conducted targeted outreach to underrepresented community members and incorporated feedback received; project was initiated by the community; community has a clear and important role in the decision-making processes such as community representation on project advisory team/taskforce/committee. If the project was not approved by-right, consider if the community engagement involved local community members from the start and throughout the planning process. Review alongside the applicant’s response to the Community Benefits and Engagement section.
- b. **Project Partners** – Things to consider in this category: Project partners for Anti-displacement, Programs, and/or Workforce strategies are reflective of the identified populations and have a long history (i.e. 5 or more years) working with the identified populations, with greater weight if the work was focused on the neighborhood in the **Project Area**. Work with the locality can be included in this section if **Project** is implementing the City’s vision for the neighborhood as documented in a local plan specific to an area within the **Project Area**. Review alongside the applicant’s response to the Collaboration and Planning section, PGM tab in the application workbook, and commitment letters for the Anti-displacement and Programs section, as applicable.
- c. **Climate Adaptation & Community Resiliency** – Things to consider in this category: Adaptive measures benefit surrounding project area residents, in addition to residents of the **Affordable Housing Development**; selected adaptive measures based on community (i.e. **Project Area** specific, if by-right can be city specific) input; climate adaptation and community resiliency measures are supplemented by programming and outreach to the disadvantaged population(s). Review alongside the applicant’s response to Climate Adaptation & Community Resiliency section.
- d. **Improve Health Outcomes** – Things to consider in this category: does the project include programs to improve the health of **AHD** residents as well as community members around the community; what physical components of the **Project** are designed to improve health; what programmatic components of the **Project** are designed to improve health; are there components of the **Project** that directly reduce exposure to toxins or improve access to healthy foods. As applicable, review alongside Program description and/or AHD component description included in Project Overview tab of the Application Workbook.

1 point: Equity was clearly considered and substantially incorporated in at least 2 of the outlined components listed above.

0 points: No response or equity considerations are minimally considered (e.g. 1 component)

Transformation (1 point)

1 point: **Project** goes above and beyond baseline AHSC requirements. Items to consider include: bringing together unlikely partners, leveraging an underutilized community resource, incorporating preventative health measures, building wealth or capacity of broader **Project Area**, piloting a new approach to housing or transportation given the local context (i.e. a method new to the region), **Project** addresses long standing harm in a systemic way.

0 points: **Project** brings together required AHSC components in a comprehensive way, but no distinguishing feature. Or **Project** is not cohesive.