

## Grant Proposal Evaluation Criteria

Applications that meet the grant eligibility requirements will be evaluated using the criteria listed below:

<p><b>Project Description</b> (15 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The description concisely summarizes the specific project to be funded by the grant award</li></ul>
<p><b>Project Team Members</b> (10 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The designated project team appears qualified to undertake the proposed project</li><li>• The project team includes representation from municipal and community stakeholder groups that will be involved in or impacted by the implementation of the proposed project</li></ul>
<p><b>Action Plan &amp; Timeline</b> (15 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The proposed project action plan addresses the steps needed to successfully complete the project</li><li>• Target completion dates are realistic and will enable the project to be completed within the 12-month performance period</li><li>• Events where the grant will be promoted, such as a ribbon cutting ceremony, and materials will be distributed are identified</li></ul>
<p><b>Community Engagement</b> (10 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The proposed project will capitalize on collaborations between community stakeholders including representatives from the schools, municipal and county agencies, civic or community-based organizations, non-profits, professional organizations and local businesses.</li><li>• Details on how the project will be shared with the community are included</li></ul>
<p><b>Project Impact and Evaluation</b> (25 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The proposed project will address the community need identified in the proposal</li><li>• The project will preserve, protect, and improve public spaces designated as open space or used for passive recreation or contribute to a more resilient community</li><li>• The project will augment existing green team efforts and contribute toward making progress in the Sustainable Jersey Certification Program</li></ul>
<p><b>Budget</b> (25 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Budget Narrative clearly summarizes project expenses and identifies all the sources of funding needed to complete the proposed project, including in-kind contributions such as volunteer hours</li><li>• The project leverages no or low cost resources to cost-effectively complete the proposed project</li><li>• It is clear that all additional funding besides the grant is in-hand or committed</li><li>• The detailed project budget is consistent with the Budget Narrative and clearly identifies the eligible project expenses that will be billed to the grant</li><li>• The budget is realistic, costs are justified and resource contributions, including in-kind, have a reasonable value</li></ul>