

Guiding Principles - Description of Criteria

Guiding Principles—Description of Criteria

The following document gives a detailed description of the criteria that comprise five of the six Bond Guiding Principles:

1. Infrastructure
2. New Initiatives
3. Mobility
4. Sustainability
5. Cost Effectiveness

The sixth and final guiding principle, Balanced Approach, will be addressed through the composition of the final bond program recommendation. City of Austin staff reviewed and analyzed the 124 projects or programs included in the Bond Needs Assessment to determine which, if any, of the 50 criteria described will be met through the implementation of the project or program request.

For each criteria met, the project or program receives only one point. Each individual criterion is considered to have equal relative merit, or the same weight. The total score for each project or program is simply a total of all criterion met and not an indication of one principle being of lesser or greater importance. Regardless of the type of project or program, all 50 criterion were considered to determine if any applied. If a criterion applied, it was indicated as “yes” and given one point.



Infrastructure

Provide for adequate infrastructure and facilities to maintain City Services.

Total Number of Infrastructure Criteria Points: 9

- **Near-Term Capital Projects (1 point per criteria met)**

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| 1. Legal Mandate | Required by local, state or federal law, court order, or regulatory mandate |
| 2. Public Health, Safety or Security Threat | Remedies or prevents serious hazard threatening public health, safety, or security |
| 3. Infrastructure Failure | Infrastructure failure occurring, or a high possibility in the immediate future |
| 4. Degradation of Service | Project deferral will lead to serious degradation of services that substantially compromises delivery of services |

- **Departmental and/or City Service Priorities (1 point per criteria met)**

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| 5. Departmental Service Policy | Directly implements an adopted department policy |
| 6. Departmental Service Plan | Directly implements an adopted department plan |
| 7. Business Goals and Priorities | Accomplishes or makes significant progress in achieving department goals and priorities |
| 8. Horizon Issues | Directly addresses one or more Horizon Issues identified in a department's Business Plan |
| 9. Improvement to Service Delivery or Access | Produces a tangible improvement to service delivery and/or public access to services |



New Initiatives

Support new investment reflecting the values and priorities of the City as identified in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan and related plans.

Total Number of New Initiative Criteria Points: 26

- **Advances priority programs established in the draft Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan (1 point per criteria met)**

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| * Change development regulations/processes | 4. Grow and invest in creative economy |
| 1. Invest in a compact and connected Austin | 5. Develop and maintain affordable housing |
| 2. Create Green Infrastructure | 6. Invest in workforce and education system |
| 3. Sustainably manage water resources | 7. Create a Healthy Austin Program |

- **Priority projects established in related neighborhood plans and other small area plans adopted by Austin City Council (See point criteria below)**

8-11. Neighborhood Plans (1 point each, up to 4 points)

The selection of up to 4 Neighborhood Plans was allowed in the event that a project/program spanned a large area—such as a roadway—with a total possible score of up to 4 points if 4 Neighborhood Plans were met.

12. Projects Recommended by the Planning Commission

Projects/programs receive a point if the project / program was recommended by the Planning Commission.

- 13. Downtown Austin
- 14. East Riverside Corridor
- 15. Great Streets
- 16. Lamar Blvd/Justin Lane TOD
- 17. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. TOD
- 18. North Burnet Gateway
- 19. Plaza Saltillo TOD
- 20. University Overlay
- 21. Waller Creek

Small Area Plans (Criteria 13—21): The selection of up to 9 Small Area Plans was allowed, with a total possible score of up to 9 points if 9 Small Area Plans were met. However, it would be unlikely for a project/program to address all 9 plans.

- **Advances a specific strategy or project identified in which a regional planning effort in the City of Austin participates (1 point per criteria met)**

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| 22. Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) | 24. Capital Area Planning Council of Governments (CAPCOG) |
| 23. Capital Metropolitan Transit (Cap Metro) | 25. Other |

- **Furthers a specific Council directive or resolution (1 point)**

26. Specific Council action or directive

The project/program's objectives directly implement a policy directive approved by the Austin City Council

* Projects were not given a point for addressing this priority program in Imagine Austin as the changes to development regulations or processes will not be met through capital infrastructure investments.



Mobility

Supports identified strategic mobility and multi-modal transportation priorities.

Total Number of Mobility Criteria Points : 1

1. Mobility projects/programs (1 point if any of the following are met)

- Supports identified strategic mobility and multimodal transportation priorities.
- Takes into account priorities as outlined in:

- Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan	Invest in a compact and connected Austin
- Strategic Mobility Plan	Develop mobility solutions that respond to Central Texas' needs and values, including—but not limited to—Urban Rail
- Envision Central Texas	Implementation of a regional vision addressing the growth of Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson counties, with an emphasis on land use, transportation and the environment.
- Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) 2035 Regional Transportation Plan	Develop a comprehensive multimodal regional transportation system that safely and efficiently addresses mobility needs over time, is economically and environmentally sustainable, and supports regional quality of life - CAMPO 2035 Vision Statement
- Addresses economic vitality and sustainability priorities



Sustainability

Promote a sustainable community and high quality of life

Total Number of Sustainability Criteria Points: 9

- **Economy (1 point per criteria met)**

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| 1. Produce jobs, attract new companies or retain/grow local business | Facilitates private investments or other activities that produce jobs, attract new companies, retain and grow local businesses, or provide additional value to the community that would not be possible without the City's investment (such as public access, trails, commercial or community space, etc.) |
| 2. Innovation and Technology | Integrates or leverages investments in local innovation and emerging technology, including clean and renewable energy, green building innovation, digital media and wireless, and life sciences |
| 3. Multiple Service Needs | Integrates more than one service delivery need within a department or across multiple departments' business needs |

- **Environment (1 point per criteria met)**

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| 4. Resilient Critical Assets or Services | Makes critical assets or services more resilient so they can adapt to and recover from disruptive events. Can be provided via enhanced system performance that is able to absorb initial impacts of disruptive events, recover and adapt to new system conditions, or restore functionality of systems over time. |
| 5. Austin Climate Protection Plan | Directly implements measures of the Austin Climate Protection Plan, including greenhouse gas reduction, mitigation, and climate adaptation |
| 6. Innovative Approach to Sustainability | Demonstrates an innovative approach to more sustainable, environmentally-friendly business practices and service delivery. Significantly exceeds minimum sustainability performance goals |

- **Society and Equity (1 point per criteria met)**

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| 7. Distribution of Resources or Environmental Effects | Provides infrastructure or services to a geographic area or population that has been previously underserved, resulting in a more equitable distribution of resources as well as positive and negative environmental effects on community health and well-being |
| 8. Complete Neighborhoods or Mixed-Use | Contributes directly to appropriate mix of uses, walk-ability, complete neighborhoods, and proximity to goods, services, housing, transit, and employment |
| 9. Preservation of Cultural Resources or Character | Contributes directly to the preservation or vitality of cultural and historic assets, sense of place, or neighborhood character |



Cost Effectiveness

Projects/programs that are cost effective, leverage other funding sources and maximize the benefit of capital investment

Total Number of Cost Effectiveness Criteria Points: 5

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| 1. Decreases O/M | Decreases operating and maintenance costs |
| 2. Prevents Future O/M | Results in avoidance of future operating and maintenance costs |
| 3. Increases City Revenue | Provides for increase in City revenues or prevents anticipated loss of City revenues |
| 4. Leverages External Funds | Leverages external (public or private) funds from other sources, reducing the City's financial commitment |
| 5. Prevents Future Capital Costs | Prevents need for future additional capital costs |