

Firm-Based Evaluation Criteria

10-28-04 #3

MINIMUM PROJECT REQUIREMENT		AVAILABLE POINTS			TOTAL
The Firm is located in the Desired Development Zone. The Firm conducts its business in compliance with environmental regulations.					
EVALUATION CRITERIA		AVAILABLE POINTS			TOTAL
Overall Economic and Fiscal Impact		Small 10	Medium 20	Large 30	
Relative to its industry, what is the absolute size of the net benefit as measured by jobs and income, level of desirable public benefits, and net fiscal impact to the City?					
Linkages to the Local Economy		Poor 0	Acceptable 15	Excellent 25	
Does the firm fit with one of the strategic targets identified?					
Is the firm a headquarters operation? Does it represent the "headquarters" of a new product line or service for the firm?					
Is the firm growing? Is the firm in a growing industry? How stable is the firm?					
Does the project make use of an especially underutilized asset such as certain segments of the labor force or current office space?					
Will the project create significant contracting opportunities for local firms including small and disadvantaged businesses?					
Does the project fit a hole in the Austin economic base?					
Does the project have the potential to either seed a new cluster or bring additional firms to Austin?					
Will the firm directly compete for resources with existing firms?					
Infrastructure Impact		Disproportionate 0	Proportionate 5	Low Impact 10	
Will the firm make a disproportionate demand on the community's infrastructure?					
Character of Jobs/Labor Force Practices		Unacceptable 0	Acceptable 15	Excellent 25	
Will the bulk of new hires be local or imported?					
What is the average wage paid? How does it compare to the local or national industry average?					
What is the median wage paid? How are job categories and wages distributed within the overall structure?					
What training is provided? Opportunities for advancement? Are there funds for additional education?					
Does the firm actively promote diversity in hiring and promotion?					

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EVALUATION CRITERIA		AVAILABLE POINTS			TOTAL
Quality of Life/Cultural Vitality		Unacceptable 0	Acceptable 5	Excellent 10	
	Does the firm have a proactive cultural outreach program?				
	Does the firm actively encourage employee volunteer/charitable efforts?				
Threshold for Extraordinary Economic Impact (only one required)		Yes		No	
	The firm is in a targeted industry.				
	The firm is involved in leading edge technology.				
	State economic development funds are available for the firm.				
	The firm will generate 500 jobs or more.				
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS				100	
TOTAL SCORE					
Additional Points (if applicable)	Does the project meet Green Building or LEED standards?	Unacceptable 0	Acceptable 5	Excellent 10	
Investment Threshold Levels					
Total combined investments shall not exceed 50% of the present value of the total estimated tax liability over 10 years and investments shall not exceed 80% of the total estimated tax liability in any single year.					
Less than 60 points = No additional consideration.					
61 to 80 points = Eligible for up to 30% of the present value of sales and property tax for 10 years.					
81 points or more = Eligible for up to 50% of the present value of sales and property tax for 10 years.					
A firm that meets the threshold for extraordinary economic impact may qualify for an investment of 100% of the present value of the total estimated tax liability over 10 years.					