



POSITIVE IMPACT ON
CLIMATE & COMMUNITY

Submitted Questions

Positive Impact on Climate and Community

Local Sustainability Projects

June 25, 2013

Background:

The City of Austin is partnering with local event organizers who, through ticket sales, add-on charges, or other funding mechanisms, will voluntarily contribute funds for one or more sustainability projects in Central Texas. This program, called **Positive Impact on Climate and Community (PICC)**, will provide financial assistance for projects that creates measurable sustainability and community benefits.

The questions below were provided at the June 3, 2013 – Pre-Proposal Meeting and by email.

Questions

Funding

Q: How much funding is available through the PICC program?

A: The amount of funding available for projects is currently undetermined and is dependent on the success of the program and participation by event organizers and attendees.

Q: Is the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) actually channeling money or are they just part of the judging process?

A: EDF is participating in program development and project selection.

Q: Will one project be associated with one event organizer?

A: In all likelihood, but more than one project could be selected.

Q: Are you interested in existing projects or is this funding intended to start new projects?

A: Both existing and new projects will be considered.

Q: What are the terms and conditions for receiving funds?

A: If selected, the applicant and event organizer will negotiate terms and criteria for the distribution of funds.

Q: What percentage of match is needed? Or percentage of the program budget can be funded by the PICC grant?

A: Leveraging grant funding and matching funds from other organizations is encouraged but not mandatory

Q: Is there a conflict of interest if we discuss this with City of Austin staff?

A: Because the City of Austin is not funding these projects directly, applicants may discuss this project with City of Austin staff, except for the core team within the Office of Sustainability.

Q: *Is it possible to draft a proposal that has various giving levels?*

A: Yes, applicants may provide a variety of options based on funding amounts.

Q: *If it doesn't meet this year's deadline, can be met for next year?*

A: After the completion of the first round, the city and event organizers will evaluate the success of the program. Extending the program to 2014 is dependent on the success of the projects, program and participation by event organizers and attendees.

Process/Timeline

Q: *Is there a timeline for measuring and reporting?*

A: The applicant will report to the Office of Sustainability annually on the amount of funding received, how the funds were used and provide an update on predetermined project outcomes. The project must create measurable sustainability and community benefits within one year of receiving funding.

Q: *Are there criteria for reporting measurable results. What if the results are more qualitative than quantitative?*

A: It is up to the applicant to make the case how the project will create measurable results.

Q: *Do we have to calculate and report the carbon footprint of the project?*

A: Measuring the carbon footprint of the project is not a requirement of the Sustainability Project RFA.

Q: *Can you define visible? What would be an invisible project?*

A: Projects must be visible from a public road or public land and be easily identifiable. An example of an invisible project would be upgrading attic insulation in private homes.

Q: *One of the criteria is the stability of the organization. Does that mean a financial report?*

A: Submitting a financial report is not necessary. Stability can be demonstrated by the organization's history, project track-record, etc.

Application

Q: *Is the executive summary included as part of the 10 page limit? Or is it executive summary plus 10 pages?*

A: Applications that are longer than 10 pages will not be considered. Executive Summary should be one page in length and part of the total application. The Executive Summary should reside within the 10 page document and not in addition. The only document that may be added in addition to the 10 page limit is the signed Non-Discrimination Certificate (0800) and Non-Collusion, Non-Conflict of Interest Certification (0810).

Q: *Can we include pictures in the application? Is that part of 10 pages?*

A: Yes, pictures can be included in the application but must be included within the 10 page limit

Q: *Can our organization submit applications for two different projects?*

A: Yes, organizations may submit two applications for two different projects. An organization may also submit two projects in one application as long as the application is not more than 10 pages.

