

Charlotte County RESTORE Act Advisory Board

Project Evaluation Criteria

The draft criteria offered below used Collier County as a base from which to work from and in its modified format is intended to start the discussion toward establishment of criteria to be used by the Committee in evaluating County projects.

Initial Review Checklist

Does the project meet any of the RESTORE Act allowable uses to include:

- ✓ Ecological and economic restoration
- ✓ Promotion of tourism and seafood

What existing funding sources (excluding RESTORE Act) are available that would help pay for the project in the next 5 years

Does the project meet any of the following focus area goals established by the Board of County Commissioners:

- ✓ Water Resources
- ✓ Efficient and Effective Government
- ✓ Quality of Life
- ✓ Fiscal/Financial Planning
- ✓ Growth Management
- ✓ Public Safety
- ✓ Economic Development
- ✓ Human Services

If the project does not comply with any of the allowable uses identified in the Act or does not meet any of the County-established focus area goals, the project should not be recommended for further scrutiny by the Committee. Other funding sources in addition to potential RESTORE Act monies would not disqualify a project from moving forward in the ranking process.

Project Ranking

The ranking criteria identified below does not include a point system, which will be used to score each project. The point system should be developed once project ranking criteria has been established.

Which allowable uses does the project meet:

- ✓ Restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands
- ✓ Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources
- ✓ Implementation of federally approved marine, coastal or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring
- ✓ Workforce development and job creation
- ✓ Improvements to or on State parks located in coastal areas
- ✓ Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure
- ✓ Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure
- ✓ Activities to promote tourism and seafood

What County-established focus area goals does the project align with:

- ✓ **Water Resources:** Ensure quality and quantity of water resources when and where they are needed and provide a safe and reliable water supply.
 - Water Quality*
 - East & West Spring Lake Wastewater Pilot Study
 - Environmental Impact Study - phosphate mining
 - Proactive strategies for dealing with total maximum daily loads (TMDL)
 - Expansion of sewer along US41
 - Water Quantity*
 - Develop alternative water sources via interconnects
 - Equitable solution to Water Authority rehab of infrastructure
 - Development of Master Water Plan
- ✓ **Efficient and Effective Government:** Facilitate the organization's capacity to govern and manage effectively in the rapidly changing and challenging environment.
 - Define optimal/acceptable levels of service
 - Continue development of overall web presence
 - Follow up on Employee Survey with focus on retention strategies
 - Expansion of wellness program and use of Employee Health Center
 - Increase community outreach of BCC
 - Enhance credibility of the organization
 - Proactive strategies for intergovernmental relationships
 - Explore ombudsman concept for process improvement
 - Continued focus on efficiencies

- ✓ **Quality of Life:** Enhance community life by clean air and water, conservation of wildlife and natural resources, and provide community amenities through public safety in a business friendly atmosphere.
 - Expand on ways to gather citizen input
 - Charlotte Assembly to solicit citizen participation in shaping the vision of the county's future
 - Articulation of Charlotte County's vision at each level of the organization
 - Explore developing separate millage district for Library funding
 - Explore developing separate millage district for mosquito control
 - Partner with education to retain a younger population and provide a work force for economic development
 - Enhance the aesthetics of major gateways
 - Promote assets we already have – trails, paths, passive parks, state lands
 - Enhance code enforcement

- ✓ **Fiscal/Financial Planning:** Continue to increase the effectiveness of local government and maintain a strong financial condition.
 - Stabilize and maintain our internal infrastructure and improve where opportunities occur
 - Secure health insurance benefit structure and costs
 - Review of MSBU and road classification system
 - Capitalize on historically low interest rate
 - Develop plan for 2014 Sales Tax Extension
 - Conduct compensation study and develop strategic plan for employee retention
 - Explore alternative funding sources
 - Explore location and use of CNG (compressed natural gas) facilities within the County

- ✓ **Growth Management:** Manage growth and change consistent with the County's comprehensive plan to maximize quality of life with an emphasis on efficient processes that support positive business, neighborhood communities, and protect our environmental assets.
 - Monitor & support the Habitat Conservation Plan permit process
 - Development of County CRAs - Murdock Village, Parkside Revitalization Plan for US41, and Expansion of Harborwalk in Charlotte Harbor
 - Completion and adoption of revised Land Development Regulations
 - Develop Stump Pass Management Plan
 - Review and recommend action on broad based plan for County's infrastructure
 - Status report on over and under dredged canals

- ✓ **Public Safety:** Maintain a safe and healthy community in which to live.
 - Monitor and adjust for financial impact of final IAFF contract (both to fire assessments and General Fund)
 - Long term radio replacement (conversion to P25 or other alternative)
 - Because of use of one time savings, Sheriff's budget for 2013/14 will start with \$1.7 million shortfall
 - Continue exploration of usage of volunteer firefighters

- ✓ **Economic Development:** Create a business climate that promotes a diversified, growing economy consistent with established growth management plans and enhanced quality of life.
 - Implement 10 Year Economic Development Plan
 - Implementation of incentives and process
 - Streamline processes for attracting businesses
 - Dedicated team to assist new businesses
 - Development of all three CRAs – Murdock Village, Charlotte Harbor and Parkside
 - Landscaping Committee proposal for landscaping of County gateways
 - Develop strategies for enhancing the aesthetics along 41
 - Commitment to tourism as an economic generator
 - Marketing Plan – Tie state branding to local initiatives

- ✓ **Human Services:** Pursue available funding sources to facilitate providing services to meet community needs.
 - Monitor changes in Medicaid funding and requirements at state level
 - Monitor impacts of Affordable Health Care Act on service delivery and funding
 - Review of Public Health direction, services and funding
 - Review of transportation options for low income clients
 - Review affordable housing needs and options
 - Review of primary health care options in Englewood
 - Review of essential human services provided and funding sources

What is the overall quality of the project:

- ✓ Complete proposal
- ✓ Realistic deadlines
- ✓ Ability to meet project goals(s)
- ✓ Enhance access to coastal resources
- ✓ Degree of impact on coastal resources
- ✓ Degree of job creation
- ✓ Achievable permitting

Does the project add benefit when partnered with other County projects

Are there other funding sources that when added with RESTORE Act allocation make the project more achievable