King Conservation District

Local Food
Healthy Forests
Clean Water
Better Ground

2025 Seattle Community Partnership Grant Fund Scoring Rubric

ORGANIZATION IMPACT: How do your organization's strengths and experience align with the goals of the proposed project? What practices and approaches do you use to advance racial justice?

Criteria	Strong	Satisfactory	Developing
How does the applicant show that the organization's strengths and experience align with the project's goals?	With specific and compelling examples; meaningful experience and highly relevant strengths.	Some details may be vague; experience and strengths generally connect to project's goals.	With little evidence of relevant experience or capacity; weak or unclear connection.
How is the group/organization's racial justice work demonstrated?	Shows up as a core value, with specific examples in internal and external work, including systemic efforts like advocacy, BIPOC leadership, and equitable policies.	States racial justice as a value but lacks clear examples; focus is mainly on diversity or access practices.	Does not address racial justice; focuses only on class or geography without intersectionality and lacks irrelevant examples.

COMMUNITY: Who is the focus community for this project? How is it being impacted by environmental inequities or natural resource issues?

Criteria	Strong	Satisfactory	Developing
How is the community defined?	Clearly, with details on neighborhoods and/or demographics	Somewhat	Not clear
Does the applicant show an understanding of their community's environmental inequities or natural resource issues?	Clearly, and with specificity	With generalized reference to environmental and/or climate inequities	Without taking into account inequitable environmental or natural resource impacts

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: What will you do, and how will you do it? How will this project build on existing community efforts and/or strengthen community-led solutions?

Criteria	Strong	Satisfactory	Developing
How clearly is the project described?	Clearly, with specific details and a defined approach	Generally, with some clarity but lacks detail	Vaguely, with little to no clear approach
How effectively do the project activities use natural resource improvement actions to address environmental inequities or natural resource priorities?	Clearly links actions to specific impacts, with detailed explanations	Provides a general reference to how actions will address inequities or priorities but lacks detail	Does not address environmental inequities or natural resource priorities
How well does the project build on existing community efforts and/or strengthen community-led solutions?	Strongly, with active community involvement and supports or enhances existing community-led solutions	Shows some connection but details or depth are limited	Little or no connection; minimal focus on community leadership

PEOPLE: Who designed the project? If different, who will lead and carry it out? What skills, expertise, and lived experiences will they bring? Who are your project partners, and what roles will they play?

Criteria	Strong	Satisfactory	Developing
How engaged were community members in the project design?	Designed it	Helped external partners design it	Were not involved
How engaged are community members in project leadership?	Take lead roles in decision-making in all project phases	Partially lead portions of the work	Have minimal decision-making influence in some or all of the project stages
To what degree do the project team members contribute skills, lived experiences, relationships, and expertise?	Meaningfully	Some	Little to none
If partners are involved, what do the partnerships look like?	Authentic collaboration, mutual partnership, and reciprocity, shown by actions like budget inclusion and commitment letters	Alignment with the proposed work	Unclear if there is reciprocity and/or mutual agreement

EXPECTED OUTCOMES & IMPACT: What are three (3) specific short-term program outcomes, and how will you track them? How will these outcomes benefit the community and improve the natural resource priority(ies) you selected above?			
Criteria	**Strong**	**Satisfactory**	**Developing**
How clearly are the project's three outcomes defined?	Clear and measurable	Lists three outcomes but lacks specificity	Overly vague or irrelevant
How suitable are the outcome measurements for assessing results?	Well-defined and would effectively capture the intended results	May lack clarity or specificity to fully capture the intended results	Unlikely to effectively assess the intended results
How directly do the outcomes benefit the community?	Benefits are clear, specific, and meaningful	Benefits are present and generalized	Benefits are unclear
How well do the outcomes support improvement of the selected natural resource priority area(s)?	Direct impact on selected priority area(s)	Somewhat relevant	Not clearly tied to selected priority area(s)

PROJECT WORK PLAN & BUDGET			
Criteria	**Strong**	**Satisfactory**	**Developing**
Does the work plan capture the project's key activities and milestones?	Yes, very clearly	Somewhat	No
How well do the activities and milestones build on each other to progress toward environmental justice outcomes?	Clearly connected, building on one another logically, and effectively driving progress toward EJ outcomes	Somewhat connected, but the links between act are vague or the progression is not clearly defined	Unclear or disjointed, with little indication of meaningful progress toward EJ outcomes
How realistic are the project activities given the timeline provided?	Realistic	Somewhat realistic	Not realistic
How does the budget align with the project activities?	Complete, and Aligned	Complete, and mostly aligned	Incomplete or not well-aligned
Is the budget reasonable and feasible?	Yes	Partially	Generally unrealistic