

Threshold Review and Prioritization of Land Conservation Projects

Threshold Criteria

Question 1: Is the candidate project located in unincorporated Travis County?

Question 2: Is the candidate project consistent with the *Travis County Parks and Natural Areas Master Plan*?

Land Conservation Project Criteria

Criteria 1: Purpose – 25 points max

Land that serves multiple conservation purposes is prioritized over land that does not. Scoring is as follows:

- Protects water resources = 5
- Protects working farms and ranches = 5
- Protects wildlife habitat = 5
- Protects cultural resources = 5
- Protects scenic quality (as viewed from public places) = 5

Criteria 2: Public Access – 15 points max

Land conservation projects that allow public access are prioritized over projects that do not. Scoring is as follows:

- No access = 0
- Access at least once a year for scheduled events = 5
- Access at least once a month = 10
- Access at least once a week = 15

Criteria 3: Geographic Distribution – 10 points max

Land conservation projects that are new to an area are prioritized over ones that are not. Scoring is as follows:

- Conserves land in an area with no conserved lands = 5
- Conserves land in a CAMPO-identified Environmental Justice area¹ with no conserved lands = 5

¹ CAMPO uses demographic data to identify Environmental Justice (EJ) areas that have “low income” or “minority” populations. More information about EJ can be found in *CAMPO 2035*

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Criteria 4: Investment Leveraging – 15 points max

Projects that have greater funding by others are prioritized over projects that have less. Scoring is as follows:

- Travis County contributes $\leq 25\%$ to purchase easement = 15
- Travis County contributes 26% - 50% to purchase easement = 7
- Travis County contributes $> 50\%$ to purchase easement = 0

Criteria 5: Management – 15 points max

Projects that are managed by others are prioritized over projects that are not. Scoring is as follows:

- Easement managed by land trust = 15
- Easement managed by Travis County = 0

Point Distribution for Land Conservation Criteria

Criteria	Maximum Points	Percent Total
Criteria 1: Purpose	25	31%
Criteria 2: Public Access	15	19%
Criteria 3: Geographic Distribution	10	12%
Criteria 4: Investment Leveraging	15	19%
Criteria 5: Management	15	19%
Total	80	100%

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