

Prioritize and Plan | Criteria for Evaluating Options

WHO

This exercise is for the practitioner and full planning team in the Prioritize and Plan step.

WHAT

A traffic light approach to determining ability to implement/ feasibility for each option.

SUPPORTING RESOURCES

- [4.5 Inventory of Community Options - Worksheet](#)
- [5.2 Community Options Prioritization Table - Worksheet](#)

INSTRUCTIONS




- Copy Columns I and J (Community ID and Local Option (Reworded)) from each tab (Resilience Objectives) in [4.5 Inventory of Community Options - Worksheet](#) to Columns A and B in the first worksheet of [5.2 Community Options Prioritization Table - Worksheet](#)
- Develop criteria for the two sets of criteria as a group (reduction of vulnerability and risk and ability to implement) and add one column for each criterion.
- Evaluate options through group consensus (as described in the “traffic light” legend)
- Assign Strategy Tiers





















Potential Criteria for Communities to Consider

Potential Criteria Question	Why might you consider this?
Reduction of vulnerability and risk	
Ability to Increase Resilience	Does this option, project or strategy address the vulnerabilities and risks presented in the assessment? That is, will it increase resilience for the City for the particular threat?
Long Term Sustainability (Future Change)	In addition to promoting resilience today, does the option or strategy increase the ability to withstand expected future change related to the particular threat?
Social equity goal	Does the option or strategy promote fairness, equity and social

Potential Criteria Question	Why might you consider this?
alignment?	responsibility to all people in the community?
Co-benefits?	Will this option or strategy serve any additional benefit other than what it is intended for? That is, will this option or strategy address multiple threats? Multiple assets? Or other issues of value (i.e. environmental issues, social justice issues)?
Ability to Implement	
Political Will	Does this option or strategy have public support? Is there political will to implement the option or strategy?
Funding Availability	Will this option or strategy be financially feasible with current resources?
Aligns with existing grant funding opportunities	Does this option meet the criteria for existing grant programs such as FEMA BRIC, HMGP, FMA, HUD or others?
Staff Capacity	Identifying if staff capacity is a barrier to implementation or does it already exist with existing resources?
In existing plans?	
Already included in a Capital Improvement Plan?	Has already been approved for funding by city or town for future budgets and now has support of the Resilience Plan and Planning Team.
Included in Hazard Mitigation Plan?	FEMA document says to do it? Advances funding approval if included in Hazard Mitigation Plan.
Included in a Comprehensive Plan?	Has already been identified as a strategy component of an existing, state mandated plan and now has the support of the Resilience Plan and Planning Team.
Marry up to another government program that is already in place?	If the strategy or action accelerates, supports, complements an existing effort by another government entity, may accelerate funding and or approvals.

Example

Strong impediment to meeting criteria 	Criteria partially met or addressable impediment 	Meets criteria with no impediment or concern 
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ID		CRITERIA (examples shown below)				
		Reduction of vulnerability and risk		Ability to implement		
		Co-Benefits?	Does it meet social equity goals?	Is there staff capacity?	Is there political will?	Is funding available (now or future)?
ST-001	Incentivize private property owners to implement green infrastructure through zoning					
ST-002	Implement the stormwater response plan to clear inlets and outlets, including teams on stand-by, before and during events					
ST-003	Evaluate streets for accessibility for various levels of service given sea level rise (SLR) to promote best routes					
ST-004	Evaluate and implement tree planting recommendations in public areas					

Criteria for Evaluation

List the criteria developed by the team here.

Reduction of vulnerability and risk

- List criteria 1
- List criteria 2
- List criteria 3

Ability to implement

- List criteria 1
- List criteria 2
- List criteria 3

Evaluate Strategies

Update criteria and add rows as-needed.

Strong impediment to meeting criteria



Criteria **partially met or addressable**
impediment



Meets criteria with no impediment or
concern



Strategy Tiers

After strategies are evaluated for their reduction of vulnerability and risk and for their ability to be implemented, the practitioner will use the “Tier” column to classify each strategy into one of the four following categories.

- 1 Potentially beneficial strategies that have the ability to be implemented. (**Beneficial, Implementable**)
- 2 Potentially beneficial strategies that need work in order to be implemented: these include effective strategies that need further work or support in order to move forward. (**Beneficial, Needs work**)
- 3 Less beneficial strategies that have the ability to be implemented. (**Less Beneficial, Implementable**)
- 4 Less beneficial strategies that need work in order to be implemented. (**Less Beneficial, Needs work**)

Notes