

Objective #4 under People Goal #3: Encourage water conservation across agricultural, commercial and residential sectors to decrease water demand and maintain existing water supplies (to replace original 'Encourage use of native plants/vegetation in landscaping to decrease water demand')

Objective #4 under Prosperity Goal #5: Encourage development in locations that are most resilient to environmental and natural disasters (to replace original 'Reduce or discourage development in vulnerable areas')

For the following two objectives, upon additional review staff feels the concepts/intent of the objectives is captured in other objectives.

Objective #1 under Places Goal #1: Original wording 'Encourage use of green infrastructure'

- Objective #2, Places Goal#2: Preserve protect and restore vital ecosystems and prime agricultural land
- Objective #1, Places Goal #4: Increase the use of green construction practices and renewable energy sources

Objective #4 under Places Goal #2: Original wording 'Promote more efficient land use patterns'.

- Objective #2, Places Goal#2: Preserve protect and restore vital ecosystems and prime agricultural land
- Objective #1, Places Goal #1: Coordinate infrastructure planning, construction and maintenance to optimize system performance and realize cost savings to taxpayers
- Objective #2, Places Goal #2: Remove barriers to development in areas with existing infrastructure networks

CASE STUDY SELECTION

Background

The purpose of case studies is to identify locally supported implementation strategies to local challenges in the realms of transportation, housing, economic development, healthy communities, or the environment. The minimum funding level is \$100,000. The total budget for the case studies is \$800,000. Originally, \$750,000 was budgeted for the case studies; however, an additional \$50,000 has been identified that can be applied to the case study budget.

Current Situation

Eighteen applications were received from local project sponsors, as shown on the following pages. The Case Study Selection Committee, comprised of members or alternates of the Coordinating Committee, reviewed the proposals on July 18, 2012, and scored them for project impact and merits, sustainability goals, ability to implement, and project partnerships.

The top scoring proposals within each transect (urban, suburban, rural, coastal) are recommended for funding. An alternative project has been selected for funding in case one of the top scored project's contracts cannot be executed. A second alternative has also been identified but would only be selected if the first alternative's contract cannot be executed.

Case Studies Schedule

July 24, 2012:	Coordinating Committee to vote on Selection Subcommittee recommendations
July 25- 31, 2012	Work with selected case study partners to finalize scope and budget
August 1- 6, 2012:	Procure consultants to conduct case studies (at this time we anticipate the majority of consultants can be procured either through Plan Source or sole sourced)
August 20-24, 2012:	Interview and select consultants
September 19, 2012:	Request H-GAC Board of Directors approval
October 2012:	Case studies kick off
April 2013:	Complete case studies

Projects Recommended for Funding

	Sponsoring Entity	Title of Case Study	Rural	Coastal	Suburban	Urban	Score
1	City of Houston	Houston: A Framework for Urban Areas			x	x	85.00
2	City of Galveston	Galveston Sustainable Action Plan: Return on Investment Analysis		x	x	x	83.00
3	Harris County	Harris County Eastern Corridor Sustainability Case Study			x	x	82.00
4	Brazoria County	Brazoria County Coastal Habitat and Infrastructure Master Plan		x			76.14
5	City of Huntsville	Housing as an Economic Development Tool in Huntsville, Texas: Nimbyism, Affordability, and Economic Development	x				75.00
6	Bay City CDC	Bay City, Texas From Rails & Rice to Residential	x				74.71

Alternative Project Recommended for Funding

If one of the above six project contracts cannot be executed, the below project will be funded:

Sponsoring Entity	Title of Case Study	Rural	Coastal	Suburban	Urban
Houston Parks Board	Houston Bayou Greenways Initiative			x	x

If the Houston Parks Board contract cannot be executed, the below project will be funded:

Sponsoring Entity	Title of Case Study	Rural	Coastal	Suburban	Urban
Cypress Creek Greenway Project	Sustainable Solutions to Create the Cypress Creek Transportation Corridor and Preserve and Enhance the Greenway	x		x	

Projects Not Recommended for Funding

Sponsoring Entity	Title of Case Study	Rural	Coastal	Suburban	Urban
Clear Lake Shores EDC	Making Clear Lake Shores Sustainable Ready		x		x
Montgomery County United Way	Community Planning	x		x	x
Air Alliance Houston	Develop Complete Street Policy for Thoroughfare and Infrastructure Revitalization Plan – City of Galena Park				x
Greenspoint District	Greenspoint Multimodal Connectivity				x
TSU	Third Ward CHARM: Visualization in Context			x	x
Port of Houston Authority	Old Town Harrisburg Trails Project				x
City of Pasadena	Operation Beautification of North Pasadena				x
Student Conservation Association	Improving Quality of Life through Focused Environmental and Sustainability Education to Youth Populations				x
Fort Bend County Drainage District	Flood Resiliency in Sugar Land, Texas			x	
Project Respect	Methane as a Renewable/Sustainable Energy Source			x	