

Process Recommendations

	Issue	Recommendation
1	RESTORE Act requires not just project evaluation and ranking, but also “a multiyear implementation plan...which may include milestones, projected completion of each activity”.	Committee should also deliberate on other aspects of the required multi-year implementation plan (including procurement process, how to benchmark and monitor projects, how to approach changes permit achievability).
2	RESTORE Act requires Collier County to “ <i>certify that the project or program and the awarding of a contract for the expenditure of amounts received under this paragraph are consistent with the standard procurement rules and regulations governing a comparable project or program in that state</i> ”.	Committee should consider if some of these requirements should be evaluated before making recommendations to the board.
3	Guiding principles require elaboration to evaluate project quality.	Adopt restoration guidance from National Estuary Programs, President’s Task Force, State Priorities in order to evaluate the quality and impact of projects.
4	Project requests total over \$56 Million (initial estimates of county funding range from \$4.9 to \$19.6 Million).	Committee could consider partial funding of multi-year or large projects or a cap on funding to single projects
5	If projects ranked by category or project type, how would funds be awarded to similarly ranked projects of different types?	Clarify before deciding to categorize projects.
6	Distribution of projects.	Committee should deliberate on whether project distribution will be a factor in ranking projects.

Ranking Form Recommendations

	Issue	Recommendation
7	Only 10-20 points are directly related to environmental or economic benefits and project ranking will not reflect the qualitative differences between like projects (ranking focuses on the quality of the <i>application</i> : proposal is complete, realistic deadlines, ability of project to meet goal, etc.).	More points should be devoted to assessing the <i>quality</i> of the restoration or economic benefits (utilize guidance document recommendation above to assess additional quality points). **This issue suggests the need for adoption of environmental restoration principles as suggested above.
8	Current ranking does not prioritize shovel-ready projects.	“Realistic deadlines” points could instead reflect the construction readiness of the project, or readiness could become a separate criterion.

9	Scores of 0-10 for project quality are neither predictable nor repeatable.	"Quality of project" could reflect "low-med-high" rankings like 3, 5, or 10 points rather than 0-10 which allows for variation in rankings.
10	"Quality of project" section may favor economic/tourism projects (20 points possible) over environmental restoration (10 points possible).	Committee should deliberate on how to compare effect of economic vs. environmental projects. RESTORE funds should prioritize environmental restoration.
11	How should the quality of educational projects be scored?	Education should be ranked as a "protection of natural resources" project and should be addressed in the "quality of project" section.
12	Section 8 ranking only assesses whether projects are consistent with County priorities but the project solicitation indicated "community" priorities.	Points for "aligning with County priorities" should also include established/approved priorities from cities or agencies.
13	Section 8 allows for points if the project aligns with the Collier County Growth Management Plan.	Points should only be awarded if project is linked to a specific policy, not simply for compliance with the GMP as all projects should comply with local regulations.
14	Should "Achievable permitting" be used to judge quality or is it a pre-screening element? If a project is not permitable is it worth consideration?	Consider removing from quality section or clarify how to score projects that do not require permitting and if the score should consider % plans completed or whether permitting has been initiated.
15	"Ability of project to meet goal" is unclear.	Clarify how to score this element. **This issue again suggests the need for adoption of environmental restoration principles as suggested above.