

## ***District 3 – Franklin County***

### **NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL**

## ***PROGRAM POLICIES***

5-9-2022

The District 3 Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) has adopted the following program policies. All applicants must follow current OPWC Advisories. If any policies listed below conflict with OPWC Advisories, the latter must be upheld.

These policies should be carefully reviewed before the application materials are completed.

**1. *In-Kind Contributions***

In-kind contributions required by local ordinances, resolutions, statutes or rules are not eligible and will not be considered as part of local match. (*Adopted 1-8-2002; Revised 11-8-2012*)

**2. *Donation of Easements***

The donation of an easement other than those required in Policy #1 will be considered as a private contribution. The value of the easement will be determined by the appraisal which accompanies the application. (*Adopted 1-8-2002, Revised 5-6-2009*)

**3. *Score Tie Breakers* – (*Adopted 1-8-2002*)**

When scores are tied the following criteria will be used to break the tie:

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> tie breaker - project with highest % of match dollars
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> tie breaker - project receiving the most points under “community benefits” (Part 2, question 17)

**4. *Time Extensions***

**A. Clean Ohio Conservation Fund Applications:**

No time extensions will be granted for Clean Ohio Conservation Fund applications. The complete application (including all attachments) must be received by the District 3 Liaison at 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215 no later than 5:00 p.m. on the date of the application deadline. Any application received after this time will be rejected and not considered for funding during the current round. (*Adopted 1-8-2002*)

**B. Time Extension Requests for Active Projects:**

The NRAC will consider requests for time extensions for July 1 or January 1 dates in order to make administrative tracking easier and forward them to OPWC for approval. (*Adopted 1-20-2011; Revised 8-10-2020*)

**5. *Last Project on Funding Line***

If the last qualified project on the funding list cannot receive its full funding request, then it will be offered partial funding for thirty days after the date of NRAC approval. After that date any available funds will be offered to the next qualified project on the approved funding list until all funds are allocated. (*Adopted 10-10-2002; Revised 2-3-2003; Revised 12-18-2003; Revised 5-6-2009*)

- 6. *Minimum Points for Funding***  
Proposed projects that do not obtain a mean minimal score from committee members of at least fifty percent (50%) of the total possible maximum points that could be awarded by District 3 NRAC committee members will only be funded in full or in part upon a majority vote of committee members and be contingent upon funding availability. *(Adopted 10-28-2005)*
- 7. *Appraisal Must Accompany Applications with Acquisition***  
An Appraisal Report or a Restricted Appraisal Report by an appraiser who is a certified general real estate appraiser holding a current certificate as issued by the Ohio Department of Commerce and is also an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Prequalified Appraiser credential in Appraisal shall accompany the application in order for the District 3 staff to consider the application complete and eligible for funding. Find full OPWC Appraisal Standards here, <https://www.pwc.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Documents/Appraisal%20Standards%200120.pdf?ver=2020-01-27-090500-190>. *(Adopted 06-05-2013; Revised 07-18-2013; Revised 8-10-2020)*
- 8. *Clean Ohio Signage Requirement***  
All funded District 3 projects are encouraged but not required to erect signage following District 3 signage guidelines. Temporary construction signs are highly encouraged but must follow the Ohio Public Works Commission signage guidelines. The cost of a sign is reimbursable and projects with multiple signs should check with the Ohio Public Works Commission for funding eligibility. A certification of signage location(s) and a photo should be submitted to the District 3 liaison within one year of the project closeout date. *(Adopted 06-05-2013; Revised 07-18-2013; Revised 4-15-2016; Revised 6-21-2016; 09-12-2016)*.
- 9. *Purchase Price Exceeds Appraised Value***  
Justification must be provided to the NRAC for any acquisition contemplated above the appraised value but cannot exceed 5%. Any difference greater than 5% must be paid for with other funding outside the project. *(Adopted 6-4-2014; Revised 8-10-2020)*
- 10. *Projects with Life Estate***  
The Ohio Revised Code allows the Clean Ohio Greenspace Conservation Program to acquire properties with life estates. In a life estate, two or more people each have an ownership interest in a property, but for different periods of time. The person holding the life estate (the "Life Tenant") possesses the property during his or her lifetime. The other owner (the "Remainderman") has a current ownership interest but cannot take possession until the death of the life estate holder. *(Adopted 4-21-2015; Revised 8-10-2020)*