



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Natural Resources Assistance Council

Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation program

District One Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC)
Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Application Supplement

ABOUT THE APPLICATION SUPPLEMENT

This document, along with the "Ohio Public Works Commission Application for Financial Assistance" and supporting documentation will be used by the NRAC to evaluate project applications.

APPLICATION SUPPLEMENT

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION	
PROJECT NAME	
CONTACT PERSON	
<u>PHONE</u>	
EMAIL	

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2025 PROJECT CHECKLIST

This checklist of required materials must be completed and submitted along with the FY 2025 Application Materials to insure your application is complete.

PROJECT TYPE: ☐ Open Space w/Land Acquisition ☐ Open Space Improvement ☐ Riparian Corridor

REQUIRED MATERIALS	YES	NO	N/A
AUTHORIZATIONS			
A certified copy of the authorization by the governing body of the applicant authorizing a designated official to sign and submit this application and execute contracts. (Page 6. OPWC Application)			
A certification signed by the applicant's chief financial officer stating the amount of funds required for the project will be available on or before the dates listed in the Project Schedule section, and documentation of awarded funds.			
Appropriate Resolution(s) of Support (Please refer to ORC164.23(B)(1) for guidance)			
MAPS			
Location identified on the Cuyahoga County Green Print			
PROPERTY INFORMATION			
Letter of Intent			
Purchase Agreement			
Executed settlement statement, recorded deed, deed restrictions or conservation easement			
Recorded deed or conservation agreement and OPWC proposed deed language			
Certified Appraisal by ODOT Prequalified Appraiser			
Documentation that the Appraiser read OPWC's Standards and Procedures			
Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer's Property Valuation			
If Existing Structure(s) on Property:			
Provide Intended Use			
Provide Current Appraised Value			
Provide Proportion of Value to Overall Property Value			
NATURAL RESOURCE INFORMATION			
Restoration is Part of the Project Scope			
Formal detailed cost estimate by architect, landscape architect, or other professional			
MINERAL RIGHTS			
Current Landowner Retaining Mineral Rights			
Rights Purchased and Transferred to Another Entity			
Rights Purchased and Maintained			
Legal Agreement with Lessee			

SECTION ONE: PROJECT EMPHASIS

(See page 13 in the FY 2025 Applicant Manual)

For the type of project submitted, Open Space or Riparian Corridor, check each factor that will be achieved by the project.

For example: If an open space project will ***incorporate aesthetically-pleasing and ecologically-informed design, protect high-quality viable habitats for plant and animal species, and provide educational opportunities***, then all of these factors should be checked.

1.1 OPEN SPACE PROJECTS - Check each factor relevant to the project.

	Result of a comprehensive open space plan.
	Incorporates aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design.
	Promotes local economic development and/or community development initiatives in high unemployment and low-income areas.
	Protects habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered species.
	Protects high quality, viable habitats for plant and animal species.
	Preserves high quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources within the County.
	Provides educational opportunities and physical links to schools and after-school centers.
	Preserves or restores natural features that contribute to the quality of life and the County's natural heritage such as: water quality; natural stream channels; the Lakefront; floodplains; wetlands; and streamside forests
	Reduces or eliminates nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals.
	Promotes the proper management of the ecosystem while allowing for fishing, hunting, and trapping.
	Provides appropriate public access.
	Includes acquisition and protection of full land rights.

1.2 RIPARIAN CORRIDOR PROJECTS (includes lakefront projects) - Check each factor relevant to the project.

	Increases habitat protection.
	Result of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan.
	Provides multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits.
	Preservation of headwater streams or outfalls to Lake Erie.
	Restores and preserves aquatic biological communities.
	Provides appropriate public access.

SECTION TWO - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

(See pages 13 to 15 in the FY 2025 Applicant Manual)

2.1 PROJECT NAME:

2.2 TYPE OF PROJECT FOR WHICH FUNDS ARE BEING REQUESTED:

Check the project type and provide appropriate documentation for land acquisition.

	Acquisition of Land through the following type of land securement – Check the type of Acquisition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Easement Purchase
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fee Simple
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transfer of Conservation Value
	Open Space Improvement Project to enhance Clean Ohio properties to make the land accessible and useable
	Riparian Corridor Project

2.3 APPRAISAL OR CONSERVATION VALUE AND PROPERTY INFORMATION:

Include the appraisal summary with this supplement. Provide the following information in the WorksWise application and required documentation in the **Property Information Attachment**.

- Parcels being acquired or improved
- Purchase Price of Property
- Conservation Easement valuation
- Certified Appraisal from ODOT Prequalified Appraiser credentialed in value analysis
- Documentation that the Appraiser read [OPWC's Standards and Procedures](#)
- Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer's property valuation

Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer's Property Valuation _____

Seller of Property: _____

Purchaser of Property: _____

Is this a bargain sale, in which purchase price is less than the appraised value*?
Yes No

*If the acquisition is a bargain sale (i.e. **leveraging the difference between the appraised value and purchase contract as the match**) the Applicant is required to have an appraisal review performed by an ODOT Prequalified Appraisal Reviewer to ensure that the purchase price history, comparables, adjustments, and disclaimers are accurate (see Page 1 of the PY 2021 Policy Manual).

Is this an Open Space Improvement Project in which the property was purchased with Clean Ohio Funds?
Yes No

If yes, provide in the **Property Information Attachment** the following information and required documentation: the executed settlement statement, the recorded deed and deed restrictions or conservation easement.

Identify the Clean Ohio Round or Program Year the property was awarded funding:

Name of Project: _____

Brief Project Description (one paragraph):

Is this a Riparian Corridor Project in which the applicant already owns the property?

Yes

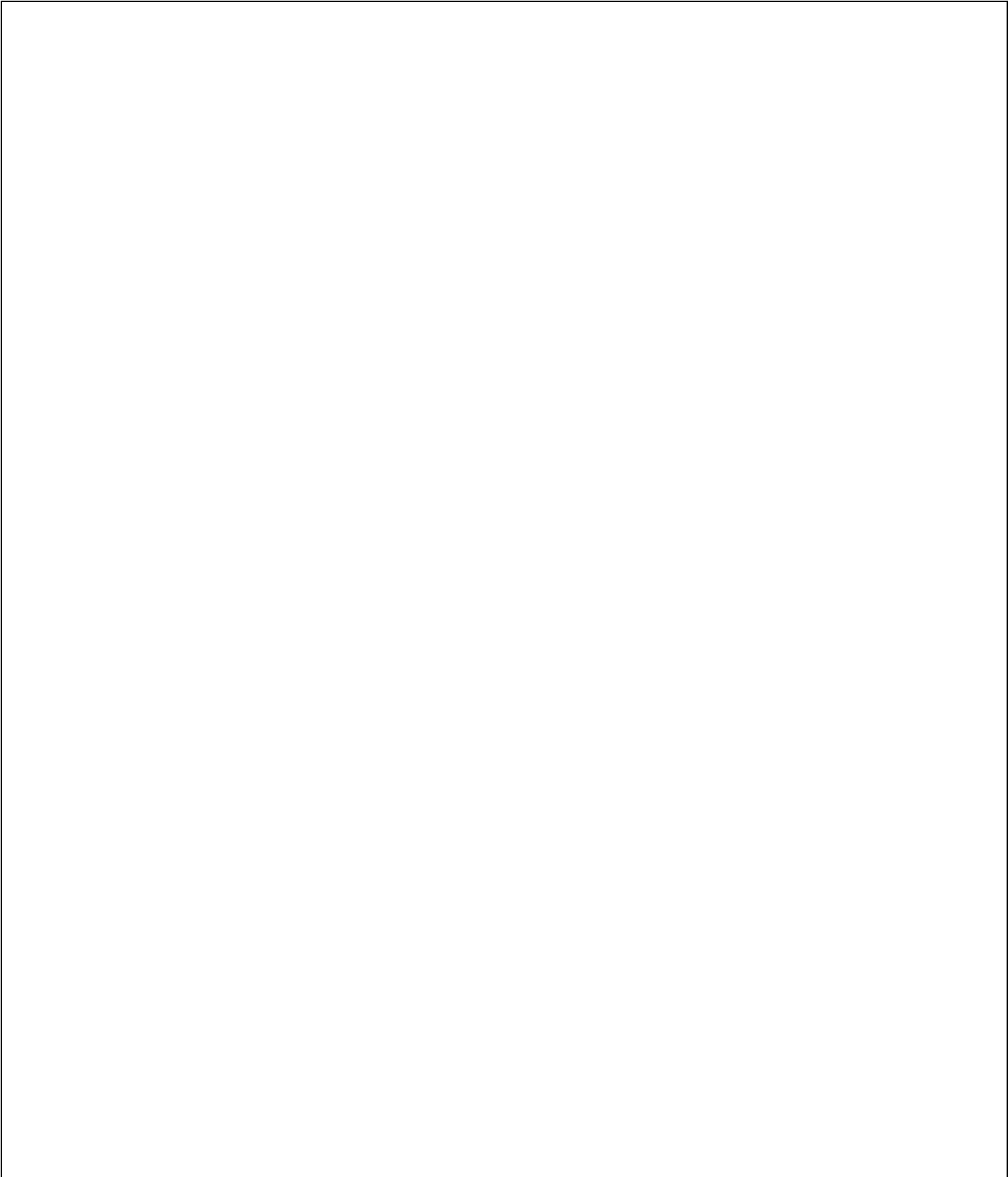
No

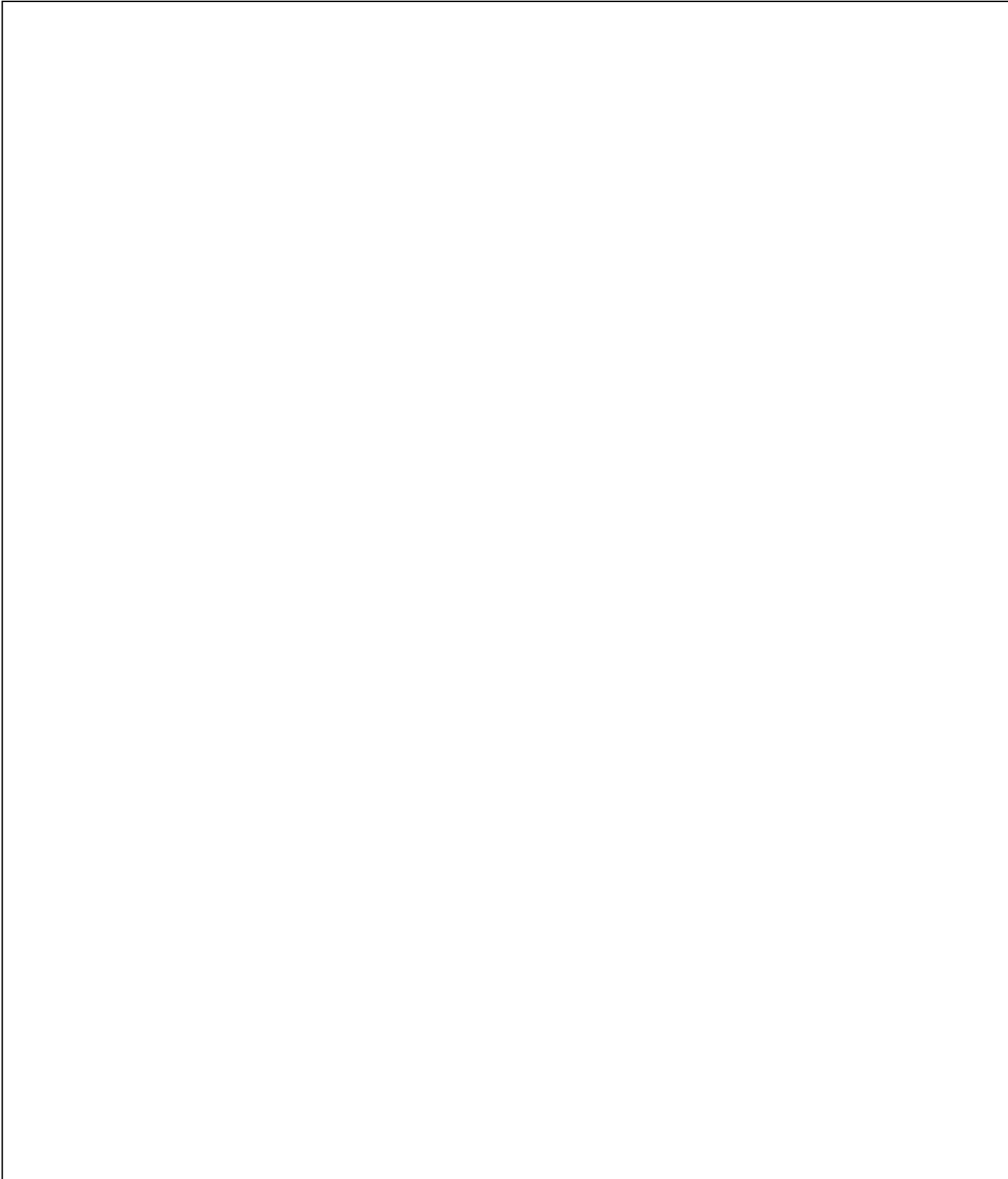
If yes, include in the **Property Information Attachment** a copy of the property deed, and a completed draft of OPWC restrictions to be included in a deed or conservation easement.

2.4 PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Provide a map showing the project location(s), and a detailed project description, not to exceed the following two pages. Include the following:

1. The location as shown in the Cuyahoga County Greenprint Map (available at <http://www.countyplanning.us/projects/cuyahoga-county-greenprint/>). Include a Greenprint Map highlighting the location and links in the **Maps and Photos Attachment**.
2. Describe the current conditions and any site improvements that will result from the project.
 - The Proposed Deed Restriction that identifies specific Use and Development Restrictions in the **Property Information Attachment**
 - An itemized estimate from an architect, landscape architect or other qualified professional that indicates the probable costs for all improvements utilizing Clean Ohio funds. in the **Natural Resource Information Attachment**
3. Note whether there are existing structures on the property. If so, include supporting documentation in the **Property Information Attachment** for the appraised value of the structure, proportion of structure value to overall property value, and the intended actions for the structures (e.g. demolition, re-use, rehabilitation or other).





SECTION THREE: COUNTY PRINCIPLES

(See page 15 in the FY 2025 Applicant Manual)

The five (5) County principles are the foundation upon which the evaluation methodology was developed, and it is the NRAC's intent to select projects that advance these principles.

Applicants should describe how these principles will be advanced by their project. Provide a description in the appropriate section. All statements regarding a project's benefits must be supported by documentation.

3.1 PROJECT PRESERVES NATURAL AREAS OR OPEN SPACE.

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3.2 PROJECT RESTORES LANDSCAPES THAT HAVE BEEN DEGRADED OR DESTROYED. Project must include restoration as a part of the project scope, budget, or local match if it is to be eligible for restoration points. Restoration activities must be completed within (two) 2 years of the acquisition date.

Check all those that apply in the table . Include documentation of a restoration plan that clearly specifies the existing conditions, desired recovery (example: restoration of prairie plant community or Warm Water Habitat (WWH) biological communities), and percentage of budget if Clean Ohio funds are used for restoration.

	The project reduces or eliminates nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals.
	The project restores or improves one or more of the following: aquatic biological communities, headwater streams, functioning floodplains, water quality, natural stream channels, stream bank erosion or buffer zones, and streamside forests.
	The project reforests land and/or restores plants or vegetation, and/or eliminates impervious surfaces to improve water quality.
	The project restores steep hillsides.

Provide a brief description and include supporting documentation in the **Natural Resources Attachment**

3.3 PROJECT ENHANCES THE QUALITY OF NATURAL AREAS OR OPEN SPACE TO PROMOTE PASSIVE RECREATION AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

3.4 PROJECT PHYSICALLY LINKS NATURAL AREAS TO EACH OTHER, OR TO CULTURAL AND CIVIC HERITAGE AREAS IN THE COUNTY.

3.5 PROJECT ALLOWS PUBLIC ACCESS WITHIN AND TO NATURAL AREAS AND/OR CULTURAL AND CIVIC HERITAGE AREAS IN THE COUNTY.

SECTION FOUR: PROJECT BENEFITS

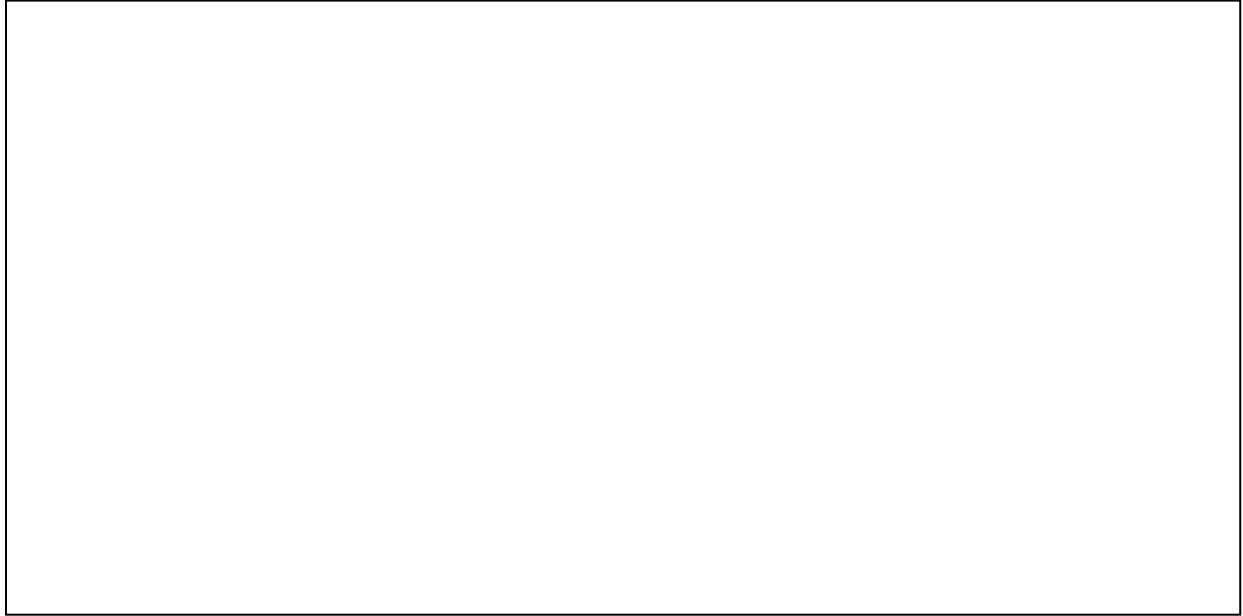
(See pages 15 and 16 in the Fiscal Year 2025 Applicant Manual)

Briefly explain the following benefits: (2,000 Character Limit):

4.1 ECONOMIC BENEFITS

4.2 SOCIAL BENEFITS

4.3 ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for providing supporting documentation for environmental benefits.

Provide supporting documentation in the **Natural Resources Attachment**, as necessary, to support the stated benefits. The supporting documentation may be in the form of specific citations to relevant studies or plans.

SECTION FIVE: COMMUNITY IMPACT

(See pages 16 to 21 in the FY 2025 Applicant Manual)

Using the [Cuyahoga County Greenprint Explorer](#) indicate the census tract(s) where your project is located and the associated data in the table below:

Parcel Number	Census Tract	Percent Impervious Surface	Percent Below Poverty	Percent Minority	Percent within ¼ Mile of Bikeway or Transit

SECTION SIX - OTHER RELEVANT FACTORS

(See pages 22 to 25 in the Fiscal year 2025 Application Manual)

6.1 LOCAL MATCH

(See page 2 of the OPWC application)

Local Match \$ _____

Percentage of Match _____%

Specify all sources of match:

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Provide the following documentation in the **Authorizations and Resolutions of Support Attachment**:

- Certification of Applicant Revenues from the Chief Financial Officer that includes the applicant's name, project name, and fund or account for the revenues.
- Award letters for funds coming from other funding sources.

6.2 LEVEL OF COORDINATION

1. Briefly explain if the project is part of an adopted regional, county, community, or watershed plan. Provide project plan documentation.

2. List the agencies and organizations that have been involved in the planning and preparation of this project application.

3. Detail the level of coordination each agency or organization has provided (i.e. monetary, planning, land donation, or any other services).

Provide Letters of Support in the **Agreements and Letters of Support Attachment**

6.3 READINESS TO PROCEED

A. ACQUISITION Projects acquiring property must provide documentation of a pending land transaction. Check documentation provided in the **Property Information Attachment**:

	A fully executed contract with the owner (signed purchase agreement)
	A contract with the owner (purchase agreement but not all signatures included) or a letter/memorandum of understanding

B. USE AND DEVELOPMENT What is the end use for the project site. Copy the language from the Proposed Deed and explain the Use and Development Restrictions for the project below.

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Provide at one or more of the following documents. Check documentation provided in the **Natural Resources Attachment**:

	Project Schedule
	Formal detailed estimate or quote by architect, landscape architect, or other qualified professional
	Documentation of appropriate permits, or permitting process

6.4 IMMEDIACY

Explain any circumstances (e.g., development pressure) that may be occurring that requires immediate action, and why this project should be a priority this funding round.

6.5 MINERAL RIGHTS

Explain the property rights, regarding mineral rights and extraction, that will be conveyed in the purchase agreement or conservation easement.

Provide the following information on the property being acquired:

1. The date of any pre-existing lease or similar agreement on the mineral rights, including oil, gas and/or extraction leases and if the lease or agreement allows for surface disturbance within the property.

2. Mineral Rights (please check the box that applies):

	The current landowner will retain the mineral rights
	The mineral rights will be purchased and transferred to another entity
	The Applicant has obtained legal agreements with Lessee to minimize the impact of the mineral rights lease.
	The mineral rights will be purchased and maintained, with no active gas or oil wells (5 Points)

If the Applicant has obtained legal agreements to minimize the impact of the lease, explain how the agreements will limit disturbances to sensitive natural resource areas from the existing oil and gas wells.