

Applicant: _____ Reviewer: _____

Scoring: Please score the application on each dimension.

Question(s)	Makes a Strong Case	Makes an Adequate Case	Makes an Inadequate Case	Score
A. Fit with Third Coast Conversation program				
Does the proposed project align with the intent of the Third Coast Conversation Program?	The project that is proposed is well aligned with the goals and purposes of the Third Coast Conversation program. The project that is proposed will explore the historical, scientific, cultural, and social qualities of water by addressing at least one of the six humanities themes, and works to engage and empower groups whose voices are not often heard to be a part of the conversation. (11-15)	The project that is proposed will explore the historical, scientific, cultural, and social qualities of water by addressing at least one of the six humanities themes. There may be evidence of other goals the grantee is intending to serve, unrelated to the Third Coast Conversations program. (6-10)	The project described will not explore the historical, cultural, and social qualities of water, or does not address one of the six humanities themes. Even if successfully executed, the project will not engage community members as an authentic voice. (1-5)	_____/15
Does the project explore the theme of water’s role in Michigan’s cultural identity?	The project explores the theme of water’s role in Michigan’s cultural identity and promotes a better understanding of this theme within the community. (11-15)	There are nods to the theme of water’s role in Michigan’s cultural identity, but it is not an overarching theme in the project. (6-10)	The project does not explore water’s role in Michigan’s cultural identity. (1-5)	_____/15
Does the proposed project involve community members as an authentic voice?	The project exists to express the authentic voice of community members. The project helps to develop the authentic voice and identifies new conversations (11-15)	The project includes an authentic voice of community members in substantial and meaningful ways. (6-10)	The project lacks an authentic voice of the community. The perspectives expressed in the effort may be <i>about</i> the community, but they are not <i>of</i> the community. (1-5)	_____/15
B. Work Plan				
Does the project have clear goals? Is the expected change for the audience and participants described?	The project goals are clearly stated. One can identify, in advance, how we would know if the goals were achieved or not achieved. The target audience, and the intended changes for the audience and the participants in the project are likewise clear and measurable. (7-10)	The project’s goals and intended changes for the audience and the participants are stated. While they may not be precise, the general intent can be understood. The target audience is identified. (4-6)	The purpose for the project is confusing or ambiguous. It is not clear what will be changed for the project’s audience or those involved in developing the project. The target audience may not be clear. (1-3)	_____/10

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Does the project have a clear, well-organized timeline and project management structure?	The activities and timeline are clear and specific. Overall management of the project is clear. Issues or events that could disrupt the schedule are acknowledged and addressed in the proposal. (7-10)	The basic activities are laid out in an understandable timeline and responsibility to manage the project is assigned. Basic planning has occurred. (4-6)	The sequence of events and responsibility for them is not clear. The project appears to be inadequately planned, or susceptible to breakdowns in process, timing, or responsibility. (1-3)	_____/10
C. Personnel				
Is the staff qualified to execute the plan of work?	Each member of the project personnel is well suited to the work he or she will perform on the project. Background and readiness of the project personnel is a strength of the proposal. (7-10)	Staff is adequately identified and appears, as a whole, to have appropriate credentials and background to accomplish the proposal's plan of work. (4-6)	In critical ways, staff lacks sufficient experience or training to accomplish the proposal's plan of work, or staff is not adequately identified. (1-3)	_____/10
Do members of the community have important involvement in the project?	Members of the community are significantly involved in all aspects of the project work plan, including leadership. (11-15)	Members of the community have some involvement in the actual execution of the project work plan, but this involvement is tenuous or insubstantial. (6-10)	Members of the community are not involved in the actual execution of the project work plan in any meaningful way. The project is about the group, but does not occur with the group. (1-5)	_____/15
Are there beneficial partnerships or advisors for the project?	Project partnerships and/or advisory support are central to making the project possible or valuable. Cross-organizational sharing of information, perspectives, and contributions will occur. (4-5)	There are partners in the work, but the lead/applicant organization does the bulk of the work. Partner or advisor contributions are evident at the periphery of the project. (3)	The project does not feature any cross-organizational partnerships or external advisors. (1-2)	_____/10
Note: Collaborators' participation and their roles must be substantiated.				
<i>Totals</i>				_____/100

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Threshold Items: The following items are threshold/eligibility items. If the applications fails any items, the project is ineligible for funding as proposed. *Note:* Because threshold items can often be addressed to bring the proposal into line with funding criteria, **please score it** even if it fails some tests, unless you feel the proposal's threshold issues are so substantial that they could not be remedied.

<i>Please mark an X under "Pass" or "Fail" on each line.</i>	PASS	FAIL	NOT SURE
The project does not involve lobbying, advocating for a specific program of social action, or promoting a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view.			
If public policy or social action is addressed in the project, it is done from an educational or historical perspective.			
There is no cost to attend and participate for the target audience.			

Budget: The overall budget and each of the line items should be reasonable given the plan of work. If you have any concerns about the budget as proposed, note them here.

Other Comments:
