

Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Program
District 9 Natural Resource Assistance Council

Policy
Scoring Results in a Tie Between Projects

Ohio Revised Code Section 164.24 requires that natural resource assistance councils establish a method to prioritize applications received for funding from the Clean Ohio Green Space program. The district provides the methodology to be used for the scoring of applications along with the application for each round of grants. Applicants are encouraged to provide information related to the scoring questions that will assist the council in its review of the application. Further, applicants are encouraged to attend the scoring meeting to provide answers to any questions that the council may have during the scoring process. Failure to attend the scoring meeting may affect the total score earned by the application.

At the scoring meeting, the committee will meet and discuss each individual application and agree upon a score to be given for each question. Committee members may ask for clarification of information provided by the applicant to assist in determining the score for individual questions. Composite scores for each section of the application will be determined and announced as each section is completed. When scoring has been completed, the total score will be announced. Once all applications have been scored, the projects will be ranked from high to low in accordance with scores received.

Funding will be allocated in order of scores received, from highest to lowest until the amount of funding available has been depleted. In the event that an application cannot be fully funded, the applicant will be asked if the project can be completed with the level of funding available. If it cannot, the next highest-scoring application will be offered funding until the funding is depleted.

There may be a case where two applications may receive a tie score. Both projects have been evaluated by the council and are deemed of equal importance at this point. In this event, the following procedure will be followed.

1. Both projects will be funded, provided sufficient funding is available.
2. If funding available is insufficient to fully fund each project, each project will be offered an equal share of the available funding based on the amount requested in the application. For example, if the funding available represents seventy percent (70%) of the funding needed for both applications, the applicants will be offered seventy percent (70%) of the amount requested. Both applicants must accept funding at the proposed level.
3. Should either applicant turn down the reduced funding available, three additional questions will be scored to determine if the tie can be broken.
 - A. Is the land to be preserved adjacent to land previously acquired through Clean Ohio Funding (2 points) or existing preserved open space (1 point)?
 - B. Does the project preserve over 50 acres of open space (1 point)?
 - C. Is this the first grant awarded to the applicant (1 point)?Should this process fail to break the tie, the winner of a coin toss will receive full funding. The balance of funding available will go to the other project.