

This Revitalization/Redevelopment Plan Criteria Guidance (as noted in the 2019 QAP Scoring Section VII) explains the criteria DCA will use to determine whether a community planning document is considered a Community Revitalization Plan (CRP).

I. Comparison of 2018 and 2019 CRP criteria guidelines

2018	2019
Clearly delineate a Targeted Area that includes the proposed site but does not encompass the entire surrounding city, municipality, or county;	Clearly delineate a Targeted Area within a Local Government boundary that includes the proposed site;
Include public input and engagement during the planning stages;	Solicit public input and engagement during its creation;
Call for rehabilitation or production of affordable rental housing as a policy goal for the community;	Discuss housing as a goal of the CRP;
Include an assessment of the existing physical structures and infrastructure of the community;	Include an assessment of the community's existing infrastructure;
Designate implementation measures along with specific timeframes for the achievement of such policies and housing activities;	Designate implementation measures along with timeframes and funding sources;
Include a discussion of resources that will be utilized to implement the plan;	
Be officially adopted by a Local Government.	Be officially approved or re-approved by a Local Government within five (5) years of Application Submission.

II. Further discussion of 2019 QAP CRP criteria guidelines

A. *Clearly delineate a Targeted Area within a Local Government boundary that includes the proposed site.*

The 2019 QAP removes the phrase “but does not encompass the entire surrounding city, municipality, or county.” An eligible CRP is a community document that communicates a concerted revitalization effort. Especially for small or rural communities, this effort may encompass an entire jurisdiction.

B. *Solicit public input and engagement during its creation.*

The 2019 QAP states that, to evidence public input and engagement occurring during CRP creation, Applicants must provide either:

- Direct evidence of public input and engagement (e.g., advertisements of public meetings, agendas, or sign-in sheets); or
- Signed letter from representative of entity responsible for CRP summarizing the CRP's public input and engagement process.

Public input and engagement must take place prior to the time that the CRP is submitted to a government board or entity for approval, as final approval does not fall within "the planning stages." Simply opening a meeting for public comment on the day that CRP approval occurs does not constitute the solicitation of “public input and engagement during its creation.”

Soliciting public input may be accomplished through neighborhood and community planning meetings (such as a charrette) or by a more formal public meeting or public hearing.

For a copy of the public notice to count as “direct evidence of public input and engagement” it must include the meeting’s subject, time, and place.

C. Discuss housing as a goal of the CRP.

The concept of housing must appear at least once within the CRP. There is no requirement to specify the type of housing (rental or owner-occupied) or its intended residency (by income or employment status).

D. Include an assessment of the community’s existing infrastructure.

“Existing infrastructure” may include but is not limited to public facilities, roads, water and sewer lines, and/or housing stock.

E. Designate implementation measures along with timeframes and funding sources.

The timeframes and implementation measures must be current and ongoing.

“Implementation measures” are the specific actions a community will undertake to make the identified goals of the CRP a reality. They can be physical, such as eradicating blight or constructing homes, or administrative, such as applying for public funds for a particular purpose. Examples of implementation measures might include enforcing building codes for blighted properties; seeking infrastructure improvements, tax incentives, or changes in local zoning laws; undertaking partnership initiatives; or acquiring blighted properties.

The 2019 QAP does not impose requirements on the specificity of these “timeframes.”

The CRP must include a discussion of resources that will be or continue to be utilized to implement the relevant goals and implementation measures. If resources include applying for specific grants or funds, the application must include a discussion of what those funds will be used for and when the application will be submitted.

F. Be officially approved or re-approved by a Local Government within five (5) years of Application Submission.

Planning documents created by communities across Georgia have their own varying Local Government requirements, separate from the QAP. The 2019 QAP requires not CRP “adoption” but “approval” to be inclusive of the diversity of Georgia communities’ planning processes.

This approval (or re-approval) must occur within five (5) years of Application Submission.

Evidence of the approval or re-approval, as stated within the 2019 QAP (Scoring, p. 13), requires at least one of the following two documents:

- a) Direct evidence of Local Government approval or re-approval; or
- b) Signed letter from Local Government representative confirming date of approval or re-approval.

“Direct evidence” is defined as the documents directly produced by action(s) a Local Government takes to approve the CRP. Each Local Government may approve a CRP by whatever mechanism appropriate to that jurisdiction and/or planning document. If a Local Government approves a CRP by public meeting or resolution, “direct evidence” of those actions may include meeting minutes or a PDF of the resolution. If a Local Government wishes to approve a CRP by issuing a signed letter stating its formal approval, the signed letter is sufficient as “direct evidence.” The date of that letter containing Local Government approval of the CRP must be within five (5) years of Applicant Submission.