

## Instructions for Computing New Construction Scoring Criteria – Positive Site Characteristics

1. Up to 10 points based on the median household income of the census tract in which the project is situated relative to its county (if in multiple tracts, the one with a plurality of units) according to data from 2013-2017 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates.

Data from the American Community Survey is available through the American FactFinder portal. Links to the relevant income data are provided below. To compute the ratio, divide the figure for the tract in which the site is located by the figure for the county in which the site is located.

Tracts: [https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17\\_5YR/B19013/0400000US45.14000](https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17_5YR/B19013/0400000US45.14000)

Counties: [https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17\\_5YR/B19013/0400000US45.05000](https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17_5YR/B19013/0400000US45.05000)

2. Up to 10 points based on the number of jobs paying between \$1,251 and \$3,333 per month in a one-mile radius for Group A counties and a two-mile radius for Groups B and C. Data from the Longitudinal Employment Household Dynamics (LEHD) database will be used as displayed in the U.S. Census Bureau's OnTheMap tool.

To obtain the relevant number of jobs for this measure, follow the instructions below.

- Access <http://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>
- Enter the address of the site or the nearest known address and click "Search"
- Select the "Geocoder Result" that is returned for your address
- Click the "Selection" tab at the top of the page
- Click "Simple Ring" under "Add Buffer to Selection"
- Enter "1" (Group A county) or "2" (Group B or C county) into the "Radius" box
- Click "Confirm Selection"
- Click "Perform Analysis on Selection Area."
- Within the Analysis Settings box that will appear:
  - Choose "Work" under the first column
  - Choose "Area Profile" under the second column
  - Choose 2017 under the third column
  - Choose "All Jobs" under the fourth column.
  - Click "Go" for results.
- Report the count of "\$1,251 to \$3,333 per month" jobs in the "Earnings" window.

3. Up to 10 points based on the average life expectancy of residents in the census tract based on data from the U.S. Small-Area Life Expectancy Estimates Project as reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

To obtain the life expectancy in a given census tract, click the link below to access the spreadsheet:

[https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health\\_Statistics/NCHS/Datasets/NVSS/USALEEP/XLSX/SC\\_A.XLSX](https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Datasets/NVSS/USALEEP/XLSX/SC_A.XLSX)

4. Up to 5 points (a) in Group A counties based on proximity to transit and (b) land-based (i.e., non-satellite) internet connectivity speed in Groups B and C.

- a. In Group A counties, the Authority will use the AllTransit™ Performance Score tool built by the Center for Neighborhood Technology.

To obtain the score for your site, enter the address into the search bar at <https://alltransit.cnt.org/> and click the magnifying glass. Scroll down if necessary to view the score.

*b. The Authority will use data reported to the Federal Communications Commission in Groups B and C.*

To obtain Internet speeds available for a given site, enter address into the search bar at <https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov> and click the magnifying glass. The highest number in the “Down (Mbps)” column is to be used for scoring purposes.

*5. Up to 5 points for projects targeting (a) families located in a high-performing school district and (b) targeting older persons located in a county with quality healthcare available.*

*a. The Authority will use the average composite ACT score achieved by high school juniors in spring 2017 as reported by the South Carolina Department of Education.*

Go to <https://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/national-assessments/act/2017-act-districts/> to download the spreadsheet of average scores. Use the number in the last column (“Mean Composite 2017”) for the school district in which the site is located. A map of school districts is available online at <https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/schools/school-directory/> under the “District Map” tab. Please verify with local authorities if you are unsure of the district in which your site is located.

*b. The Authority will use the number of preventable hospital stays per 100,000 Medicare enrollees as reported by County Health Rankings produced by the University of Wisconsin.*

Data are online at <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/south-carolina/2019/measure/factors/5/data>. The relevant figure is in the first column labeled “Preventable Hosp. Rate.”

*6. 5 points for being located entirely within a Qualified Opportunity Zone (QOZ).*

A map of QOZ tracts is available on our website at <https://www.schousing.com/Home/Opportunity-Zones>. The U.S. Department of Treasury’s official list of QOZ tracts is available online at <https://www.cdfifund.gov/Documents/Designated%20QOZs.12.14.18.xlsx>.

*7. 5 points to projects not in a Racially or Ethnically Concentrated Area of Poverty (R/ECAP) as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.*

A spreadsheet of R/ECAP status by census tract generated by HUD is available online at [https://opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/56de4edea8264fe5a344da9811ef5d6e\\_0.csv](https://opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/56de4edea8264fe5a344da9811ef5d6e_0.csv). If RCAP\_Current for the tract in which the site is located is 1, the tract is an R/ECAP. If RCAP\_Current is 0, it is not.

*8. 10 points to projects not in a food desert as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.*

A map of food desert data produced by USDA is available online at <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas/>. In the box on the top right, uncheck the box next to the green field and check the box next to the yellow field (“LI and LA using vehicle access”). Then in the box on the top left, enter the address of your site and press Enter. The map will recalculate and a red square will be placed on the corresponding address. If the background of the map surrounding the square is yellow, the site is in a census tract that is considered a food desert. Otherwise, the site is not considered to be in a food desert.