



Rodney Ellis
COMMISSIONER

Plan Together

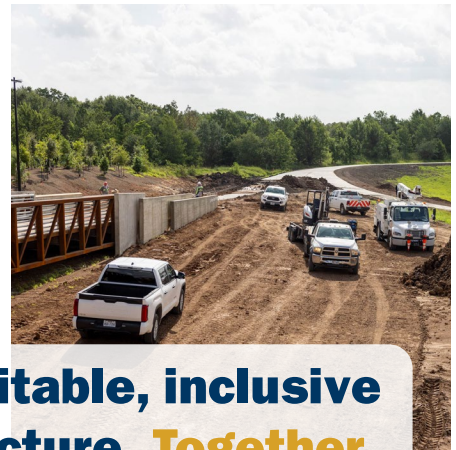
Partnerships Program Guide & Application



Office of Commissioner Rodney Ellis



**Plan equitable, inclusive
infrastructure. Together.**



FY 2026 Application



About Commissioner Rodney Ellis

Commissioner Rodney Ellis prioritizes inclusive economic growth that uplifts low income communities, ensures access to parks and green-space in underserved neighborhoods, advances criminal justice reform that protects the rights of all people, and provides safe, affordable transportation options.

Plan Together was launched in 2025 to advance Commissioner Ellis' vision and fund community driven infrastructure improvements in communities across Precinct One. This Partnerships Program is one of five Plan Together Mobility Programs.

About the Partnerships Program

The Office of Commissioner Rodney Ellis (OCRE) is seeking great projects that advance the mission and goals of our office. We are seeking opportunities to financially support impactful projects led by community members and groups.

This Partnerships Program is open to any organization or entity looking for funding support for an infrastructure project located within Harris County Precinct One. The sponsoring entity will be required to fully implement the project; OCRE will provide funding support. Funding is available for **planning, design, and construction** projects. There is also an application category for combined **design and construction** project support. The table at the bottom of this page includes guidance for each project category.

Successful projects will be those that:

- Meet the Commissioner's goals,
- The sponsoring entity will provide a funding match, and
- Maintenance support is not required from OCRE. (Unless the project is located within current Harris County Precinct One right-of-way.)

OCRE may request an interview with sponsor(s) after application submittal. OCRE intends to announce awards in Summer 2026 and initiate the development of partnership agreements with selected projects immediately after award announcement.

Application submission does not guarantee OCRE funding. In addition, funding of a project may be subject to a vote of approval by Harris County Commissioners Court.

If OCRE provides funding support to a project that is removed after implementation, OCRE must be reimbursed for all costs.

All questions about the program and application process can be submitted to PlanTogether@cp1.hctx.net.



Key Dates

Application Posted

January 5, 2026

Application Due

February 27, 2026 at 5:00pm

Possible Interviews

Spring 2026

Project Award Announcement

Early Summer 2026

Development of Partnership Agreements

Immediately Following Award
Announcement

| Project Category Guidance | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Planning Projects | For projects with minimal or no previous planning |
| Design Projects | For projects with previous planning, strong support, and a clear direction |
| Construction Projects | Requires design plans to be at least at 60%; 100% design plan sets are preferred |
| Design & Construction Projects | For projects with previous planning, strong support, and the ability to move quickly through construction |



OCRE Vision

Commissioner Rodney Ellis is dedicated to creating places where all people, regardless of race, gender, or income:

- Are safe, secure, and free from harm.
- Have access to quality green spaces, sustainable infrastructure, and reliable transportation options.
- Are prepared for and are protected from environmental harm, climate change, and disaster.
- Live in healthy communities with equal access to quality health care.
- Prosper with equitable economic opportunities.
- Are seen, heard, and empowered to impact their communities.
- Are free from oppression and discrimination, where liberty and justice are protected.

OCRE is looking for great projects to invest in that will realize and implement our Vision.

Values

Your project will be scored across the following four OCRE Values. These Values inform and direct all infrastructure projects funded by OCRE. Each value has been assigned a percentage that identifies the weight of each value within the project prioritization scoring methodology.

The data sources listed below will be used as the basis for scoring. However, OCRE acknowledges there are other data sources which can help inform each of these values. Therefore, if you would like to include other data aligned with these values, please include within your application attachments.



| Value | Weight | Data Set for Scoring | Link |
|--|------------|---|----------------------------|
| Equity All communities have multiple safe, affordable, convenient travel options. | 30% | 2022 Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) data from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) | SVI Link |
| Safety Everyone gets home safely every day. | 30% | 2022 Harris County's High Injury Network (HIN) and Harris County Sheriff Priority locations | HIN Link |
| Public Health Promote active living, improve air quality, and connect people to their daily needs. | 25% | Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Regional Climate & Economic Justice Screen Tool | H-GAC Link |
| Resilience & Sustainability Reduce flooding and climate impacts, lower emissions, and support a healthier environment for future generations. | 15% | Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Regional Climate & Economic Justice Screen Tool | H-GAC Link |

About the Application

All applicants are required to submit a completed PDF file of the questions included on page 5 and page 6 of this document. All applications are required to provide additional information as attachments (see page 7 and page 8) to describe the scope of their project and explain the problems solved and resulting benefits of the project.

Within the required attachments, ensure your project is clearly explained in detail. Descriptions of project benefits and how these benefits align with the OCRE Values is required. **Presenting alignment between your project and OCRE Values will be the most important factor in our evaluation of your application.** We ask that all applications be well organized and detailed and follow the outline provided within this document.

All attachments are outlined within the tables on page 7 and page 8. The columns on the right side of the table indicate which attachment is required for each project type. Please label your attachments with the corresponding letter in the left most column of the table.

With the exception of design plan sets, please format all attachments to letter size (8.5"x11") paper; attachments can be landscape or portrait, whichever is best for the content being presented. Attachments must be Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) files combined into one complete file, with the exception of cost estimates (Attachment E) and the optional KMZ or Shapefile (Attachment K).

Submission Instructions

Applicants must be submitted electronically via email to **PlanTogether@cp1.hctx.net** before **5:00pm** on **February 27, 2026**. If for any reason there are challenges submitting your application electronically, please reach out to Eleni Pappas prior to the application deadline.

Your submittal should include at least two files with the following naming convention:

- Application (one file): **ProjectName_ProjectSponsor_Application.pdf**
- Attachments (one file): **ProjectName_ProjectSponsor_Attachments.pdf**

If you are submitting detailed cost estimates (Appendix E), please use the following naming convention:

- Cost Estimate (one file): **ProjectName_ProjectSponsor_Costs.xls**

If any file exceeds the size allowable by email, a link to download the file may be provided.

All complete applications will be evaluated across the four OCRE Values to determine alignment with OCRE's Vision and Goals. Applicants may be asked to attend interviews or meetings with OCRE staff about their project to provide additional information.

Primary OCRE Contact

Eleni Pappas
346.286.3359
eleni.pappas@cp1.hctx.net



Applicant Information

Project Sponsor(s):

Primary Contact:

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Project Information

Project Name:

Project Type (select only one project type)

Planning (P)

Design (D)

Design & Construction (D+C)

Construction (C)

Check this box if your project has 100% design plans and is currently ready to move into construction

Brief Project Summary

Summary must fit in space provided.

Funding Request

Amount Requesting from OCRE \$
(Row A)

Total Funding from Other Sources* \$
(Row B)

Total Project Cost \$
(Row C)

OCRE Funding %
(Row A/ Row C)

*If there are other funding source(s), please list other source(s) below and include Attachment Q.

Project Complexities

OCRE is seeking projects that can be readily initiated. Right-of-way (ROW) acquisition and coordination with railroads can cause significant delays to a project. If your project requires ROW acquisition please provide a summary of ROW needs and impacts to the project timeline. If your project requires coordination with a railroad company, please provide documentary evidence from the railroad in support of the project and willingness to enter into an agreement to implement the project.

Check box if your project requires right-of-way (ROW) acquisition (and include Attachment M)

Check box if your project will require railroad approval (and include Attachment N)

Implementation Obligation

OCRE is seeking projects to be implemented exclusively by the project sponsor. Please provide a Letter of Intent (Attachment I) indicating your entity's intent and ability to implement the applicant project.

By checking this box, the project sponsor affirms their ability to enter into a partnership agreement to be initiated in Summer 2026

By checking this box, the project sponsor affirms their ability to successfully advance this project by leading all steps of implementation

Maintenance Obligations

OCRE is seeking projects where the project sponsor is responsible for ongoing maintenance, unless the project is within current Harris County Precinct One right-of-way. Harris County Precinct One right-of-way is defined by the Harris County Road Log.

However, applications will be accepted from sponsors with limited ability to provide ongoing maintenance. If requesting maintenance assistance, please include maintenance costs within your Cost Estimate attachment (Attachment E).

The project sponsor will be responsible for future maintenance

The project is located within Harris County Precinct One right-of-way

Another entity will be responsible for future maintenance (Include Attachment P)

What entity?

Project sponsor is requesting OCRE be responsible for future maintenance

| Required Attachments | | Project Type | | | |
|----------------------|--|--------------|---|-----|---|
| | | P | D | D+C | C |
| A | Project Location Map Provide a map indicating the project location and relevant project information. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| B | Project Details Describe the scope of the project. If a project has known typical sections, please provide within project details. No more than 1 page (typical sections will not count towards 1 page limit). | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| C | Photographs Provide photographs of existing conditions of the project site. No more than 5 pages. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| D | Project Narrative Describe project benefits and how they align with the OCRE Vision and the four OCRE Values. If there are known related or complimentary projects please include in narrative. No more than 3 pages. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| E | Cost Estimates Provide a detailed cost estimate for your project. Only eligible costs identified in this attachment will be considered. Estimated costs for planning, design, environmental assessment and mitigation, right-of-way acquisitions, and construction must be identified to be considered eligible. Please provide your cost estimates as an Microsoft Excel file (.xls). | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| F | Proposed Timeline Provide an estimated project timeline that assumes project partnership agreements will be initiation in Summer 2026. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| G | Previous Planning or Studies Please provide a web link to previous plans or studies supporting your project. If a plan or study is not currently posted online, digital copies of plans or studies can be submitted with the application. While not required, inclusion of previous planning or studies will be accepted for Planning applications. | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| H | Design Plan Set A complete design plan set is required for construction projects. 100% plans are preferred, however plans greater than 60% will be accepted. Applications for construction projects with a design plan set less than 60% will NOT be accepted. | | | | ✓ |
| I | Letter of Intent Provide an official letter of intent from the sponsor agency or organization indicating project support and intention to fund and implement the project. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| J | Letter of Support(s) Project sponsors are required to submit a letter of support from the government entity or owner of the asset. If there are multiple owners and/or jurisdictions, letters are required from all. There is no limit on the number of letter of supports a sponsor can provide; we welcome all letter's of support the project sponsor would like to submit. While not required, letters of support will be accepted for Planning applications. | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Project Type Legend

P: Planning

D+C: Design & Construction

D: Design

C: Construction

Optional/Conditional Attachments

The following attachments are optional or conditional based on selections made in the application document (pages 5 and 6). If you have any question about the inclusion of the following, please reach out to Eleni Pappas.

| | |
|----------|--|
| K | KMZ, shapefiles or ESRI Layer Packages Provide files of project boundary and project elements. |
| L | Summary of Previous Pubic Engagement If public outreach has occurred in the past 5 years, please provide a summary of events and feedback received. No more than 3 pages. |
| M | Right-of-way Acquisition If your project requires right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, please provide details about the size, location, and cost of required ROW. Please provide Harris Central Appraisal District (HCAD) account numbers for each parcel that is impacted. |
| N | Railroad Coordination If your project intersects railroad ROW, please provide documentation of project support from the railroad that states the railroad's willingness to enter into an agreement to implement your project. |
| O | Environmental Documentation If your project is likely to require environmental evaluational or assessment, please provide necessary environmental documentation. |
| P | Maintenance Obligation If another entity will be responsible for ongoing maintenance of your project, please provide a letter of intent from the entity. |
| Q | Letters of Intent from Other Funding Entities If other entities will be providing funding for your project, please provide a letter of intent from the entity. |