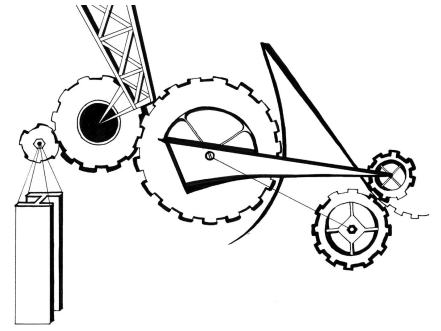


IDEAS Sample Comments for Initial Applicants



General – Positive

- Your proposal is very well-written.

General – Negative

- Not specific enough, not enough examples of what you will do.
- Poorly written, hard to understand
- The project summary is very hard to understand. Teams should spend more time making their summaries clear and concise.

Innovation – Positive

- This is an interesting and necessary idea that has a good potential market.

Innovation – Negative

- Your program is interesting, but this type of integrated community work represents less of a new solution than bringing an existing solution to a new, similar, location.

Feasibility – Positive

- Highly feasible given the groundwork already done and the expertise and resources available.

Feasibility – Negative

- Hard to follow your plan, not clear if it's feasible. Not specific enough about how it will work, either part.

Community Impact – Positive

- It's great that you have such close ties to a strong community organization and that they seem to be very excited about the project

Community Impact – Negative

- No numbers about how many people are being targeted – hard to figure out community impact
- It's not clear that you have an understanding of the local culture; critical for implementing a project like this.

Development Grant – Positive

- It's clear that this funding will allow you to pilot test your idea, and help you complete an excellent final application

Development Grant – Negative

- You did not include shipping in your costs
- You included taxes in your costs
- Your requests are far too vague – provide specific items and amounts
- You have requested funding for the final implementation of your project and this seems unlikely to help your final application; development grants are intended only to help you research and prepare

your final application. Also, you plan to spend these funds after the deadline of the judging session, on April 26.

For more suggestions

- To see sample good and bad proposals, go to ideas.mit.edu and log in as “guest@mit.edu”, password “good” or “bad”
- Check out the archives section on web.mit.edu/ideas to view previous proposals.
- Visit MIT’s writing center (14N-317) for help writing your proposals, web.mit.edu/writing
- Email ideas-admin@mit.edu at any time with questions about your proposal.