

Strategy Triage Tool

Annotated Template

Guiding Question/Line of Sight*: What will it take to . . . ?

The guiding question defines the line of sight: Where are you heading? What are you trying to achieve? The question should be open-ended and future focused. It should not make assumptions about who is responsible or what the solution is.

Current Priority—Still Relevant—Continues Forward (with modified approach)	Pause & Resume when crisis “over” (assuming a 6-18 month delay—high uncertainty)
These are items that are relevant and possible and will go forward, though perhaps not as planned. Make a few notes on likely modifications.	These items will be paused. They are either not feasible now, or they need to be paused to make room for emergent priorities. You don’t really know for how long. Six to nine months is a ballpark and may be too long or too short.
Emerging Priority or Existing but Newly Prioritized (because of current conditions)	Unknown Status/Approach (need more data, too much in flux to know)
These items are new or newly prioritized items that are on the table (or front burner) because of current conditions. You are being asked to do them or you realize they are necessary and/or urgent.	These are items that are either unclear or too much in flux to decide. You need to have more data, talk to others, or let the dust settle a little bit before deciding.
Honor and Let Go (not going to happen)	
Conditions make these items impossible.	

*From 4th Quadrant Partners: “Line of sight refers to maintaining an unobstructed vision from current decisions and actions to the ultimate desired outcome. Line of Sight gives a group a way to keep testing progress against something clear, real and concrete, such that they can see progress rather than getting caught in the weeds. It helps avoid conflating strategies and outcomes (e.g., collaboration for collaboration’s sake).”

