

APPENDIX D: OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS

APPENDIX D4: LETTERS OF COMMITMENT

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Baltimore City
Office of Emergency Management
501 N. Calvert St, 3rd Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
(410) 396-6188

Brandon M. Scott
Mayor
City of Baltimore

Joey Henderson
Emergency Manager
Office of Emergency Management

March 12, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of The Baltimore City Office of Emergency Management, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made, and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.



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Office of Emergency Management
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Baltimore, Maryland 21202
(410) 396-6188

Brandon M. Scott
Mayor
City of Baltimore

Joey Henderson
Emergency Manager
Office of Emergency Management

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Joey Henderson at joey.henderson@baltimorecity.gov. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

Joey Henderson

Joey Henderson

Director



1001 E. Fayette Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Brandon M. Scott, Mayor
Ihuoma Emenuga, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner of Health

March 27, 2024

To: The Baltimore Office of Sustainability and Department of Public Works
Subject: Letter of Support for the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area's CPRG Proposal

Dear REDUCE Coalition:

On behalf of the Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD), I write to express our support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which Baltimore City and the six counties (Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard and Queen Anne's) in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

BCHD has collaborated with the Baltimore Office of Sustainability on several climate and health related initiatives, including work under the Heat Mitigation Working Group to strengthen Baltimore City climate goals through Mayor Scott Administration's Sustainability & Resiliency Subcabinet. We are eager to support the REDUCE proposal to advance understanding and awareness of climate pollution in the city and region. As our agency works to better improve the health of all Baltimoreans, we are particularly interested in helping to support measures under the Baltimore MSA's proposal that align with goals related to extreme heat.

Combined, the activities detailed in the REDUCE proposal will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with the State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State's proposal to create substantial impact on the region. The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in our MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution risks in climate vulnerable areas of the Chesapeake Bay region.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact BCHD Chief of Staff & Chief Operating Officer, Kelleigh Eastman at Kelleigh.eastman@baltimorecity.gov. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KE", written over a horizontal line.

Kelleigh Eastman
Chief of Staff & Chief Operating Officer
Baltimore City Health Department



March 28, 2024

Director Ava Richardson
Baltimore Office of Sustainability
417 E. Fayette Street, 8th Floor
Baltimore City, MD 21202

RE: Letter of Commitment for the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA) Climate Pollution and Reduction Grant (CPRG) Proposal, Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09

Dear Director Richardson,

I am writing to express the Department of General Services' commitment to and support of the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area's "Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize, Utilize Clean Energy" (REDUCE) proposal. The REDUCE proposal undertakes urgent actions for climate pollution reduction at the community level to support our collective and individual climate goals. The proposal is grounded in equity, focused on ideation with the community to ensure that climate pollution reduction investments encourage local actions and foster regional systems change while addressing environmental justice challenges faced by underserved and overburdened communities.

The Department of General Services is Baltimore City's lead for the decarbonization of its own buildings and fleet. By providing exemplary services to city government and examples of decarbonization strategies, the Department will partner with the Baltimore Office of Sustainability and other REDUCE partners to lend expertise and assistance, ensuring the success of REDUCE projects. The Department has worked alongside REDUCE partners through the Baltimore Metropolitan Council for regional energy procurement and renewable energy strategy for decades, and collaborates daily with the Office of Sustainability on city-focused climate mitigation and resilience strategies.

My team and I are in full support of the REDUCE application and believe that it will transform Baltimore and our region's ability to reach our collective climate goals. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, and we strongly hope that the EPA fully funds the REDUCE application.

Sincerely,

Berke Attila

Berke Attila
Director
Department of General Services

cc:

Terrel Chesson, Deputy Director, Department of General Services
Julia Kalloz, Chief, Energy Division, Department of General Services
Jason Mathias, Deputy Chief, Energy Division, Department of General Services



March 14, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Baltimore Green Space, I write to encourage support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to take crucial, climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The resilient communities in Baltimore battle negative climate impacts and they increase each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) which I supported in reviewing. To achieve the City and State of Maryland's goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, and alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state this initiative must be implemented. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction-specific programming prioritizing the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations and lay the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. REDUCE also aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce.

Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I encourage you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Katie Lautar at katherine@baltimoregreenspace.org. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Lautar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Katie" and last name "Lautar" clearly legible.

Katherine Lautar, Executive Director



March 7, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency
Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Banner Neighborhoods Community Corporation, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

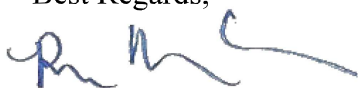
With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate

climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Robin Truiett-Theodorsen at robin@bannerneighborhoods.org. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robin Truiett-Theodorsen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robin Truiett-Theodorsen
Executive Director



March 7, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Belair-Edison Neighborhoods, Inc., I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Denitra Braham at 410-914-4245 or via email at denitra@belair-edison.org. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Denitra", followed by a horizontal line.

Denitra Braham, Executive Director



bgeSM

AN EXELON COMPANY

March 12, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency
Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

I write to express Baltimore Gas and Electric Company's (BGE) support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

Local government climate action planning and coordinated implementation is critically needed to meet the State of Maryland's goal to achieve a 60% reduction in emissions by 2031 and net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity – laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new untapped revenue sources to REDUCE, and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in a measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with the State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution-related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

BGE strongly urges EPA to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about BGE's support of this proposal, please contact me at amy.chandler@bge.com. BGE looks forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on the region.

Best Regards,

Amy Chandler
Manager, Strategic Programs
Baltimore Gas and Electric Company



March 13, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Black People Ride Bikes, Inc. as the President, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Dr. Nia Reed-Jones at blackpeopleridebikes@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

Dr. Nia Reed-Jones

Dr. Nia Reed-Jones

Co-Founder and President of Black People Ride Bikes, Inc.



**The Morton K. Blaustein
Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences**

301 Olin Hall / 3400 N. Charles Street
Baltimore MD 21218-2681
410-516-7135 / Fax 410-516-7933



3/11/2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of the Baltimore Social-Environmental Collaborative Urban Integrated Field Laboratory (BSEC), I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

BSEC is a \$24.8M program supported by the US Department of Energy, with a mandate to generate the science needed to support equitable climate action in Baltimore (<https://21cc.jhu.edu/research/bsec/>). BSEC has collaborated with City of Baltimore and numerous neighborhood organizations, NGOs, and local businesses in the Baltimore region to advance understanding and awareness of climate pollution in the city and region. This includes detailed mapping of air pollution, the urban heat island, flood risk, and greenhouse gas emissions across the City of Baltimore. Our continued collaboration will help to inform plans and evaluate progress, making it essential to the success of the project. We are pleased to continue to collaborate to apply research, better understand the impact of actions undertaken and, as possible, help educate a climate workforce to maximize the impact of funds invested in the REDUCE project.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact me in my role as the Principal Investigator of BSEC (zaitchik@jhu.edu). I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,



Benjamin F. Zaitchik
Professor, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Johns Hopkins University
Principal Investigator, The Baltimore Social-Environmental Collaborative



C.A.R.E Community Association, Inc.
219 North Chester St
Baltimore, MD 21231
Thecarecommunityassociation@yahoo.com
03/16/2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of the C.A.R.E. Community Association Inc., I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the six counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

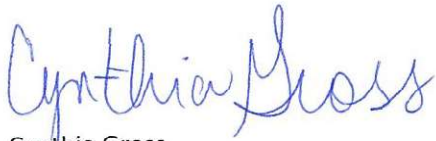
With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to

the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia Gross". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cynthia" and the last name "Gross" clearly distinguishable.

Cynthia Gross,
President, C.A.R.E. Community Association, Inc.

George Collins
3915 Maine Ave
Baltimore, Maryland 21207

5 Mar 24

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of The Forest Park Communities, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

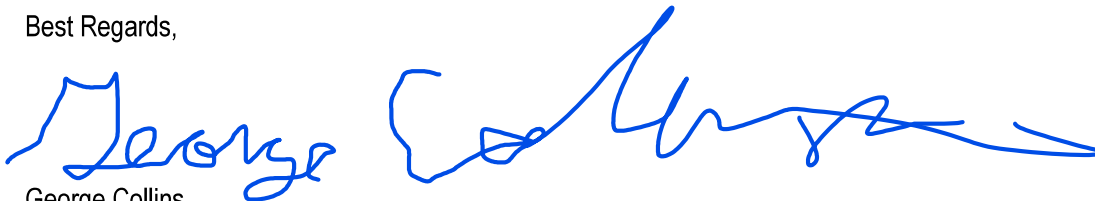
The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact George Collins at 410.258.7546. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,



George Collins
President Central Forest Park Community Association



Transportation and Urban Infrastructure Studies
Morgan State University · 1700 E. Cold Spring Lane · Baltimore, MD 21251

March 11, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Morgan State University, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland’s Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

Morgan State has collaborated with the City of Baltimore and other regional partners to advance understanding and awareness of climate pollution in the city and region. We have worked closely with regional partners to advance sustainable transportation through our work on Baltimore City’s Complete Streets Manual, the Baltimore Social-Environmental Collective sponsored by the Department of Energy, and through our bike and transit focused projects in our University Transportation Centers. Our continued collaboration will help to inform plans and evaluate progress, making it essential to the success of the project. We are pleased to continue to collaborate to apply research, better understand the impact of actions undertaken and, as possible, help educate a climate workforce to maximize the impact of funds invested in the REDUCE project.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions’ close collaboration with the State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Dr. Celeste Chavis at celeste.chavis@gmail.com or 443-885-5061. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Celeste Chavis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Celeste Chavis, Ph.D., PE

Professor & Chair

Transportation & Urban Infrastructure Studies

School of Engineering

Morgan State University

Coldstream Homestead Montebello Community Corporation

Transforming Environments and Minds “T.E.A.M.”

March 8, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of the Coldstream Homestead Montebello Community Corporation, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland’s Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions’ close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

CHMCC
3220-A The Alameda
Baltimore, MD 21218
Phone: 410.235.6715 Fax: 410.235.1745
Chmc.corp@gmail.com www.liveinchm.org

Coldstream Homestead Montebello Community Corporation

Transforming Environments and Minds "T.E.A.M."

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact me at chmc.corp@gmail.com or 410-235-6715. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Sincerely,



Mark Washington
Executive Director

CHMCC
3220-A The Alameda
Baltimore, MD 21218
Phone: 410.235.6715 Fax: 410.235.1745
Chmc.corp@gmail.com www.liveinchm.org

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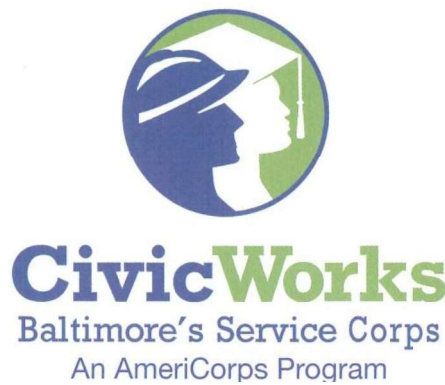
Heather Turner

Sherry Welch

Robert O. Zdenek

Dana M. Stein

President and Executive Director



March 25, 2024

TO: The Baltimore Office of Sustainability and Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: Letter of Commitment for the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area's CPRG Proposal

Dear REDUCE Coalition:

On behalf of Civic Works, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the Baltimore City and the six counties (Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard and Queen Anne's) in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

Civic Works has collaborated with the City of Baltimore and Howard County to advance understanding and awareness of climate pollution in the city and region. This includes Civic Works' role as Baltimore City's implementation partner for the Baltimore Energy Challenge and Baltimore Shines programs, which expand access to energy efficiency and solar services for low-income residents. Civic Works has also served as an implementation partner with Howard County for energy-focused community engagement initiatives. Our continued collaboration will help to inform plans and evaluate progress, making it essential to the success of the project. We are pleased to continue to collaborate to engage frontline communities, better understand the impact of actions undertaken through CPRG and support the behavior change needed regionally to achieve statewide, regional and local climate goals.

With CPRG funding, Civic Works will collaborate with the REDUCE partners to support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. This includes educating and supporting residents in completing home decarbonization improvements; proving energy efficiency, electrification and solar installs; and providing training to support career pathways for occupations engaged in regional decarbonization work.

Serving Baltimore's Communities and Creating Opportunities for Young Adults since 1993

Civic Works • 2701 St. Lo Drive • Baltimore, MD 21213 • (410) 366-8533 • Fax 410-366-1831 •

www.civicworks.com Funded in part by the Maryland Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism -

AmeriCorps Program



Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Eli Allen at eallen@civicworks.com. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eli Allen', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eli Allen
Senior Program Director

Board of Directors

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Vanessa L. Morris

Secretary

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John Quinn

Yana Rachinskaya

Lisa G. Radov

Carol R. Schwartz

Darian Senn-Carter

Sadie Smith

Craig S. Solomon

Joshua Shodeinde

Advisory Board Members

Marc G. Bunting

Chair

Matthew Allen

Matthew A.S. Esworthy

Sherretta Peterson

W. Bryan Rakes

Jason Rubenstein

Steven Stern

JaNean Stubbs-Taylor

Heather Turner

Sherry Welch

Robert O. Zdenek

Dana M. Stein

President and Executive Director



CivicWorks
Baltimore's Service Corps
An AmeriCorps Program

March 8, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Civic Works, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

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AmeriCorps Program



The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Eli Allen at ellen@civicworks.com. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eli Allen', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Eli Allen
Senior Program Director



March 12, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Climate Access Fund, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The Climate Access Fund (CAF) was established in 2018 as a statewide 501(c)3 green bank that reduces the energy burden of low-income households in Maryland through access to community solar power. CAF uses innovative financing and project structuring to fill gaps that prevent low-income households and historically disinvested communities from accessing the multiple benefits of community solar. CAF operates as both a nonprofit green bank and solar developer. While we are statewide, our headquarters are in Baltimore, and we have already invested in and developed a Baltimore-based community solar project that will save 150 low-income households 20 - 25% on their electricity bill and, over the lifetime of the project, offset 27,000 metric tons of CO₂.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close



collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Janelle Gendrano, Deputy Director, at janelle@climateaccessfund.org. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

Lynn Heller
Chief Executive Officer
Climate Access Fund



Councilman Mark Conway
Baltimore City Council *Fourth District*

100 N. Holliday Street, Suite 550 • Baltimore, Maryland 21202
(410) 396-4830 • mark.conway@baltimorecity.gov

Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20004

March 13, 2024

Re: Letter of Support for Baltimore City Department of Planning

Dear Review Panel:

I write to express my enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize, Utimize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

As a local elected official, I am keenly aware of the vital need for the local government climate action planning and coordinated, interjurisdictional implementation that the REDUCE project would undertake as a means of meeting the State of Maryland's goal to achieve a 60% reduction in emissions of by 2031 and net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. I also recognize that CPRG funds would catalyze additional investment in climate pollution reduction as the REDUCE partners could leverage the investment to pursue other funding opportunities and work within their jurisdictions to identify new funding mechanisms to support climate pollution reduction projects.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark S. Conway, Jr." in a cursive script.

Mark S. Conway, Jr.

CITY OF BALTIMORE

Room 527, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Telephone: (410) 396-4822
Email: Phylicia.Porter@baltimorecity.gov



Councilwoman Phylcia R. L. Porter

District 10

MEMBER:

Public Safety and Government Operations
Education, Workforce, and Youth
Health, Environment, and Technology

March 11, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency
Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

I write to express my enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

As a local elected official, I am keenly aware of the vital need for the local government climate action planning and coordinated, interjurisdictional implementation that the REDUCE project would undertake as a means of meeting the State of Maryland's goal to achieve a 60% reduction in emissions of by 2031 and net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. I also recognize that CPRG funds would catalyze additional investment in climate pollution reduction as the REDUCE partners could leverage the investment to pursue other funding opportunities and work within their jurisdictions to identify new funding mechanisms to support climate pollution reduction projects.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with the State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Councilwoman Phylicia Porter at 410-396-4822. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on the region.

Sincerely,

 MPH, MSL - District 10
Phylicia.Porter@baltimorecity.gov



Zeke Cohen

Councilmember

First District

513 City Hall • Baltimore, MD 21202 • 410-396-4821 • ZEKE.COHEN@BALTIMORECITY.GOV

March 8, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel,

I write to express my enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

As a local elected official, I am keenly aware of the vital need for the local government climate action planning and coordinated, interjurisdictional implementation that the REDUCE project would undertake as a means of meeting the State of Maryland's goal to achieve a 60% reduction in emissions of by 2031 and net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. I also recognize that CPRG funds would catalyze additional investment in climate pollution reduction as the REDUCE partners could leverage the investment to pursue other funding opportunities and work within their jurisdictions to identify new funding mechanisms to support climate pollution reduction projects.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.



Zeke Cohen

Councilmember

First District

513 City Hall • Baltimore, MD 21202 • 410-396-4821 • ZEKE.COHEN@BALTIMORECITY.GOV

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact my Chief of Staff, Maggie Master, at maggie.master@baltimorecity.gov. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on the region.

Sincerely,

Councilmember Zeke Cohen, District 1

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zeke Ch", written over a light blue rectangular background.

DATE: 3/28/2024

TO: The Baltimore Office of Sustainability and Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: Letter of Commitment for the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area's CPRG Proposal

Dear REDUCE Coalition:

On behalf of the Community Data Health Initiative (CDHI) – funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and done in collaboration with Data-Smart City Solutions at the Bloomberg Center at Harvard, the African American Mayors Association, and the Environmental Defense Fund – I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the Baltimore City and the six counties (Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard and Queen Anne's) in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

CDHI has collaborated with City of Baltimore to advance understanding and awareness of climate pollution by administering a citywide survey to capture the community's experiences with air pollution and extreme heat; contributing analyses on emissions, point sources, and related health impacts; and hosting multiple cross-city convenings on localized environmental policymaking. Our continued collaboration will help to inform plans and evaluate progress, making it essential to the success of the project. We are pleased to continue to collaborate to engage frontline communities, better understand the impact of actions undertaken through CPRG and support the behavior change needed regionally to achieve statewide, regional and local climate goals.

With CPRG funding, CDHI will collaborate with the REDUCE partners to support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Stephen Goldsmith at stephen_goldsmith@hks.harvard.edu. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Sincerely,



Stephen Goldsmith

Derek Bok Professor of the Practice of Urban Policy
Director of Data-Smart City Solutions



5807 Harford Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21214

410-444-2100

info@harbel.org | www.harbel.org | Fax 410-426-1140

Executive Board Members

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Sabrina Wiggins • Vice Chair
Janelle Cousino • Treasurer
John Harris • Secretary

Roxanne Fuentes, Executive Director

March 7, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

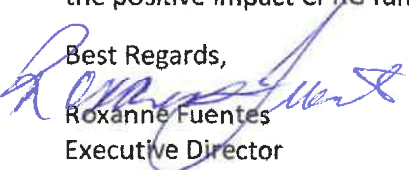
Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of HARBEL Community Organization, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan. The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region. The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay. I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Roxanne Fuentes at Rfuentes@harbel.org or 410-444-2100 ext. 1012. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,


Roxanne Fuentes
Executive Director

Serving the communities of N. E. Baltimore for 47 years.



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Director
Maria Bernadzikowski

County Executive
Calvin Ball

March 28th, 2024

Re: Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Letter of Support

Dear Selection Committee,

The Howard County Office of Emergency Management, in collaboration with other Howard County Departments and Offices, is seeking avenues to establish Resiliency Hubs within the County, consistent with the goals specified in Howard County's Climate Action and Resiliency Plan. Resiliency Hubs will improve the community's ability to recover from disasters exacerbated by climate change, with the number of weather, climate, and water extremes increasing in frequency and severity each year.

In this context, the County is in the process of establishing the suitability of three County facilities as Resiliency Hubs: the Roger Carter, North Laurel, and Gary Arthur Community Centers. The latter two appear suitable for solar installations with battery storage, which would substantially prolong their ability to operate and support community needs in the case of an electric grid failure. Receiving the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant would help move these projects forward and secure the additional funds for their completion.

The implementation of Resiliency Hubs will offer a range of benefits from hazard mitigation to greenhouse gas emission reduction, to supporting overall community resiliency. We believe these Resiliency Hubs will help our community prepare, adapt, and recover from the impacts of climate change. Through utilizing the proposed solar and battery storage systems, our community centers would be able to reliably provide a place for community members to access critical services and amenities like showers and heating/cooling during widespread power outages, while reducing these facilities' carbon footprint year-round when they function as regular community centers.

We greatly appreciate this opportunity to enhance Howard County's community resilience and make progress towards our greenhouse gas reduction goals. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Maria Bernadzikowski

0E2E0537B154499...

Maria Bernadzikowski

Director

Howard County Office of Emergency Management



BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON LABORERS' JOINT TRAINING FUND

3200 WILKENS AVENUE • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21229 • 410-525-1500
4721 BOSTON WAY • LANHAM, MARYLAND 20706 • 202-726-8820
www.dcltf.org • www.baltimorelaborers.org

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March 6, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

I write to express my enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

Local government climate action planning and coordinated implementation is critically needed to meet the State of Maryland's goal to achieve a 60% reduction in emissions of by 2031 and net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact me at jmcdonald@bwltf.org. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on the region.

Best Regards,

Jason McDonald

Jason McDonald
Training Director



Wes Moore GOVERNOR

Aruna Miller LT. GOVERNOR

Charles Glass, Ph.D., P.E. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 12, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

I would like to express my support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize, and Utilize Clean Energy (REDUCE) Project proposal submitted by the seven jurisdictions in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area, seeking a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09). This project will facilitate critical work at the local government level in support of the State of Maryland's goal to achieve a 60% reduction in emissions by 2031 and net-zero emissions by 2045.

Maryland Environmental Service is a not-for-profit business unit of the State of Maryland and is a leader in the environmental management sector with over 1,000 projects across the State, including those in solid waste management, stormwater, water and wastewater, environmental dredging and restoration, and alternative energy projects. The agency partners with municipalities, counties, the State, and sometimes the private sector to solve immediate issues or to meet long term environmental goals, like zero-waste initiatives. The MES team works in many communities and every County across the State and sees the substantial need for climate pollution reduction initiatives and the alleviation of burdens placed on environmental justice and front-line communities.

The REDUCE project is strategically designed to target identified environmental justice communities in Baltimore City and the surrounding areas, empowering them through various avenues, including implementing waste diversion and recycling initiatives, energy-efficient measures in buildings, vehicle mile travel reductions and electrification of vehicles, and strategies for municipal solid waste emissions reductions, which all align with Maryland's plan to reduce overall emissions. CPRG funds will further support sequestering carbon dioxide through nature-based solutions and foster innovative revenue sources to combat climate pollution. Additionally, the commitment to continuous workforce training ensures measurable reductions in climate pollution, benefiting communities, wildlife, and local economies. Collaboration with the State of Maryland significantly amplifies the impacts, ensuring that the nearly three million residents of the targeted area are better equipped to address climate-related impacts. This partnership lays the foundation for a sustainable and resilient future.

Environmental Protection Agency
Review Panel
Page Two

I urge the review panel to fully fund the REDUCE proposal, recognizing its unparalleled potential to drive meaningful change and foster a more sustainable future for our region. If you need more information or want to discuss our support for this proposal in more detail, please contact me at cglass@menv.com. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on Maryland communities.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles Glass". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charles Glass, Ph.D., P.E.
Executive Director



Y.E.S @ Langston Hughes
Community, Business, & Resource Center
5011 Arbutus Avenue, Baltimore, MD. 21215
LangstonHughesCBRC.org

March 11, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency
Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Youth Educational Services Inc operating the Langston Hughes Community, Business and Resource Center, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy - (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan. The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay. I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Shymaine Davis at Youth Educational Services, Inc. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

S. Davis

Shymaine Davis
Executive Director



March 25, 2024

TO: The Baltimore Office of Sustainability and Department of Public Works

**RE: Letter of Commitment for the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA)
Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Proposal**

Dear REDUCE Coalition:

This letter serves as the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) strong support of the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utimize Clean Energy (REDUCE) project. Through this project, Baltimore City and the six counties (Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard, and Queen Anne's) in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson MSA seek a competitive CPRG (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's CPRG.

MDE continues to collaborate with the City of Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard, and Queen Anne's Counties to advance understanding and awareness of climate pollution in the city and region. Throughout the CPRG Planning Grant Process, MDE works closely with the REDUCE partners to advance climate action in Maryland. We are pleased to continue collaboration to engage frontline communities, better understand the impact of actions undertaken through the CPRG and support the behavior change needed regionally to achieve statewide, regional, and local climate goals. MDE is the lead-agency for Maryland's CPRG Planning Grant and will work with REDUCE partners to support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. The combined activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. The activities in the REDUCE project will dovetail with MDE's proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region. The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly three million people living in the MSA (the 20th largest in the nation) by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Hoagland', written in a cursive style.

Christopher R. Hoagland, Director
Air and Radiation Administration



501 East Pratt Street
Baltimore, Maryland
21202-3194

P: 410-576-3800
aqua.org

March 13, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of The National Aquarium, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize, Utilize Clean Energy (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The National Aquarium connects people with nature to inspire conservation action; combatting climate change is one of our three overarching goals. We take a holistic approach which encompasses climate education and communication, mitigation, and adaptation. Our organization is committed to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2035. We work with communities and partners throughout the state to advocate for climate policy solutions and implement nature-based solutions that support climate resilience. We recognize that not everyone is experiencing climate impacts to the same degree, and climate solutions should prioritize equity and environmental justice.

With CPRG funding, REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction-specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities with the most need throughout Maryland. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan update that must be implemented to achieve the city's and state's ambitious goals while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on communities with environmental justice concerns. Local and state climate plans provide sound roadmaps to guide the significant investments and longer-term financing mechanisms needed for implementation.

CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero-waste capacity. To complement climate pollution reduction activities, REDUCE partners aim to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon; continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce; and seek additional revenue sources. Given close collaboration among



REDUCE partners and the State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the state's proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed project will help several jurisdictions take coordinated action to reduce climate pollution and better serve nearly three million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation. Project activities will yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal and look forward to seeing the positive impacts CPRG funds will leverage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Racanelli", with a small dot at the end.

John Racanelli
President and Chief Executive Officer

March 12, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency
Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

I write to express my enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project. The seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

Local government climate action planning and coordinated implementation is critically needed to meet the State of Maryland's goal to achieve a 60% reduction in emissions of by 2031 and net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state.

CPRG funding will enable the REDUCE partners to support community-level and jurisdiction-specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity and lay the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland's proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

Page 1 of 2

410.333.2730 / 410.333.2721 fax / authority@nmwda.org
nmwda.org / Business-to-Business Recycling: mdrecycles.org
Tower II – Suite 402, 100 S. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-2705

ADM1198797KMU

Comprehensive Waste Management Through Recycling, Reuse, Resource Recovery and Landfill

MEMBERS:

Rhody R. Holthaus, Anne Arundel County / Vacant, Baltimore City / D'Andrea L. Walker, Baltimore County / Clifford J. Engle, Carroll County
Phillip S. Harris, Frederick County / Joseph J. Siemek, Harford County / Mark A. DeLuca, Howard County / Guillermo Wainer, Montgomery County
Charles Glass, Maryland Environmental Service / Andrew Kays, Executive Director



The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay. The Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority is tasked with regional planning and services, support, and sustainability and thus will support its Member Jurisdictions, many of whom are among the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area, in such climate pollution reduction efforts, as applicable as directed and in accordance with our law.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact me at akays@nmwda.org. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on the region.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Kays", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andrew Kays
Executive Director



MIRACLE CITY CHURCH

100 S. Rock Glen Rd
Baltimore, MD 21229

March 12, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency
Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Miracle City Church, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn, and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made, and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with the State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact the undersigned at thomas.freeman@miraclecitychurch.org . I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Sincerely,

Thomas Freeman, Jr. PhD, PE
Head Elder



Environmental Protection Agency
Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Mar. 8, 2024

RE: Letter of Support for Baltimore City Department of Planning CPRG Submission

Dear Review Committee;

On behalf of Open Works, a nonprofit community makerspace in central Baltimore, I write to express enthusiastic support for the **R**educe, **E**lectrify, **D**ecarbonize **U**tilize **C**lean **E**nergy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay. The proposed activities also strongly align with our status as a community innovation hub where anyone can learn technical skills, use industrial equipment, prototype new technologies, and or start a business.


I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Will Holman at Open Works (will@openworksbmore.com / 410-862-0424). I



look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

We sincerely thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Will Holman
Executive Director, Open Works



March 12, 2014

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Pathway Forward, Inc., I write to express enthusiastic support for the **R**educe, **E**lectrify, **D**ecarbonize **U**tilize **C**lean **E**nergy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Brenda D. White at 410.935.2392. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

Brenda D. White

Brenda D. White, President



Queen Anne's County

County Commissioners:

James J. Moran, At Large
Jack N. Wilson, Jr., District 1
J. Patrick McLaughlin, District 2
Philip L. Dumenil, District 3
Christopher M. Corchiarino, District 4

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

The Liberty Building
107 North Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617

e-mail: QACCommissioners&Administrator@qac.org

County Administrator: Todd R. Mohn, PE
Executive Assistant to County Commissioners: Margie A. Houck
County Attorney: Patrick Thompson, Esquire

24 April 2023

Cristina Fernández
Division Director
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3
Air & Radiation Division (3AD00)
1600 John F Kennedy Blvd
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Re: Queen Anne's County Support for the joint Baltimore Metropolitan Council submittal of a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Application

Dear Ms. Fernández,

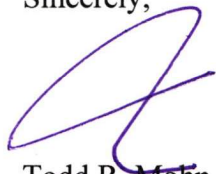
I am writing this letter to you on behalf of Queen Anne's County to express our commitment to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Application (CPRG) that the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) is submitting on behalf of the BMC jurisdictions. Not only does the County value its participation in BMC initiatives, but we also support this collaborative effort within the BMC to develop regional climate planning goals.

Queen Anne's County reaffirms its longstanding commitment to climate resiliency planning by extending its support to this collaborative approach with the BMC. The County has enacted multiple policy documents that strategize and prioritize climate resiliency projects. The 2022 Comprehensive Plan firmly establishes support for the implementation of the County's climate resiliency policies. We look forward to bringing those policy documents to bear as, through the BMC, we play a key role in the design a metropolitan-area-based climate plan. Queen Anne's County is committed to incorporating a variety of programs and projects that could be implemented by a range of eligible entities and to conducting meaningful engagement with low income and disadvantaged communities as part of the plan development process.

Our staff is eager to partner and appreciative of BMC staff efforts to coordinate this CPRG application on behalf of our region. The County is equally eager to establish regional planning priorities so that we are in a solid planning position to participate in EPA's next funding opportunity for Climate Pollution Reduction implementation grants.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Queen Anne's County Planning Director, Amy G. Moredock at (410)758-1255 or amoredock@qac.org.

Sincerely,



Todd R. Mohn, PE
County Administrator

CC: Michael B. Kelly, BMC Executive Director
Sara Tomlinson, PE, BMC Senior Water Resources Engineer
Amy G. Moredock, CFM, QAC Planning Director

Via email:

Fernandez.Cristina@epa.gov
mkelly@baltometro.org
stomlinson@baltometro.org
amoredock@qac.org



March 22, 2024

TO: The Baltimore Office of Sustainability and Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: Letter of Commitment for the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area's CPRG Proposal

Dear REDUCE Coalition:

On behalf of SolarX|Works, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which Baltimore City and the six counties (Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard and Queen Anne's) in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

SolarX|Works has collaborated with City of Baltimore agencies, the Department of Sustainability, and various coalitions to advance understanding and awareness of climate pollution in the city and region. By installing our solar-powered cooling technology in public areas such as bus stops across the city, our solution will help alleviate the effects of climate change on the most vulnerable citizens while providing innovative educational data on renewable technologies via digital displays.

Our continued collaboration will help to inform plans and evaluate progress, making it essential to the success of the project. We are pleased to continue to collaborate to apply research, better understand the impact of actions undertaken and, as possible, help educate a climate workforce to maximize the impact of funds invested in the REDUCE project.

With CPRG funding, SolarX|Works will collaborate with the REDUCE partners to support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the greatest need.

Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, public health, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with the State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State's proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have any questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Laurie A. Watkins at laurie@laurieawatkins.com. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,



Donald McGraw

Founder



March 23, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of Stillmeadow Community Projects, Inc., I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utimize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The people who live, work, play, invest, learn and grow in Baltimore already live with negative effects caused by climate pollution and the risk of climate related hazards increases each year. The City of Baltimore recently approved an ambitious Climate Action Plan Update (CAP) that must be implemented to achieve the City and State of Maryland goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, while also working to alleviate the unjust, unfair burden placed on environmental justice and frontline communities across the state. While the CAP provides a sound roadmap for achieving the shorter-term goal of 60% emission reduction by 2030, significant investment must be made, and longer-term financing mechanisms must be identified to implement the CAP.

With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the coalitions' close collaboration with the State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Yorell Tuck at yorell@stillmeadow.community. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.



Best Regards,

Yorell Tuck

Yorell Tuck
Director of Operations



March 7, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Transmitted electronically via: CPRG@epa.gov

Dear Review Panel:

On behalf of The Transformation Center, I write to express enthusiastic support for the Reduce, Electrify, Decarbonize Utilize Clean Energy – (REDUCE) project through which the seven counties in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area seek a competitive Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) (Opportunity # EPA-R-OAR-CPRGT-23-09) to undertake key, timely climate pollution reduction initiatives outlined in the MSA-specific Primary Climate Action Plan and the State of Maryland’s Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

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With CPRG funding, the REDUCE partners will support community-level and jurisdiction specific programming to prioritize the benefits of climate pollution reduction for communities across Maryland with the most need. CPRG funds will support decarbonizing municipal operations while spurring regional zero waste capacity laying the foundation for regional circular economies of scale. To complement climate pollution reduction and decarbonization activities, REDUCE aims to maximize the co-benefits of nature-based solutions to sequester carbon, seek new, future untapped revenue sources to REDUCE and continually train, educate, and motivate a regional climate workforce. Combined, the activities will result in measurable reduction of climate pollution and impactful change through climate actions that yield co-benefits for communities, individuals, wildlife, ecosystems, and local economies. Further, due to the



coalitions' close collaboration with State of Maryland, activities will dovetail with the State of Maryland proposal to create a significantly greater impact on the region.

The proposed activities will help safeguard the nearly 3 million people living in the MSA, the 20th largest in the nation, by better preparing jurisdictions to take near and longer-term action to mitigate climate pollution related risks in particularly climate vulnerable areas located on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay.

I strongly urge you to fully fund the REDUCE proposal. Should you have questions or wish to speak about our support of this proposal, please contact Mallory at mallory@transformationcenter.tc. I look forward to seeing the positive impact CPRG funds will have on our community and across the region.

Best Regards,

Mallory Zimmerman

Mallory Zimmerman

Director of Operations