



March 31, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Office of Air and Radiation
Climate Pollution Reduction Grant
Washington, DC 20460

**Re: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program:
Implementation Grant Letter of Support - EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07 for the Bay Area Clean Homes
Initiative**

Dear US EPA Office of Air and Radiation,

The City and County of San Francisco (San Francisco) is a member of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). Acting through the San Francisco Environment Department (SFE), San Francisco County is also a member of the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), a partnership that serves the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties with innovative and impactful energy programs.

We commend the EPA for creating and administering the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG), which will drive transformative work and significant near-term greenhouse (GHG) emissions reductions in low-income and disadvantaged communities through 2030. Over the long term, the CPRG will provide a pathway to scale those reduction strategies.

San Francisco supports ABAG's proposed Bay Area Clean Homes Initiative (BACHI), aimed at directly benefiting low-income and disadvantaged community households across the region, as defined by the EPA's Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. BACHI will complement existing BayREN programs for both multifamily and single-family homes, which are important in rapidly reducing GHG emissions and advancing community decarbonization efforts.

BACHI will deliver immediate GHG emissions reductions while laying the groundwork for sustained progress through a scalable model. BACHI combines ready-to-go home retrofits with strategic interventions to promote residential decarbonization region-wide. Through strategic partnerships and a blend of short- and long-term strategies, BACHI will inform effective interventions addressing technical, economic, and behavioral barriers in frontline communities.

BACHI will provide a streamlined, region-wide program with tailored offerings based on local needs, goals, and existing services. This unique delivery model is poised to rapidly expand access to



residential decarbonization for households disproportionately affected by pollution and high energy costs, historically excluded from clean energy opportunities.

San Francisco supports BACHI because it aligns with its equity and climate action goals, prioritizes underserved communities, and partnering with entities like other local governments, Habitat for Humanity, Rebuilding Together, community-based organizations, and Community Choice Aggregation companies for regional outreach. Currently, Rebuilding Together helps implement Fix Lead SF, a lead paint abatement program jointly led by SFE and the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Moreover, BACHI advances San Francisco's Climate Action Plan, particularly its Building Operations Supporting Action #2-9, by expanding electrification measures to facilitate residential building decarbonization in low-income and disadvantaged communities.

If funded, San Francisco will actively engage as a BACHI partner, working alongside BayREN to deliver services to the communities. In collaboration with the San Francisco Climate Equity Hub, SFE will conduct marketing, education, and outreach efforts, pilot neighborhood-based approaches, and provide ongoing program input.

San Francisco looks forward to participating in this historic effort to drive direct, household-level climate action, economic relief for households in low-income and disadvantaged communities, and transformative solutions that will deliver significant near-term GHG emissions reductions while positioning the Bay Area region to decarbonize our communities successfully and equitably.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tyrone Jue".

Tyrone Jue, Director
San Francisco Environment Department
tyrone.jue@sfgov.org