

The Board of Supervisors

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Diane Burgis, 3rd District
Ken Carlson, 4th District
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Contra Costa County



Monica Nino
Clerk of the Board
and
County Administrator
(925) 655-2075

March 8, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
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 Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Administrator,

I am the Chair of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Contra Costa, a member of both the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), and the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), a partnership that serves the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties. We commend the EPA for its creation of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, which will drive transformative work and significant near term GHG emission reductions through 2030 as well as provide a pathway to scale greenhouse gas reductions in low-income disadvantaged communities over the long term.

Our county supports ABAG's proposed Bay Area Clean Homes Initiative (BACHI). This program would directly benefit 2,000 low-income and disadvantaged community (LIDAC) households, as defined by EPA's Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST), across the region. Contra Costa County is home to four refineries as well as power plants and other large industrial facilities. Many of the communities identified as LIDAC are adjacent to these facilities. As we update our General Plan and Climate Action Plan, Contra Costa County is incorporating environmental justice and economic development policies and actions to address the historic injustices many of our communities have endured.

The proposed BACHI program design aligns with Contra Costa County's equity and climate action objectives. Our draft Climate Action Plan 2024 includes a goal to: "Retrofit existing buildings and facilities in the unincorporated County, and County infrastructure, to reduce energy use and convert to low-carbon or carbon-neutral fuels." This includes our ongoing work to develop a roadmap to convert existing homes and businesses to use low- or zero-carbon appliances, with particular attention to minimizing risk of displacement or disruption to those who rent.

BACHI seeks to deliver services complementary to those offered through BayREN's multifamily and single-family programs; we believe both efforts are vital and necessary to help rapidly decrease GHG emissions and support community decarbonization as a solution to rid our reliance on fossil fuels.

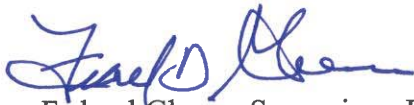
Contra Costa County supports the design and intent of the proposed Initiative and, should the proposal be successful, will actively participate in the delivery of program services to BayREN customers as a BACHI partner. Our organization will conduct marketing, education, and outreach (ME&O) efforts, pilot neighborhood approaches, and will provide ongoing program input to ensure BACHI continues to meet the needs of our local

community. In particular, we are prepared to serve in the role described for BayREN county members in the BACHI proposal's task on advancing neighborhood decarbonization.

The BACHI will deliver a streamlined region-wide program, presenting offerings that, while unified in approach, will be tailored to each community based on local needs, local goals, and complementary local services. We feel confident that the unique BACHI delivery model will expeditiously expand access to residential decarbonization for households disproportionately impacted by pollution, burdened by high energy costs, and historically excluded from clean energy opportunities.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joseph D. Glover".

Federal Glover, Supervisor, District 5
Chair, Board of Supervisors