



March 27, 2024

Angela Tovar
City of Chicago Department of Environment
Via Electronic Mail

Dear Commissioner Tovar,

The Center for Neighborhood Technology supports the Coalition application from the City of Chicago and County of Cook for \$199,999,000 for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. My organization delivers innovative analysis and solutions that support community-based organizations and local governments to create neighborhoods that are equitable, sustainable, and resilient. We support this application because of its benefits to all Chicagoans, but especially those who live in areas disproportionately burdened by the impacts of climate change and environmental racism.

The Chicago/Cook County CRPG Coalition Proposal advances highly effective Greenhouse Gas reduction strategies that also have strong Environmental Justice benefits. Measures include an Industrial Decarbonization component (for Chicago, Suburban Cook County, and DuPage County) to assist smaller and medium sized businesses, to install energy efficient and electrified equipment, renewable energy, and refrigerant replacement systems, while reducing toxics and air pollution in Environmental Justice areas. The program will also address food waste in Chicago and Cook County through creation of food scrap collection programs and the infrastructure to support them. And it will pursue aggressive energy efficiency, electrification and renewable energy strategies in public buildings such as schools, libraries and public housing in low income and distressed communities to reduce air pollution, provide jobs, and create educational working models for aggressively addressing climate change.

The proposal shared by the project team to drastically reduce our GHG emissions and catalyze economic opportunities within the clean energy economy is critical for the Chicago region and we look forward to working closely to support this effort. Please do not hesitate to contact me for further assistance or information.

Sincerely,

Nina Idemudia

Nina Idemudia
Chief Executive Officer
Center for Neighborhood Technology