



Metropolitan Mayors *Caucus*

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March 26, 2024

Angela Tovar
Commissioner, City of Chicago Department of Environment
Via Electronic Mail

Dear Commissioner Tovar,

The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus supports the Coalition application from the City of Chicago and County of Cook for \$199.9 million for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

The (Caucus) is a non-profit regional council of governments representing 275 municipalities in northeastern Illinois. One-hundred eighty-one of our member municipalities have designated LIDAC census tracts in their jurisdiction. The Caucus is the lead agency for the Chicago MSA CPRG planning grant and the author of the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP). This proposed project will implement multiple *Priority GHG Reduction Strategies related to building decarbonization and waste*. The City of Chicago and Cook County actively contributed to the development of the PCAP.

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,

Neil C. James
Executive Director
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

City of Chicago · DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference · Lake County Municipal League · McHenry County Council of Governments
Metro West Council of Governments · Northwest Municipal Conference · South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association
Southwest Conference of Mayors · West Central Municipal Conference · Will County Governmental League

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