



Town of Fairfield

Office of the First Selectman

William A. Gerber
First Selectman
203-256-3030

725 Old Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
wgerber@fairfieldct.org

March 25, 2024

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
Administrator of Environmental Protection
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of the Administrator, 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

RE: MetroCOG "Municipal Retrofits and Renewables" CPRG Implementation Grant Application

Dear Administrator Regan,

I am writing in resolute support of the application submitted by the Connecticut Metropolitan Council of Governments (MetroCOG) for Municipal Retrofits and Renewables in pursuance of GHG emission reduction measures enumerated in the Southwest Connecticut Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP). Funding through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Implementation Grant program will serve to significantly reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the Town of Fairfield, Connecticut and improve public health in the region.

MetroCOG is requesting CPRG Implementation funding to assist its member municipalities to retrofit municipal buildings and systems and install renewable energy technology on municipal properties. CPRG funds would be utilized for building retrofits, including weatherization, envelope modernization, and HVAC upgrades, and renewable technologies, including installation of solar panels. Fairfield's schools, town hall, wastewater treatment and public works facilities are examples of structures that may be funded by MetroCOG's Municipal Retrofits and Renewables Application. Proactively retrofitting and installing renewable technologies for these structures will "set a standard" within the Town of Fairfield bringing attention to the need for further action to reduce GHG emissions.

As MetroCOG's Municipal Retrofits and Renewables project is implemented across the region, municipal buildings and systems—key community assets—will become more comfortable and healthier for residents of our community as removal of criteria air pollutants (CAPs) and hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) associated with outdated buildings and their systems are reduced. Further, a significant reduction in fossil fuel derived energy will improve local air quality in the region leading to improved public health. Resulting cost savings from reduced energy usage and maintenance costs can be reprioritized to improve service and reduce costs for residents in the region, particularly in communities with a disproportionate number of energy burdened households.

This grant application exemplifies the goals of the CPRG program of generating substantial near-term and cumulative GHG emissions by 2030 and beyond, improving public health and quality of life, and maximizing the impact of emerging technologies through multi-jurisdictional collaboration.

On behalf of the Town of Fairfield, I strongly support this grant application and respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of MetroCOG's application for funding through the CPRG Implementation Grant program.

Sincerely,

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

William A. Gerber
First Selectman