



Town of Easton

David Bindelglass
First Selectman

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March 25, 2024

Honorable Michael S. Regan
Administrator of Environmental Protection
United States Environmental Protection Agency
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 would serve to significantly reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Easton 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. Easton schools, town hall, wastewater treatment and public works facilities are examples of structures that may be funded by MetroCOG Municipal Retrofits and Renewables Application. Proactively retrofitting and installing renewable technologies for these structures will "set a standard" within Easton bringing attention to the need for further action to reduce GHG emissions.

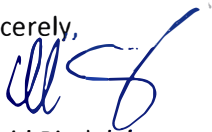
As MetroCOG's Municipal Retrofits and Renewables project is implemented across the region, municipal buildings and systems—key community assets—will become more comfortable and healthier for residents of our community as removal of criteria air pollutants (CAPs) and hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) associated with outdated buildings and their systems are reduced.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.

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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 Easton, I strongly support this grant application and respectfully urge your favorable consideration of MetroCOG's application for funding through the CPRG Implementation Grant program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Bindelglass', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

David Bindelglass