



## City of Cleveland

Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

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March 26, 2024

County Executive Chris Ronayne  
Cuyahoga County Administrative Headquarters  
2079 E 9th St., Cleveland, OH 44115

RE: Letter of Intent for Cuyahoga County CPRG Implementation Grant Submission

Dear Executive Ronayne,

I am writing on behalf of the **City of Cleveland** to express our intent to sign the coalition's Memorandum of Agreement to partner with **Cuyahoga County and the City of Painesville in pursuit of a CPRG Implementation Grant** in line with the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) measures submitted by the Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency. As communities committed to sustainability and environmental stewardship, we believe that collaborating on this endeavor will not only benefit our respective jurisdictions but also contribute positively to the broader goal of reducing pollution across our region.

The CPRG Implementation Grant submitted by Cuyahoga County, in coalition with the City of Cleveland and the City of Painesville, will fund an innovative and transformative project that will:

- Generate clean and renewable community energy through municipal utilities
- Develop brownfields into community friendly 'brightfields'
- Implement nature-based solutions that will dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Improve low-income energy burden, and
- Improve outdoor air quality.

The City of Cleveland city departments and offices that will support this project, include Cleveland Public Power, the Department of Port Control (which oversees airport operations for Cleveland Hopkins Airport), the Mayor's Office of Sustainability and the Department of Economic Development. Other city stakeholders will also be engaged through the city's climate planning efforts to update its Cleveland Climate Action Plan and city operational Municipal Action Plan. The project and updated plans will further the successful development of solar generation, support the resiliency of Cleveland Hopkins airport operations, ensure low cost renewable energy for residential customers of Cleveland Public Power, and foster culturally informed community engagement with neighborhood residents.

The City of Cleveland has long been committed to the reduction of greenhouse gases, from its first climate action plan (CAP) in 2013, its updated CAP in 2018 that had increased community engagement and used a racial equity screening tool to evaluate plan goals, objectives and impacts, to the revitalized leadership under the Bibb

Administration, beginning in 2022, that pursues decarbonization and climate resiliency efforts block by block and neighborhood by neighborhood. The impacts of climate change have become increasingly felt in our region. In Cleveland 2023 was by far the warmest year in recorded history and in the last ten years the region experienced five of the 10 warmest years on record and 54 daily temperature records. The City suffered through its worst and second worst days for air quality on record just last summer.

This project to increase clean solar generation and help fight back against climate change and related risks to our ecosystem will also improve the health and wellbeing of communities across the city and county. It will decrease energy burden for CPP customers, increase the renewable electricity generation for CPP's portfolio, put former brownfields to work in the green economy, and add to the resiliency of airport operations.

We are excited about the prospect of working in coalition with Cuyahoga County to secure and implement GHG reduction measures in our region. We are committed to fostering a productive and mutually beneficial partnership that delivers tangible results for our residents and the environment. Thank you for considering our letter of intent. We look forward to the opportunity to discuss this partnership further.

Thank you for your consideration of this application. Any questions can be directed to Ryan Puente, Deputy Chief of Staff and Chief Government Affairs Officer, at (216) 664-3544 or via email at [rpuentes@clevelandohio.gov](mailto:rpuentes@clevelandohio.gov).

Sincerely,



**Justin M. Bibb**  
Mayor | City of Cleveland