



DAVID P. JOYCE
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
14TH DISTRICT OF OHIO

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

March 28, 2024

County Executive Chris Ronayne
Cuyahoga County Administrative Headquarters
2079 East 9th Street
Cleveland, OH 44115

RE: Cuyahoga County, the City of Cleveland, and the City of Painesville CPRG Implementation Grant Submission

Dear County Executive Ronayne:

I'm writing regarding Cuyahoga County, the City of Cleveland, and the City of Painesville's Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grant (CPRG), in alignment with the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) measures submitted by the Northeastern Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) for the Cleveland-Elyria Metropolitan Statistical Area.

As you know, the U.S. EPA provides funding for CPRG grants to states and local governments for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The CPRG Implementation Grant being submitted by Cuyahoga County, in coordination with the City of Cleveland and the City of Painesville aims to generate renewable energy through brownfield development and municipal utility clean energy deployment. The project will also generate renewable energy through other nature-based solutions that will dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve low-income energy burden, improve outdoor air quality, and establish a regionally transformative lakefront nature preserve for the benefit of residents of and visitors to Lake County.

The Painesville portion of the proposed CPRG Implementation Grant will have benefits for the residents of Ohio's 14th Congressional District. According to the applicants, the overall vision for the project includes reclamation of a 1,100-acre brownfield - formerly blighted and inaccessible to the public - as a public lakefront nature preserve that will complement Lake Metroparks' ongoing construction of a 2-mile ADA-accessible lakeshore bike and pedestrian trail. This trail will be the longest ADA-accessible lakeshore trail on the US coast of Lake Erie and will connect two existing public parks serving a combined total of 500,000 visitors annually. Establishing this 1,100-acre lakefront preserve, connecting the residents of Fairport Harbor, Painesville Township and the City of Painesville to the forthcoming lakeshore trail and other lake- and nature-based recreation opportunities, will yield tremendous environmental, economic, social and climate resilience benefits for these communities, as well as the broader Lake County and Northeast Ohio region.

For the reasons stated above, I applaud the coalition's CPRG application and ask that you give their application full and fair consideration. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

David P. Joyce
Member of Congress