March 12, 2024

Denver Regional Council of Governments
1001 17th Street, Suite 700
Denver, CO 80202

RE: Letter of Support for Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grant (CPRG) - Decarbonize DRCOG Proposal

As the Sustainability Manager for the Energy, Equity and Environmental Division, I am writing to express our wholehearted support for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) project proposal presented by the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG). The "Decarbonize DRCOG" initiative encompasses a transformative and holistic approach to regional building decarbonization, and E3 believe it aligns with our Sustainability Action Plan. Commerce City has one of the highest per capita GHG footprints in the region:

- Commerce City (C3) - 34.5 CO2e
- Fort Collins – 12 CO2e
- Denver - 11.5 CO2e
- Longmont - 10.3 CO2e

Unfortunately, 57% of our GHG sources are from industrial pollution not within our control with Suncor accounting for 87% so addressing other strategies such as the ones described below will be instrumental in C3 reaching our GHG targets and improving air quality.

- This proposal addresses Denver and the Metro Area's largest source of GHG emissions – the building sector.
- The proposal spans the entire region, recognizing that building retrofits, supply chain, workforce, and market transformation transcend municipal borders and require a regional approach.
- The proposal's programs are accessible and implementable across jurisdictions and government capacities.
- The proposal tackles all barriers to building decarbonization, offering tailored services for home and building owners, industry, and local governments.
- The three-tiered approach caters to diverse needs: full-service retrofits, energy advisors for the mass market, and direct incentives for those with existing plans.
- Industry benefits from workforce development and business growth funding, along with innovation dollars for new ideas.
- Local governments receive support for solution development, implementation, and education, promoting zero-emission codes and building performance standards.
- The grant supports an increase in well-paying jobs, addressing the region's employment needs.

The proposal is comprehensive and transformative. It not only targets equitable building electrification but also ensures a focus on Justice40 principles, prioritizing benefits for low-income and disadvantaged communities and will help bring our entire region along in advancing our climate justice and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

We look forward to contributing our expertise, tools, and resources to support the success of this groundbreaking initiative.

Should you have any inquiries regarding our support for this funding application, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rosemarie Russo

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Commerce CITY
Quality Community for a Lifetime