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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 City of Aurora, we are writing to express our 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 we believe it aligns with our cities goals to support innovation, workforce development and the wellbeing of our communities through the development of a sustainable and comfortable built environment.

Home to approximately 400,000 residents, the City of Aurora is the second largest municipality in the Denver Metro Area and third largest municipality in the State of Colorado. The Aurora Places Comprehensive Plan (2018) establishes the strategic direction for Aurora's growth and development. The plan recognizes that:
*"A thriving natural environment – including stewardship of water, **energy** and natural resources – is* essential to the physical and mental wellbeing of residents *and the city's ability to **support future growth**."*

As a key action under our comprehensive plan, the City of Aurora is committed to pursuing programs and partnerships that will improve energy efficiency for our communities. The "Decarbonize DRCOG" is a comprehensive program that will provide full-service electrification services for LIDAC (Low Income Disadvantaged Communities) across the metro area. This will ensure that energy upgrades are provided to those most in need and will have positive impacts for communities in terms of household costs, comfort, health and wellbeing. The program will also bolster existing rebates and other programs for electrification and decarbonization in the residential and commercial sectors. This represents a comprehensive approach to decarbonizing and reducing GHG emissions in the building sector, which is the largest source of emissions in the metro area.

The program will also address workforce development and industry innovation, policy development and outreach in order to effectively tackle barriers and achieve the comprehensive decarbonization of the built environment. By addressing training and workforce development the program will help support economic growth and employment in Aurora and the wider metro area.

By encompassing a comprehensive suite of measures to address the various barriers and opportunities for decarbonization and electrification the program will help achieve significant emissions reduction across the metro region. It will ensure that all communities are included and benefit from the transition to law-carbon built and environment and green economy.

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

Should you have any inquiries regarding our support for this funding application, please feel free to contact Laura Perry at lperry@auroragov.org.

Jason Batchelor
City Manager