

March 5, 2024

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

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

Please accept this letter as documentation of The Northwest Metropolitan Regional Energy Code Cohort's commitment to actively support the success of the Decarbonize DRCOG grant proposal. This cohort is a growing collaborative of more than ten local governments in the metro Denver region who are working together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve resilience by achieving zero emissions codes in new construction by the end of 2030. Colorado is one of the few states where energy codes are adopted at the local level, so strong regional consistency and coordination is critical to ease compliance and ensure that energy codes are effective in reducing greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions from energy use. The Northwest Metropolitan Regional Energy Code Cohort's collaboration 2021 through 2023 supported members in adopting 2021 IECC and strengthening amendments to drive electrification and produced a joint [Roadmap to Net Zero Energy in New Construction](#) to guide further implementation.

We have coordinated on the Decarbonize DRCOG initiative from its inception and we have provided input to help it incorporate much-needed support to ensure the success of decarbonizing building policy in our early-adopting communities. The permitting, planning, enforcement, analysis and engagement capacity support is essential to take the greenhouse gas reductions from policy to reality in the building stock. The programmatic incentives and workforce development, along with outreach, engagement and communications are critical to ensuring our LIDAC residents are primary beneficiaries of heightened building practices and associated reductions in energy costs and air pollution.

If the Decarbonize DRCOG grant is awarded, our code cohort would integrate into the DRCOG broader regional effort in support of both new and existing residential and commercial local building policy.

Signature of this letter signifies our commitment of expertise and capacity to one or more of the following actions:

- *Participation on the program's Advisory Board, contributing to co-creation, collaboration, and informed decision-making*
- *Contribution of staff time and resources to continued policy implementation coordination*
- *Active participation by building department and sustainability staff in the Building Policy Collaborative*
- *Incorporation of program objectives and strategies into municipal planning documents such as comprehensive plans, climate action plans, and sustainability initiatives, as appropriate*
- *Establishment of policies and ordinances in conjunction with the program that support building decarbonization efforts*
- *Integration of proposed measures with existing municipality programs and initiatives to maximize synergies and avoid duplication of efforts*
- *Sharing of relevant data and information with the program to facilitate informed decision-making and strategic planning*
- *Contribution of resources such as meeting facilities, equipment, or materials as needed*
- *Participation in evaluation mechanisms to document outcomes and evaluate success*
- *Support for additional funding opportunities to sustain and expand programmatic efforts*
- *Engagement with community stakeholders through public outreach, education campaigns, and participation in working groups*
- *Support for inclusion measures within our community to ensure alignment with Justice40, environmental justice, and equity considerations, prioritizing the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged populations*
- *Collaboration with community organizations, advocacy groups, and other stakeholders to address systemic barriers and promote equitable access to program benefits and opportunities*

The current Northwest Metropolitan Regional Energy Code Cohort members are excited about the transformative potential of this initiative and look forward to working closely with DRCOG and other stakeholders to advance our collective climate and environmental justice goals.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Collin Tomb', with a stylized, cursive script.

Collin Tomb

Climate/Health Strategist, Boulder County Office of Sustainability, Climate Action & Resilience

Facilitator on behalf of the Northwest Metropolitan Regional Energy Code Cohort

ctomb@bouldercounty.gov

Northwest Metropolitan Regional Energy Code Cohort as of March 2024:

Boulder County

City of Boulder

City and County of Broomfield

Town of Berthoud

City and County of Denver

Town of Erie

City of Golden

City of Lafayette

City of Longmont

City of Louisville

City of Northglenn

Town of Superior

City of Thornton

City of Westminster