

Government of the District of Columbia

Department of Transportation



March 22, 2024

Director Richard Jackson
DC Department of Energy and Environment
1200 First St NE 5th floor
Washington, DC 20018

RE: Letter of Commitment for District Department of Energy and Environment application for Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) - EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07

Dear Director Jackson,

I am writing to express strong support for the Department of Columbia's grant application submitted by the District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), seeking funding through the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program (CPRG) to advance equity and reduce emissions in the Ivy City/Brentwood neighborhood. As a key member of the coalition, The District Department of Transportation (DDOT), is strongly committed to implementing this project as described below and in the proposal.

The District of Columbia leads the nation in greenhouse gas reduction goals, aiming to become carbon neutral by 2045. The District has adopted achievable roadmaps to meet these targets including Carbon Free DC, Sustainable DC, Clean Energy DC, Zero Waste DC, and moveDC. DDOT is particularly committed to achieving the sustainability goals outlined in moveDC, the District of Columbia's long-range transportation plan. To reach the goals within these plans, the District must lead with equity and ensure that carbon reductions simultaneously uplift historically disadvantaged communities. The District is poised to implement the financial, technical and practical solutions that will be required to realize projects that do just that in the Ivy City/Brentwood community.

With CPRG funding, the District aims to significantly decrease greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and waste, focusing on implementation in the Ivy City/Brentwood neighborhood to realize air quality and other benefits of interest to this community. This initiative has three main focuses:

- Boost the adoption of electric bicycles (e-bikes) and electric cargo bicycles (cargo e-bikes) within the community. Funding from CPRG will allow DDOT to raise the amount of each voucher and expand the number of vouchers offered to provide a better, more equitable approach for residents in LIDAC communities.
- Increase charging infrastructure for medium and heavy-duty vehicles by installing a total of 40 Level 3 chargers with a capacity of 180kWh of power. These chargers will be accompanied by protective solar canopies and will be situated at 6 District government fleet fueling facilities located in CJEST neighborhoods, including Ivy City/Brentwood. This infrastructure upgrade is essential to support the District's ambitious goal of achieving 100% electrification of the government fleet by 2040 and will be managed by the Department of Public Works (DPW).

- Expand and internalize organics collection service equivalent to trash and recycling collections. Funding would cover start-up costs to internalize a residential organics collection program. In the preceding stages, DPW plans to establish a weighted registration process such that households that register in Ivy City/Brentwood and other LIDAC communities will be lifted to the top of the list, and education and outreach will be prioritized in these neighborhoods.

Investing in these projects will achieve substantial community benefits for residents and families in LIDAC communities while also spurring innovation and growth in the District's clean economy and achieving significant cumulative GHG emissions reductions by 2030 and beyond.

This cross-agency coalition effort is an efficient and effective method to accelerate impact, spur innovation, foster synergies and information sharing, and achieve progress not possible through isolated programs.

This project is closely aligned with moveDC's goals regarding travel mode shift by assisting in the ability of residents to travel via modes other than single occupancy vehicles. In addition, our DDOT places a strong emphasis on prioritizing benefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities and will do so through this program by ensuring some funding is reserved for "Preferred Applicants." A Preferred Applicant is a District resident enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, or the DC Healthcare Alliance.

I am in full support of the application submitted by the Department of Energy and Environment. Please let me know if you have any questions, and I appreciate the opportunity to support this important effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Kershbaum', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sharon Kershbaum
Acting Director

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March 21, 2024

Director Richard Jackson
DC Department of Energy and Environment
1200 First St NE 5th floor
Washington, DC 20018

RE: Letter of Commitment for District Department of Energy and Environment application for Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) - EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07

Dear Director Jackson,

I am writing to express my strong support for the District Department of Energy and Environment's (DOEE) grant application to the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program (CPRG), aimed at advancing equity and reducing emissions in the Ivy City/Brentwood neighborhood. As a key member of the coalition, the Department of Public Works (DPW) is fully committed to implementing this project, as outlined in the proposal and detailed below.

The District of Columbia leads the nation in greenhouse gas reduction goals, aiming to become carbon neutral by 2045. To achieve this ambitious vision, the District has adopted comprehensive and realistic roadmaps, including initiatives such as Carbon Free DC, Sustainable DC, Clean Energy DC, Zero Waste DC, and moveDC. Of particular focus for DPW is the Zero Waste DC plan, which outlines objectives including achieving a citywide solid waste diversion rate of 80% and annual greenhouse gas emissions reductions of 1.38 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2040.

In striving to meet these targets, we acknowledge the critical need to prioritize equity, ensuring that efforts to reduce carbon emissions also uplift historically marginalized communities. The District is poised to implement the necessary financial, technical, and practical solutions required to realize projects that do just that in the Ivy City/Brentwood community, ensuring that all residents benefit equally from carbon reduction efforts.

With CPRG funding, the District aims to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and waste, with a specific focus on the Ivy City/Brentwood neighborhood. This initiative has three main components:

1. Boosting the adoption of electric bicycles (e-bikes) and electric cargo bicycles (cargo e-bikes) within the community, thereby providing residents in Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities (LIDAC) with greater access to sustainable transportation options.
2. Increasing charging infrastructure for medium and heavy-duty vehicles by installing 40 Level 3 chargers with a capacity of 180kWh of power at 6 District government fleet fueling facilities. This infrastructure upgrade is crucial to support the District's goal of achieving 100% electrification of the government fleet by 2040.

3. Expanding and internalizing organics collection service equivalent to trash and recycling collections, with a focus on Ivy City/Brentwood and other LIDAC areas. This will involve a weighted registration process to prioritize households in these neighborhoods, along with education and outreach efforts.

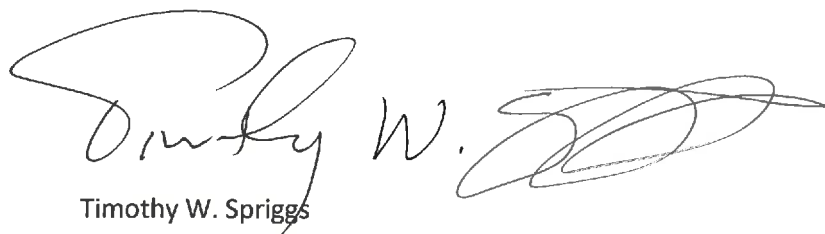
Investing in these projects will not only yield substantial benefits for residents and families in LIDAC areas but also drive innovation and growth in the District's clean economy. Additionally, these investments will play a significant role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and beyond.

This cross-agency coalition effort embodies a strategic approach to accelerating impact, driving innovation, and fostering synergies, achieving progress not possible through isolated programs alone. Furthermore, we are committed to extending our reach to a wider audience by leveraging existing community networks, conducting targeted outreach campaigns, and partnering with local organizations. We will also amplify our work through extensive media coverage, community events, and educational workshops to ensure widespread awareness and participation.

To deepen our impact in LIDAC areas, we will focus on building trust, nurturing meaningful relationships, and customizing our programs to address specific needs and challenges faced by residents. Additionally, we will invest in workforce development, training programs, and knowledge-sharing initiatives to build future capacity and empower individuals and organizations to continue driving progress toward our shared goals well beyond the lifespan of this project.

DPW is wholeheartedly committed to achieving these goals within the Ivy City/Brentwood community and strongly endorses the application submitted by the Department of Energy and Environment. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to support this vital initiative.

Sincerely,



Timothy W. Spriggs

Director of the Department of Public Works