

Letters of Commitment

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant





CITY *of* CLOVIS

ENGINEERING DIVISION

1033 FIFTH STREET • CLOVIS, CA 93612

March 28, 2024

Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Letter of Support for the Fresno Council of Governments Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program Application (EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Administrator Regan,

The City of Clovis strongly supports the Fresno Council of Governments grant application for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program on behalf of the 16 local jurisdictions (Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma, and County of Fresno) in which the Fresno COG serves as the federally recognized Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region. The application serves to implement clean energy and climate resilient transportation infrastructure and development projects to mitigate GHG emissions throughout the region in the transportation sector.

The Fresno region nestled in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley faces one of the most significant air quality challenges in the country and is currently in nonattainment of the latest federal ozone and PM2.5 standards. Additionally, the San Joaquin Valley is home to 7 of the 10 most disadvantaged communities in California. The recent promulgation of a more stringent PM2.5 standard further highlights the importance of investing in cost-effective opportunities that assist in achieving our collective public health goals. Due to the transportation sector contributing to the bulk to GHG emissions, it is imperative that the regional transportation agency pursues implementation for GHG reduction projects through the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

The objectives of the Fresno COG by pursuing the CPRG funding:

- Improve environmental conditions by significantly reducing vehicle miles travelled, congestion, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions by increasing active transportation and advancing adoption of clean energy fleets.
- Catalyze significant projects in the urban/metropolitan region to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Create a more robust and efficient transportation network system with a specific focus on supporting the low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Given the significant climate, air quality, and disadvantaged communities benefits coupled with the Fresno Council of Governments strong experience in administering innovative and effective incentive programs, the City of Clovis strongly endorses the Transportation sector application and hopes your agency will consider its application for funding selection.

Sincerely,

Ryan Burnett
Engineering Program Manager/ City of Clovis



March 21, 2024

Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Subject: Support for Fresno COG's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Application

Dear Administrator Regan:

The City of Fowler strongly supports the Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) grant application for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program on behalf of the 16 local jurisdictions in which the Fresno COG serves as the federally recognized Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region. The application serves to implement clean energy and climate resilient transportation infrastructure and development projects to mitigate GHG emissions throughout the region in the transportation sector.

The Fresno region nestled in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley faces one of the most significant air quality challenges in the country and is currently in nonattainment of the latest federal ozone and PM2.5 standards. Additionally, the San Joaquin Valley is home to 7 of the 10 most disadvantaged communities in California. The recent promulgation of a more stringent PM2.5 standard further highlights the importance of investing in cost-effective opportunities that assist in achieving our collective public health goals. Due to the transportation sector contributing to the bulk to GHG emissions, it is imperative that the regional transportation agency pursues implementation for GHG reduction projects through the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

The objectives of the Fresno COG by pursuing the CPRG funding:

- Improve environmental conditions by significantly reducing vehicle miles travelled, congestion, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions by increasing active transportation and advancing adoption of clean energy fleets.
- Catalyze significant projects in the urban/metropolitan region to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Create a more robust and efficient transportation network system with a specific focus on supporting the low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Given the significant climate, air quality, and disadvantaged communities benefits coupled with the Fresno COG strong experience in administering innovative and effective incentive programs, the City of Fowler strongly endorses the Transportation sector application and hopes your agency will consider its application for funding selection.

Sincerely,

Wilma Tucker
City Manager



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

March 28, 2024

Paul Herman, Principal Planner
Fresno Council of Governments
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721

Via email to pherman@fresnocog.org

Subject: Letter of Commitment in Support of FCOG Coalition Application for EPA
Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Dear Paul Herman,

We are writing to express our support for the Fresno Council of Governments (FCOG) application to the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program, Implementation Grants General Competition. This grant would support the implementation of programs to collectively reduce the climate impacts of transportation systems in our city and neighboring cities.

The proposed projects for our city will construct roadways and a network of Class I separated multi-use pathways. Parlier is committed to creating a more connected and accessible community. Converting trafficked dirt roads into paved roadways will significantly reduce air pollution. Implementing multi-use pedestrian and bicycle pathways will encourage more residents to participate in active modes of transportation. Increasing physical activity has health benefits, and reducing vehicle miles traveled reduces greenhouse gas emissions, promoting improved air quality.

By partnering with various local community organizations, Parlier has been able to conduct successful community outreach to highlight the strong community support for these projects. We will continue our partnership with local organizations like Communities That Care, Cops Building Bridges, and the Parlier Roundup Committee to conduct outreach and bring about meaningful projects to our community.

Furthermore, Parlier is steadfastly committed to working with FCOG, our MPO, to ensure the timely programming of these projects into the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). The City has worked with FCOG in the past to bring critical projects to the community, including pedestrian and bicycle improvements, road reconstruction, and safe routes to school improvements.

Additional project partners include the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission Local Conservation Corps and the California Conservation Corps (CCC) Fresno Center. These projects will provide corps members with employment opportunities to learn skills in the fields of urban forestry and public works.

Parlier's continued partnership with and support from project partners will ensure the design, construction, reporting, and closeout for each project is completed efficiently and in a timely manner.

We believe the implementation of these projects will significantly contribute to the program's goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants while providing multiple benefits to our disadvantaged community. Parlier stands firmly behind FCOG's application and looks forward to the positive changes it will bring to the Fresno region and our community in particular.

We look forward to working with the FCOG to implement these critical projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Javier Andrade', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Javier Andrade, PE
City of Parlier City Engineer



CITY OF SANGER
Community Development Department
1700 7th Street
Sanger, California 93657
(559) 876-6300, Ext. 1520

March 28, 2024

Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Letter of Support for the Fresno Council of Governments Climate Pollution Reduction
Grants Program Application (EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Administrator Regan,

The City of Sanger strongly supports the Fresno Council of Governments grant application for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program on behalf of the 16 local jurisdictions (Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma, and County of Fresno) in which the Fresno COG serves as the federally recognized Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region. The application serves to implement clean energy and climate resilient transportation infrastructure and development projects to mitigate GHG emissions throughout the region in the transportation sector.

The Fresno region nestled in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley faces one of the most significant air quality challenges in the country and is currently in nonattainment of the latest federal ozone and PM2.5 standards. Additionally, the San Joaquin Valley is home to 7 of the 10 most disadvantaged communities in California. The recent promulgation of a more stringent PM2.5 standard further highlights the importance of investing in cost-effective opportunities that assist in achieving our collective public health goals. Due to the transportation sector contributing to the bulk to GHG emissions, it is imperative that the regional transportation agency pursues implementation for GHG reduction projects through the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

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- Catalyze significant projects in the urban/metropolitan region to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Create a more robust and efficient transportation network system with a specific focus on supporting the low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Given the significant climate, air quality, and disadvantaged communities benefits coupled with the Fresno Council of Governments strong experience in administering innovative and effective incentive programs, City of Sanger strongly endorses the Transportation sector application and hopes your agency will consider its application for funding selection.

Sincerely,



David Brletic, Community Development Director
Community Development Department



21900 Colorado Avenue, P.O. Box 758, San Joaquin, CA 93660
(559) 693-4311, (559) 693-2193 (fax), www.cityofsanjoaquin.org

March 28, 2024

Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Letter of Support for the Fresno Council of Governments Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program
Application (EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Administrator Regan,

The City of San Joaquin strongly supports the Fresno Council of Governments grant application for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program on behalf of the 16 local jurisdictions (Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma, and County of Fresno) in which the Fresno COG serves as the federally recognized Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region. The application serves to implement clean energy and climate resilient transportation infrastructure and development projects to mitigate GHG emissions throughout the region in the transportation sector.

The City's project included in the grant application will allow the City to further the construction of 160 multi-family units, and 87 single-family homes, including low-income units and for multi-generational families. This is an 18 percent increase in the City's total housing stock for a community in desperate need of housing for its farmworker residents to live near where they work. This grant funding increases the feasibility of infill development and compact urban design in the City, reducing the potential for housing to be developed in unincorporated areas of the County and will provide active transportation and recreational facilities to connect residents to parks and places to shop and dine without the need to drive.

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Given the significant climate, air quality, and disadvantaged communities benefits coupled with the Fresno Council of Governments strong experience in administering innovative and effective incentive programs, the City of San Joaquin strongly endorses the Transportation sector application and hopes your agency will consider its application for funding selection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Cabrera".

Elizabeth Cabrera, MBA
City Manager



Fresno County Rural Transit Agency

2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA 93721
tel 559-233-6789 Fax 559-233-9645
www.ruraltransit.org

March 20, 2024

Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Letter of Support for the Fresno Council of Governments Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program Application (EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Administrator Regan,

Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) strongly supports the Fresno Council of Governments grant application for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program on behalf of the 16 local jurisdictions (Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma, and County of Selma) in which the Fresno COG serves as the federally recognized Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region. The application serves to implement clean energy and climate resilient transportation infrastructure and development projects to mitigate GHG emissions throughout the region in the transportation sector.

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- Catalyze significant projects in the urban/metropolitan region to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Create a more robust and efficient transportation network system with a specific focus on supporting the low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Given the significant climate, air quality, and disadvantaged communities benefits coupled with the Fresno Council of Governments strong experience in administering innovative and effective incentive programs, FCRTA strongly endorses the Transportation sector application and hopes your agency will consider its application for funding selection.

Sincerely,

Moses Stites, General Manager
Fresno County Rural Transit Agency

March 27, 2024

Robert Phipps, Interim Executive Director
Fresno Council of Governments
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Support for the City of Fresno's Application for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Chair
Dennis Montalbano

First Vice Chair
Edgar Blunt

Second Vice Chair
Stephen Avila

Board Members
Shayn Anderson
Lenora Lacy Barnes
Alysia Bonner
Rodney Branch
Douglas Dart
Carole Goldsmith
Jeffrey Hensley
Mike Karbassi
Kurt Madden
Wyatt Meadows
Terry Metters, Jr.
Scott Miller
Alisha Morgan
Joe Olivares
Sal Quintero
Chuck Riojas
Vasili Sotiropoulos
Sandra Vicente
Lydia Zabrycki
Chris Zeitz

Executive Director
Blake Konczal

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support from the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB) for the City of Fresno's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG).

We are impressed with the City's comprehensive proposal, particularly its focus on workforce development activities for low-income and disadvantaged communities. The FRWDB recognizes the importance of creating a skilled and diverse workforce to support the transition to a clean energy economy.

The FRWDB is committed to supporting the City of Fresno's CPRG project in the following ways:

- **Employment and Training Support:** We will collaborate with the City to identify and connect qualified low-income and disadvantaged residents to employment opportunities created by the project.
- **Targeted Recruitment:** We will utilize our network of partners to assist the city in targeted recruitment efforts.
- **Work Readiness Training:** We will work with the city to develop and deliver work readiness training programs that equip potential candidates with the essential skills needed to be successful in the green jobs market.
- **Incumbent Worker Training:** We will work with the city to identify opportunities to provide incumbent city workers with training that aligns with the project's needs.

The FRWDB strongly supports the City of Fresno's CPRG project and believes that it will create significant benefits for our community. Should you have any questions about our support of this application, please feel free to contact me at (559) 490-7100.

Sincerely,



Blake Konczal
Executive Director



County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

March 28, 2024

Paul Herman, Principal Planner
Fresno Council of Governments
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721

Via email to pherman@fresnocog.org

Subject: Letter of Commitment in Support of FCOG Coalition Application for EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Dear Mr. Herman,

We are writing to express our support for the Fresno Council of Governments (FCOG) application to the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program, Implementation Grants General Competition. This grant would support the implementation of programs to collectively reduce the climate impacts of transportation systems in our city and neighboring cities.

With the exception of one of the projects on the attached project table list, all of the proposed sidewalk/bikeway projects are located in County islands within the City of Fresno. Fortunately, most of the City of Fresno neighborhoods have sidewalks. Accordingly, the County islands that lack basic infrastructure, such as sidewalks, hinder connectivity within and to neighboring communities, schools, and businesses. The projects would provide much needed access to and from the surrounding neighborhoods. It will also safely connect schools and local businesses.

From a transportation perspective, increasing active travel –with walking and biking– is crucial for the future of sustainable cities, as reflected in global decarbonization policies and the goals of the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. We look forward to working with the FCOG to implement these critical projects.

Sincerely,

Steven E. White, Director
Department of Public Works and Planning

Project Name	Implementation Measure Alignment	Previous Funding Pursuits
City of Fresno		
FAX Light Duty ZEV and Charging Infrastructure	Measure 1: EV Strategy	CMAQ – Not Awarded
FAX Bus Stop Improvements for New Bus Service and/or Route Extensions	Measure 2: Municipal Fleet Conversion	First Funding Opportunity
FAX Fleet Conversion	Measure 2: Municipal Fleet Conversion	First Funding Opportunity
First Street Phase 3 Protected Bikeway	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	ATP – Not Awarded
Midtown Trail Tunnel and Regional Connectivity Project	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	ATP – Not Awarded
Palm Bikeway	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	ATP – Not Awarded
Orange and Butler Sidewalks	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
Dakota Avenue Safe Routes to School	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
Florence Avenue	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
Southern Blackstone Smart Mobility	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
Yosemite Middle School	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
City of Sanger		
5th and 9th Street Sidewalks	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
City of Firebaugh		
WWTP Class I Multi-Use Path	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
City of Clovis		
Enterprise Trail Connection	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
City of Mendota		
Marie Street Complete Street Improvements	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
City of San Joaquin		
Trail Extension and Pocket Park	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
City of Parlier		
Class I Multi-Use Trail	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
Mendocino Avenue Trail	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
South Avenue Improvements	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
Milton Avenue Improvements	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	CMAQ – Not Awarded
City of Fowler		
West Side Alternative Transportation	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	ATP – Not Awarded
Fresno County		

Project Name	Implementation Measure Alignment	Previous Funding Pursuits
Easton - New Bikeways and Sidewalks	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
Mayfair – New Bikeways and Sidewalks	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
New Fig Garden – New Bikeways and Sidewalks	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
Old Fig Garden – New Bikeways and Sidewalks	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
Sunnyside – New Bikeways and Sidewalks	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
Tarpey – New Sidewalks	Measure 3: Bike and Pedestrian Network	First Funding Opportunity
Fresno County Rural Transit Agency		
California Energy Commission Innovative Charging Solutions for Medium-and-Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicles	Measure 1: EV Strategy	CMAQ – Not Awarded