

March 28, 2024

Alison Waske Sutter  
Sustainability and Strategy Officer  
Executive Office of the City Manager | City of Grand Rapids  
300 Monroe Ave NW, Suite 480  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Subject: Consumers Energy Support for the City of Grand Rapids's CPRG Implementation Grant General Competition Application, (Award Number EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Ms. Waske Sutter,

On behalf of Consumers Energy, I am pleased express our commitment to working with the City of Grand Rapids (City) in support of their response to EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07. As one of Michigan's largest energy providers, we are committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and ambitiously siting renewable energy in Michigan with the support of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program.

Consumers Energy has a long track record of collaborating with the City on a range of initiatives that seek to increase economic prosperity and the health and well-being of the Grand Rapids community. Our partnership with the City has helped support the creation of a climate justice infrastructure that ensures the City is well positioned to quickly and equitably deploy CPRG funding. Past partnerships include:

- Consumers Energy participated in the establishment and growth of Grand Rapids 2030 District – a public private partnership focused on reducing carbon emissions from building and transportation through energy efficiency investments.
- Consumers Energy worked with the City to develop the Circuit West District – a first of its kind energy efficient, green community powered by solar energy and battery to test and demonstrate the benefits of these technologies for the electric grid and local communities.
- CMS Energy, our parent company, participated on Mayor Bliss' Energy Advisory Committee, which was created to ensure that the City stayed at the forefront of energy performance.
- The Consumers Energy Foundation provided financial support to help launch the Community Collaboration on Climate Change (C4), a grassroots climate justice organization serving the City.

Specific to the City's proposal for the CPRG program, Consumers Energy has been working with the City for a number of years to identify options for redeveloping the Butterworth Landfill, a closed and fully remediated City-owned 190-acre U.S. EPA Superfund site. Recognizing the potential for beneficial reuse of the Butterworth site and the impact repurposing this land for clean energy could have on the community, we support the City's desire to develop solar energy at the site and are committed to helping the City navigate this process.

The City's proposal to develop solar energy on the Butterworth site will provide valuable tools for unlocking significant GHG emissions reductions in the near term, provide substantial community benefits in low-income and disadvantaged communities over the life of projects, and help expand the clean energy workforce through training opportunities that will improve economic mobility for residents.

Given the City's commitment to implementing equitable climate policies, we are confident in their ability to achieve the objectives laid out in the application. We commit to collaborating with the City and other local partners to ensure resources are deployed in a manner that will help speed the deployment of renewable energy and storage resources.

We look forward to a continued partnership with the City of Grand Rapids to advance the goals of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through this pivotal program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Snyder".

Lauren Snyder  
Vice President for Customer Experience