

EXECUTIVE
OFFICE



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS

March 21, 2024

John Weiss
Executive Director
Grand Valley Metro Council
678 Front Ave. NW, Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

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

Dear Mr. Weiss,

We at the City of Grand Rapids affirm our support of the Grand Valley Metro Council's (GVMC) in response to EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07. We are pleased to endorse the region's objective to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program. Under GVMC's proposed project, the Low Income and Disadvantaged Community Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund (LIERF) and the West Michigan Solar Consortium (WMSC), the entity responsible for the LIERF, will be established.

The creation of the WMSC and the LIERF will reduce GHG emissions in the region, provide significant cost savings for our community, provide substantial community benefits in low-income and disadvantaged communities, and improve capacity and technical expertise through workforce development.

Through the CPRG grant program period, we anticipate collaborating with the GVMC to establish the WMSC, including exploring the feasibility of installing solar in our community on identified City facilities and underutilized brownfield sites, to include all currently planned construction and renovation projects (Community Archives, Public Works Complex, new Fire stations and training center, and the MLK Park Lodge).

Given GVMC's proven success in regional collaboration, we have confidence in their ability to achieve the objectives laid out in the application. Furthermore, this initiative will stimulate increased investment in renewable energy projects critical to achieving the West Michigan's Healthy Climate Plan objectives and the City's community GHG reduction goal of 62.8% by 2030 (as recommended by ICLEI-USA).

We are enthusiastic about partnering with the GVMC to advance the goals of the West Michigan Healthy Climate Plan, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through this transformative opportunity.

Sincerely,

Mark Washington, City Manager
City of Grand Rapids