



Ottawa County

Department of
Strategic Impact

March 27, 2024

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

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

Dear Mr. Weiss,

On behalf of the Department of Strategic Impact for Ottawa County, I'd like to express our support of the Grand Valley Metro Council's (GVMC) response to EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07 and involvement in the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program. As we understand it, within GVMC's proposed projects, a Low Income and Disadvantaged Community Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund (LIERF) and a West Michigan Solar Consortium (WMSO), the entity responsible for the LIERF, will be established.

The creation of the WMSO and LIERF can help to facilitate cost savings for our community members through energy efficiency improvements, and simultaneously improve capacity and technical expertise in advanced energy opportunities in the region through workforce development.

Through the CPRG program period, we anticipate supporting and collaborating as able with the GVMC to establish the WMSO, including exploring the feasibility of installing solar in strategically sensible locations.

Given GVMC's proven success in regional collaboration, we have confidence in their ability to achieve the objectives laid out in the application. Furthermore, these initiatives can help stimulate increased investment in viable renewable energy projects critical to achieving collective objectives within the region.

Our department strives to balance this region's continued population growth with intentional efforts to not only protect and support our robust agricultural industry but also to maintain our exceptional quality of life and ensure that increasing energy demand is accessible, reliable, and affordable, as well as implemented with long-term environmental implications in-mind and understood.

We are pleased to support the GVMC in thoughtfully advancing the West Michigan Healthy Climate Plan.

Sincerely,

Paul Sachs, Director
Department of Strategic Impact
County of Ottawa