



March 27, 2024

Jennifer Messer, Executive Director
Central Indiana Regional Development Authority (CIRDA)
1 Municipal Drive
Fishers, IN 46038

Jennifer:

I write this letter to confirm support for the Central Indiana Regional Development Authority (CIRDA)'s request to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation funds.

On February 14, 2024, CIRDA's 24-member board of directors, a group comprised of the executive (typically mayor) of our member municipalities, unanimously voted to endorse the pursuit of these funds. **This vote is incredibly significant for our region**, because it represents the first large-scale action that central Indiana has collectively taken to address known environmental issues and advance a strategic variety of community responsive GHG reduction measures identified in a PCAP developed under a CPRG planning grant.

As a historically industrial area, bordered by suburban and agricultural areas, Central Indiana has a long-standing need for environmental mitigation. At the same time, meaningful progress on environmental issues is difficult on a statewide basis. As such, I am thrilled that our region, a region comprised by roughly 1/3 of the state's population and anchored by the City of Indianapolis, has recognized this EPA grant opportunity as a way to combat greenhouse gasses through the *Regional Building and Asset Modernization Program* and *Regional Open Space Revitalization and Connectivity Program* described in our proposal.

Not only does this funding opportunity incentivize CIRDA to implement comprehensive, regional, programs that demonstrably reduce GHGs; it solidifies a new commitment to environmental prioritization in our region. With EPA funding that allows Central Indiana to implement its proposed greenhouse gas reduction measures by 2030 and achieve substantial community benefits of pollution reduction in low income and disadvantaged communities, all of Indiana stands to benefit through the example of CIRDA's EPA-supported work.

Thank you,

Scott Fadness
Board President, CIRDA & Mayor, City of Fishers, Indiana