



March 27, 2024

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

Ms. Messer:

Please accept this letter of commitment and support for CIRDA's proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grant Program (EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07). The City of Indianapolis and its Office of Sustainability have been a proud member of CIRDA since 2021 and a robust partner in the Climate Pollution Reduction Planning grant to create the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP).

The Office of Sustainability was pleased to play a substantial role in the development of the recently published PCAP, as it dovetails with the City's *Thrive Indianapolis* plan, which sets a goal of citywide carbon neutrality by 2050. As the PCAP states, residents voiced priority greenhouse gas reduction measures during the planning process, and the Office of Sustainability is committed to pursuing two major pilot projects should funding be received:

- 1) Via the *Regional Building and Asset Modernization* program, we will outfit up to ten municipal buildings with solar capacity. This effort targets a 25 percent municipal energy transition to renewables by 2028, saving 6,185 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030 and 21,434 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050.
- 2) Via the *Open Space Revitalization and Connectivity* program
  - a) We will work with the local utility company to convert a former landfill/brownfield into a community solar facility, aiming for 64,666 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030 and 186,337 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050 in savings.
  - b) The Department of Public Works will develop 3.8 miles of new greenways and trails that include restoration and reforestation of habitat, avoiding emissions from transportation, and resulting in CO<sub>2</sub> storage. The Grassy Creek Trail will play a critical role in connecting thousands of low-income minority residents to regional parks, bus rapid transit lines, and our regional trail system, saving 516 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030 and 2,817 MT by 2050.
  - c) The Department of Public Works will also build the Nickel Plate Pedestrian Bridge to connect the Nickel Plate Trail across one of Central Indiana's busiest arterial roads. This missing link to a



regional multi-modal network will save 55 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030 and 280 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050.

My administration is also supportive of the multiple proposed pilot projects to take place in Marion County, including the Indianapolis Motor Speedway's innovative food waste reduction project and the Indianapolis Art Center's building efficiency upgrades.

Finally, we are committed to supporting CIRDA in implementing equitable hiring and labor practices for any jobs created through the projects, in keeping with the criteria and practices described on the City's equity dashboard (<https://www.indy.gov/topic/equity-dashboard>). In particular, the City is supportive of union jobs and jobs created that meet Employ Indy's Good Wages Initiative (<https://employindy.org/goodwages/>).

Thank you for CIRDA's regional leadership in advancing a more resilient, healthy, just, and greener Central Indiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe Hogsett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joe" and last name "Hogsett" clearly legible.

Joseph H. Hogsett  
Mayor | City of Indianapolis