

CONNER PRAIRIE

STEP INTO THE STORY

February 22, 2024

To Jennifer Messer, CIRDA Executive Director:

I am writing on behalf of Conner Prairie Museum, which is a unique, historic place located in Fishers, Indiana committed to inspiring curiosity and fostering learning by providing engaging and individualized experiences for everyone. On our 1,046 acres, guests can connect and engage through programming centered on our four main pillars: nature, agriculture, history, and learning.

Conner Prairie supports and commits to collaborating with the Central Indiana Regional Development Authority (CIRDA) and its member communities on its proposed CPRG funded regional programs, including *the Regional Building and Asset Modernization Program* and the *Regional Open Space Revitalization and Connectivity Program*. Specifically, at Conner Prairie we are excited to share projects covering both the Carmel and Fishers sides of our campus, including 140 acres of reforestation and 80 acres of wetlands installations. These projects promise to have a major impact on the reduction of GHG emissions for years to come.

In support of the pilot projects and programs, Conner Prairie administration and staff will work with CIRDA and its member communities to advance project implementation and program execution where possible and appropriate.

The opportunity to work with CIRDA and its member communities on the CPRG grant implementation provides an opportunity for Conner Prairie to support regional collaboration in Central Indiana and establish the programmatic infrastructure to generate long term funding of projects related to energy efficiency and revitalization of green infrastructure in our communities.

The proposed regional programs not only provide an opportunity to fund transformational projects in Central Indiana, but also provide an opportunity to align our private, public, and nonprofit sectors on the environmental, economic, and public health challenges facing our region.

Conner Prairie is excited to participate in this opportunity for our region and looks forward to the transformative impact to come.

Sincerely,



Norman O. Burns,

President, Chief Executive Officer