

**RESOLUTION #2024-05**  
**SUPPORTING A TRI-REGION COALITION APPLICATION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**  
**AGENCY (EPA) CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT (CPRG) IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) is the officially designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO Urban Area; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 26, 2023, the NWARPC Board of Directors resolved to support NWARPC's participation in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) funded Arkansas Energy and Environment Innovation (EEI) planning process, including the creation of a Northwest Arkansas Regional EEI Priority Action Plan Supplement; and

**WHEREAS**, NWARPC submitted its Regional EEI Priority Action Plan Supplement to the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment's Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) by the December 1, 2023 deadline; and

**WHEREAS**, NWARPC actively partnered with DEQ and its other CPRG planning subrecipients, Metroplan and the City of Fort Smith, to coordinate public engagement and planning efforts statewide; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 24, 2024, the NWARPC Board of Directors voted to support NWARPC submitting a Notice of Intent to Apply to the EPA for the CPRG Implementation Grant; and

**WHEREAS**, the three regional planning subrecipients, combined representing roughly half the state's population, wish to submit a coalition application to the CPRG implementation grant program to maximize the grant's impact and efficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, the coalition intends to apply for \$99,999,999 in federal CPRG funding with \$48,500,000 being allocated to Central Arkansas, \$36,250,000 being allocated to Northwest Arkansas, \$14,500,000 being allocated to Fort Smith, and \$749,999 being allocated for grant administration; and

**WHEREAS**, as Arkansas' largest MPO, Metroplan was asked to be the lead applicant for the coalition; and

**WHEREAS**, the NWARPC Board of Directors supports the NWARPC's partnership with other regions to assist states, local governments, tribes, and territories to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission supports the Arkansas Tri-Region Coalition Application to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Implementation Program and hereby agrees to act as a coalition member.

**SECTION 2.** That the Executive Director is hereby authorized and directed to execute all appropriate agreements and contracts necessary to expedite the implementation of the above stated project.

**PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2024**



Mayor Ernie Penn, Vice Chair, NWARPC

ATTEST:

