



# LIVINGSTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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NATHAN BURD  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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**SEMCOG - SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN**  
**COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT**  
1001 Woodward Ave #1400  
Detroit MI 48226

**RE: US-EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (CPRG)**

Dear Sir / Madam:

I am pleased to offer support for the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments' (SEMCOG's) application to the US-EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program to lead a Building Decarbonization program in Southeast Michigan. SEMCOG's Building Decarbonization initiative has been designed to leverage existing programs, bringing them to more residential and municipal buildings, and integrating them into comprehensive decarbonization plans. The program will be unique in the following ways. It will:

- **Reduce energy cost burdens through comprehensive retrofits.** The program will develop a unique and comprehensive plan for residents across the region. This includes coordinating multiple contractors and multiple stages of work rather than providing only piecemeal improvements. Ensuring the work is comprehensive, accessible, and well-funded will ensure participating building owners realize long-term utilities savings, reducing energy cost burdens in our region.
- **Add capacity to local governments and make it easier for building owners.** The program will provide 'energy advisers' who will evaluate each building's initial condition and energy efficiency and then work with the owner to schedule and fund as much of the work as possible. This will reduce the effort and expertise required from municipal agencies and building owners, while still ensuring the work is done correctly.
- **Leverage existing funding.** Energy advisers will identify and draw upon existing incentives and rebates to cover the work, first. The CPRG funds will be used to fill gaps in these programs to ensure that all existing funding sources are optimized. This further helps capacity-constrained local government agencies and builds upon the workforce development efforts already in place rather than competing.

SEMCOG, as the regional planning organization and designated lead local air-quality planning agency under the federal Clean Air Act, is well positioned to lead this work in the region. Its established

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relationships in the region and State will allow it to coordinate planning and reporting and leverage existing committees to distribute a portion of the funds.

Livingston County recognizes that this work will directly benefit many of our own residents and ensure that programs for emergency building repairs, weatherization improvements, energy efficiency measures, replacements of furnaces, air conditioners, hot water heaters and appliances are made accessible to our residents. Livingston County desires to see these initiatives made available to our residents and local governments.

We understand that SEMCOG is structuring the program to ensure Livingston County and the entire region will benefit from the work completed, and that this work will reduce energy cost burdens and improve the health, resilience, and quality of life for residents in our community and across the region. We look forward to collaborating with SEMCOG and other regional partners through this grant.

Sincerely,



**NATHAN BURD**  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

NB/csj