



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

FREDDIE O'CONNELL
MAYOR

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METROPOLITAN COURTHOUSE
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March 28, 2024

Via electronic mail to Diana.Alarcon@nashville.gov

Diana Alarcon

Director

Nashville Department of Transportation and Multimodal Infrastructure

750 S 5th St

Nashville, TN 37206

RE: Climate Pollution Reduction Grant – Nashville Department of Transportation and Multimodal Infrastructure Letter of Support in response to EPA's CPRG Implementation Grant General Competition

Ms. Alarcon,

I am writing on behalf of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County (Metro Nashville) in support of the Nashville Department of Transportation and Multimodal Infrastructure's (NDOT) application for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program: Implementation Grants General Competition, EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07. If funded, we look forward to working across Metro Nashville departments and with community partners to help implement NDOT's proposed transportation measure included in the application to EPA.

NDOT is the department tasked with design, construction, and management of a safe, reliable public transportation network for Metro Nashville, with a focus on enabling a high quality of life and prosperity for our residents. Metro Nashville is acting to address climate change. In 2021, the city published its climate action plan, which identifies reducing trips in single occupancy vehicles as a significant area opportunity to drive emissions reductions and sustainability. With 51 percent of the community's greenhouse gases coming from the transportation sector, we know that to address climate change locally, we need to encourage mode shift in addition to other mobility strategies.

NDOT's proposal will expand the city's Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program, Nashville Connector, by implementing an electric-bike (e-bike) rebate program throughout Metro Nashville. This program will provide an opportunity for the city to offer a practical and sustainable alternative to single-occupancy vehicles, which will result in greenhouse gas emissions reductions of 60.38 mtCO₂e based on the reduction in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) that would occur under the e-bike program from 2025 to 2030.

This program is also replicable and scalable, meaning it can expand to serve multiple jurisdictions in the Middle Tennessee region and beyond. The program also emphasizes equity, offering income-qualifying vouchers at a higher dollar value to ensure that our most disadvantaged populations can meaningfully participate.

If awarded, Metro Nashville, and specifically the Mayor's Office, will support NDOT by performing equitable and meaningful outreach and engagement on the e-bike rebate program; supporting any workforce development, job creation, and other related training opportunities; and supplementing CPRG funding with our own funding, programs, etc. as feasible.

Metro Nashville fully supports the implementation of the e-bike rebate program and believe that it aligns with our local decarbonization, transportation, and mobility goals. We look forward to working with NDOT on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Freddie O'Connell". The signature is stylized with a large initial "F" and a cursive "O'Connell".

Freddie O'Connell
Mayor