



## Regional Plan Association

Chairman  
**Raymond J. McGuire**

President & CEO  
**Thomas K. Wright**

Chair, New Jersey Committee  
**Hon. Jun Choi**

Vice Chair  
**Douglas Durst**

Vice Chair and  
Co-Chair, Nominating &  
Governance Committee  
**Sarah Fitts**

Counsel  
**David Huntington**

Co-Chair, New Jersey  
Committee  
**Paul Josephson**

Vice Chair  
**Matthew S. Kissner**

Chair, Communications  
Committee  
**Katy Knight**

Co-Chair,  
Connecticut  
Committee  
**David Kooris**

Co-Chair, Connecticut  
Committee  
**Judith Lagano**

Co-Chair, Advancement  
Committee  
**Angela Pinsky**

Co-Chair, Nominating &  
Governance Committee  
**James Rubin**

Co-Chair, New York Committee  
**Blair Duncan**

Vice Chair and Chair,  
Audit & Finance Committee  
**Tokumbo Shobowale**

Co-Chair, New York Committee  
**Anthony Shorris**

Co-Chair, Advancement  
Committee  
**Travis Terry**

Sol Marie Alfonso-Jones  
Alix Anfang  
Rebecca Ashton  
Richard Bagger  
Joseph Barile  
Stephen R. Beckwith  
Robert Billingsley  
Eugenie Birch  
Robert Blumenthal  
Anthony Borelli  
Tonio Burgos  
Axel Carrion  
Anthony Casciano  
Vincent Cassano  
Vishaan Chakrabarti  
Ali Chaudhry  
Peter Cipriano  
Hon. Henry Cisneros  
Frank Cohen  
Hon. Anthony R. Coscia  
Cheryl McKissack Daniel  
Peter D'Arcy  
Steve Denning  
Shaun Donovan  
Nick Dhimitri  
Susannah Drake  
Eva Durst  
Leecia Eve  
Winston Fisher  
Kathleen Frangione  
Janice Fuller  
David Garten  
Paul Gertner  
Jeremy Goldberg  
Carley Graham Garcia  
Maxine Griffith  
Christopher Hahn  
Richard J. Haray  
Linda Harrison  
Peter W. Herman  
Dylan Hixon  
Kerry Hughes  
Shari Hymen  
James Johnson  
Mary Margaret Jones  
Sabrina Kanner  
Anaita Kasad

Michael Keenan  
Greg Kelly  
Kyle Kimball  
Jee Mee Kim-Diaz  
Barry Langer  
Jill Lerner  
Trent Lethco  
Christopher Levandos  
Kay LiCausi  
Jose Lozano  
Mark Marcucci  
Andrew Mathias  
Jan Nicholson  
Folasade A.  
Olanipekun-Lewis  
Herminia Palacio  
Christina PioCosta-Lahue  
Seth Pinsky  
Clint Plummer  
John Porcari  
David Quart  
Michael J. Regan  
Justin Rodgers  
Tom Rousakis  
Janette Sadik-Khan  
Lynne Sagalyn  
Elliot G. Sander  
Aditya Sanghvi  
Samuel I. Schwartz  
Todd Schwartz  
Peggy Shepard  
H. Claude Shostal  
Mohinder Singh  
Ryan Simonetti  
Gagandeep Singh  
Monica Slater Stokes  
Robert K. Steel  
Michael Sweeney  
Reuben Teague  
Marilyn Taylor  
Richard T. Thigpen  
Bill Thompson  
Ernest Tollerson  
Jane Veron  
Claire Weisz  
LaToya Wilson  
Kate Wittels

**New York**  
One Whitehall St, 16th Floor  
New York, NY 10004

**New Jersey**  
60 Union Street, Suite 1-N  
Newark, NJ 07105

179 Nassau St, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
Princeton, NJ 08542

**Connecticut**  
Two Landmark Sq, Suite 108  
Stamford, CT 06901

212.253.2727 | [rpa.org](http://rpa.org)

March 28, 2024

Michael S. Regan, Administrator  
U.S Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004

### **Re: Letter of Support for the New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Implementation (CPRG-I) Program application, FY 2024**

To Whom it May Concern:

I enthusiastically support FREIGHT-30: Facing Regional Environmental challenges by Implementing Green and Healthy Transportation by 2030, NYC DOT's application for the EPA CPRG-I Program. This grant will fund transformative freight decarbonization initiatives that will significantly reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other harmful forms of pollution while promoting the health and well-being of federally-designated Disadvantaged Communities.

Over 265 million tons of cargo enter, leave, or pass through NYC every year. Trucks alone deliver close to 90% of goods in NYC – compared to the national average of 70% – and account for 10% of citywide transportation GHG emissions. Moreover, 52% of NYC's census tracts are classified as Disadvantaged Communities according to the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST), facing higher levels of air pollution and greater health burdens. NYC is taking urgent steps to decarbonize the freight network to achieve its commitment to carbon neutrality by 2050, while focusing investments in Disadvantaged Communities to facilitate a just energy transition. This project proposes four cost-effective initiatives to equitably reduce freight GHG emissions.

The first initiative aims to expand and scale up NYC DOT's successful commercial cargo bike incentive program to transition local truck deliveries to the cleanest and most efficient technologies. The second will establish a network of small-scale local delivery hubs, or "microhubs," to transfer goods from larger freight vehicles to smaller, low-emission electric vehicles or human-powered modes for efficient last-mile delivery. The third—undertaken in conjunction with NYC Economic Development Corporation (EDC)—will modernize marine infrastructure and integrate shore power to expand the "blue highways" network in a way that minimally impacts neighboring communities. Finally, new truck electrification and parking, including the funding of electric charging depots for trucks and other medium-duty vehicles

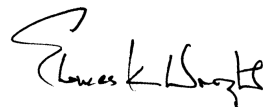
accessible to any company, will be strategically located near Industrial Business Zones and existing freight hubs and will support the transition to electric trucks in the New York City metropolitan region.

Taken together, these measures are replicable and scalable across the freight sector. They leverage existing programs to maximize GHG reductions by 2030. And they target investment in NYC's Disadvantaged Communities. NYC DOT will work with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to expand these initiatives across agencies and further develop green freight programs within the New York Newark-Jersey City Metropolitan Statistical Area.

As a century-old advocacy organization focused on the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut region, Regional Plan Association (RPA) has been a longtime supporter of sustainable freight movements throughout this geography. We emphatically support NYCDOT in this application as a way to creatively address GHG reduction while focusing on investment in disadvantaged communities. The programs seeking expansion in this application are in alignment with the actions in our most recent long-range planning document, [The Fourth Regional Plan](#), which proposed both short and long-term strategies to ensure affordable, healthy and sustainable communities for all.

This project represents a long-term commitment to sustainability and environmental justice that will promote cleaner, healthier, and equitable communities. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Wright". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a cursive "Wright".

Tom Wright  
President & CEO