



University at Buffalo

School of Architecture and Planning

To: Basil Seggos, Commissioner
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway, 14th Fl
Albany, NY 12233

From: Julia Czerniak, AIA Assoc., ASLA, RLA
Dean and Professor
School of Architecture and Planning
University at Buffalo
121 Hayes Hall, Buffalo NY 14214-8030

Date: March 20, 2024

Dear Commissioner Seggos,

On behalf of the University at Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning, this letter expresses support for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) application to the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program. With this Proposal, DEC, in partnership with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) will implement programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions from facilities and services that play key resilience roles for New York's communities. The programs included in this proposal will not only address greenhouse gas emissions in the near- and long-term, but will also provide substantial co-benefits such as air quality improvements and health benefits, with a particular focus on public services and disadvantaged communities.

The University at Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning is a rich multidisciplinary environment of creative, talented, and intelligent people who discuss provocative ideas, do meaningful work, and collectively advance timely projects that interface with the complex social and environmental issues of the 21st century like climate change. With professional and pre-professional programs in the design and planning fields, we offer a world-class education that moves between knowledge in the arts, the humanities, and the STEM disciplines that enables our students to think critically, design creatively, problem solve collaboratively, and communicate verbally and visually. In the only school of architecture and planning within the 64-campus State University of New York system, we shape students to be model citizens, future leaders, and agents of change.

Each component of this application has the potential to transform New York's communities and create lasting reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants. These proposed programs, when implemented together, will ensure that investments in emissions reductions also support more resilient public services and buildings.

We strongly support this application and look forward to seeing these programs implemented in New York State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Julia Czerniak'.

Julia E. Czerniak
Dean and Professor

School of Architecture and Planning