



Russ Stark  
Chief Resilience Officer  
City of Saint Paul  
15 Kellogg Blvd. West  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

March 26, 2024

Dear Mr. Stark:

The West Side Community Organization (WSCO) strongly supports the application by the coalition of Saint Paul and Minneapolis for a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) to “Create a Regional Electric Vehicle Carshare Service,” and commits to participate in the event EPA selects this application.

WSCO organizes the people of St. Paul’s West Side to build collective power, and advance justice and racial equity for all people. We envision a just, united, self-reliant West Side where all of our people are connected, safe, healthy and successful. Founded over 50 years ago, we proudly serve as the planning council for Saint Paul District 3.

Our mission statement includes “where all of our people are connected,” and the West Side Community Plan adopted as a primary theme “The West Side is a walkable community that provides multiple options for accessing employment, shopping, and entertainment, both within and outside its boundaries. It is a community that gives priority to sustainable mobility....”

We work to engage residents to create a safe, clean reliable, and affordable transportation system. When Metro Transit was identifying and evaluating new corridors for Bus Rapid Transit, we advocated to bring this high-quality service to our community. That work was successful, and Metro Transit has prioritized the G Line BRT for opening by 2029. We also worked with the City of Saint Paul to locate Evie Carshare electric vehicles and EV Spot Charging charging hubs in the West Side. We have seen our residents use the Evie Carshare system to meet transportation needs that they could not meet any other way.

The proposal by Saint Paul and Minneapolis to “Create a Regional Electric Vehicle Carshare Service” would substantially increase the usefulness the current electric vehicle carshare system for our residents, and advance our Community Plan. Projects like the G Line are important, but cannot connect our residents to all the places they need to go.

WSCO supports this proposal, and commits as a Community Based Organization to work with the Coalition of Minneapolis and Saint Paul to implement it in and around the West Side. Specifically, we commit to work with the Coalition to implement two tasks:

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1. Work with Community Based Organizations to identify an expanded Evie Carshare service area and support that new area with new Evie Carshare vehicles.

We will work with the Coalition to engage our residents and businesses in an informed and empowered way.

2. Expand EV carshare at or near transit stations.

The West Side will be served by Metro Transit's G Line BRT. Locating electric vehicle carshare hubs near this line would let residents reach a substantially larger set of important destinations. We will help the Coalition learn from our residents and locate carshare hubs in a way that best maximizes their usefulness.

In conclusion, this Climate Pollution Reduction Grant proposal would expand this proven, popular system to create a truly regional carshare system. Doing so would have, in the language of the CPRG Notice of Funding Opportunity, a "transformative impact" on our residents. We are pleased to be included in the proposal, and eager to help expand the system to serve more residents, including those in the community of the West Side.

With this letter, WSCO confirms that if the application is funded, we will participate as described in the proposal.

Sincerely,

*Monica Bravo*

Monica Bravo  
Executive Director