

Craig P. Burns
419.249.7281
burns@marshall-melhorn.com

March 25, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency

Dear Sir or Madam:

Our firm serves as outside counsel to Metroparks of the Toledo Area, also known as "Metroparks Toledo". Metroparks of the Toledo Area is a public agency because it is a park district described in Chapter 1545 of the Ohio Revised Code, pursuant to Section 1545.01 of the Ohio Revised Code. Further, it is accountable to the State of Ohio by statute and in practice. As just a few examples of such:

- It was created by action of the Lucas Board of County Commissioners as provided in Section 1545.02 of the Ohio Revised Code;
- Its funds are considered public funds and are subject to the jurisdiction of the Auditor of the State of Ohio;
- Its commissioners are appointed by the Lucas County probate judge as provided in Section 1545.05 of the Ohio Revised Code;
- It has the power to levy property taxes under Section 1545.20 of the Ohio Revised Code; and
- Its park rangers may exercise all of the power of police officers as provided in Section 1545.13 of the Ohio Revised Code.

For these reasons, we conclude that Metroparks of the Toledo Area is a "municipality" as defined in the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants ("CPRG") Program. Alternatively, if it is not a "municipality," then it is a "state entity other than a state agency, department, or executive branch-level office". Either way, it is an eligible grant applicant under the CPRG Program.

Sincerely,



Craig P. Burns