

Power Ahead Colorado Oversight Committee

Meeting date: September 11, 2026

Agenda Item #4 (Attachment B)

Community Engagement Grant Program Policy

Agenda item type: Action

Summary

Review and discussion of the proposed Community Engagement Grant Program policy documents, a \$2.2 million dollar initiative administered by Kearns & West, designed to support meaningful community engagement for Power Ahead Colorado.

Background

The program acknowledges that the diversity of our region requires diverse and innovative community engagement. Community-based organizations are well positioned to conduct responsive engagement with the populations they serve.

DRCOG's \$2.2 million Community Engagement Grant Program will award grants ranging from \$15,000-\$100,000 to support community-driven engagement for Power Ahead Colorado. The focuses of the first year's grant cycle are:

1. Education & Outreach — Share clear, accessible information about heat pumps, home and building electrification, and energy efficiency.
2. Incentives & Advising — Motivate eligible residents, particularly homeowners and middle-income households, and HVAC contractors to take advantage of available rebates, financial incentives, and free energy advising.
3. Workforce Development — Create pathways to careers in the clean energy sector, with an emphasis on engaging multilingual communities, youth, and justice-impacted individuals.

The Power Ahead Colorado Technical Committee provided input in grant criteria development and award selection processes at the July committee meeting.

Action by others

None

Previous discussion/action

[July 7, 2026- Power Ahead Colorado Technical Committee](#)

[July 10, 2026 – Power Ahead Colorado Oversight Committee](#)

[September 1, 2026 – Power Ahead Colorado Technical Committee](#)



Recommendation

Move to recommend the Community Engagement Grant Program Policy to the DRCOG Board of Directors.

Attachments

Staff presentation

Community Engagement Grant Program Policy

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Chris Selk, Program Manager, Communications and Community Engagement, at cselk@drcog.org.

