

Board of Directors

Meeting date: September 16, 2026

Agenda Item #: 9

Discussion of the Power Ahead Colorado Community Engagement Grant Program Policy

Agenda item type: Action item

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 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 Community Engagement Grant Program Policy defines the criteria and process the selection committee will use to select grantees.

Action by others

None

Previous discussion/action

None

Recommendation

Move to approve the Power Ahead Colorado Community Engagement Grant Program Policy.

Attachments

1. Staff presentation
2. Link: [Community Engagement Grant Program Policy](#)

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, at 303-480-6701; or contact Chris Selk, Program Manager, Communications and Community Engagement, at cselk@drcog.org.

