

## Finance and Budget Committee

Meeting date: August 21, 2024

Agenda Item #: 3

**Discussion of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to accept federal grant funds through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program in the amount of \$199,705,797 for a period of approximately five years upon contract execution to implement the Decarbonize DRCOG program.**

Agenda item type: Action item

### Summary

The committee will consider accepting and entering into a contractual funding agreement with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) award to implement a building decarbonization program at DRCOG.

### Background

On July 22, 2024, DRCOG was notified that its application to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) opportunity was accepted. The grant award will provide \$199,705,797 to implement a regional building decarbonization program, currently titled Decarbonize DRCOG, with focused investment in underserved low-income and disadvantaged communities. This award is a 100% federal funds grant that does not require a non-federal match.

DRCOG will serve as the primary project manager for Decarbonize DRCOG and lead the facilitation and stewardship of the project. In addition, DRCOG will lead coordination efforts between the chosen consultants, project partners, stakeholders, and DRCOG staff.

The Decarbonize DRCOG program will establish several coordinated initiatives to reduce carbon pollution from buildings, including:

- Communications, marketing and engagement
- Low-income and disadvantage communities building decarbonization
- Energy advising services
- Rebates and incentives
- A building policy collaborative and subawards to DRCOG's member governments
- Workforce development, industry support and innovation pilot programs.

Each initiative will require consultant support, hired through Request for Proposal processes, and address specific environmental and industry challenges and improve air quality and public health in the Denver region and promote sustainability across the region.



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In addition to the planning activities outlined in this memo, the grant funds will be used to hire approximately 16 limited-term staff members to oversee and manage the Decarbonize DRCOG program to manage consultants, organize the program and support program implementation. The funding award fully funds these additional staff members and is reflected in the grant budget.

DRCOG staff is asking the Finance and Budget Committee to authorize the Executive Director to accept federal grant funds through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program in the amount of \$199,705,797 awarded to DRCOG.

**Action by others**

None

**Previous discussion/action**

[January 17, 2024](#) – Board of Directors meeting

**Recommendation**

Move to approve a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to accept federal grant funds through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program in the amount of \$199,705,797 for a period of approximately five years upon contract execution to implement the Decarbonize DRCOG program.

**Attachments**

Draft resolution

**For more information**

If you need additional information, please contact Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, at (303) 480-6747 or [drex@drcog.org](mailto:drex@drcog.org); or Ron Papsdorf, Division Director, Transportation Planning and Operations, at (303) 480-6747 or [rpapsdorf@drcog.org](mailto:rpapsdorf@drcog.org).

