

Regional Building Decarbonization Technical Committee

Meeting date: March 4, 2025

Agenda Item #: 8 (Attachment E)

Building Policy Collaborative

Agenda item type: Discussion

Summary

Overview of the \$38.3 million Building Policy Collaborative program that is part of DRCOG's \$199.7 million Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

Background

The Building Policy Collaborative (BPC) is one of the programs funded through DRCOG's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. This program consists of three elements intended to drive energy efficiency and climate pollution reduction through effective implementation of ambitious building energy policy.

- The Jurisdictional Support Program consists of \$34.8 million to be distributed to participating jurisdictions to support local capacity to adopt updated energy codes, building performance, emissions, and equipment standards, licensing requirements, permitting processes, and other policies identified in a policy roadmap developed by the BPC. This fund is intended to be used in conjunction with dollars from the Colorado Energy Office that support local governments with code updates and the adoption process
- The BPC Peer Network will be a \$2.5 million facilitated cohort for participating jurisdictions to support local adoption of local decarbonization policies. This network will provide space and support for local government coordination, stakeholder engagement, and peer learning, with additional vendor support for preparing for public meetings, composing proposals, and maintaining databases.
- The research initiative consists of a \$1 million research budget for localized and responsive research to provide data gathering and analysis to support collaborative needs.

DRCOG staff will provide an overview and budget for the BPC and discuss upcoming steps to operationalize the program.

Action by others

None

Previous discussion/action

None

Recommendation

None



Attachment

Staff presentation

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Gregory Miao, program manager for the Building Policy Collaborative, at 303-455-5467 or gmiao@drcog.org.





The Building Policy Collaborative (BPC)

Regional Building Decarbonization Technical Committee - March 4, 2025



The problem

- Inconsistent patchwork of local building codes, regulations, and processes.
- Costs and challenges for local governments of new code implementation and enforcement.
- Uncertainty regarding policy impacts and an evolving regulatory and legal landscape.





How we are going to solve the problem

- DRCOG and peer support for consistent policy adoption and implementation.
- Financial support for participating jurisdictions.
- Research to address information gaps and misinformation.



Building Policy Collaborative

Purpose of the BPC

- Drive healthy, efficient, and pollution-free new and existing buildings through ambitious and consistent building policies.
- Develop collaborative solutions to common implementation challenges.
- Lower energy cost burden for occupants over lifetime of buildings and equipment.
- Transform the Metro Denver market in combination with other grant elements.



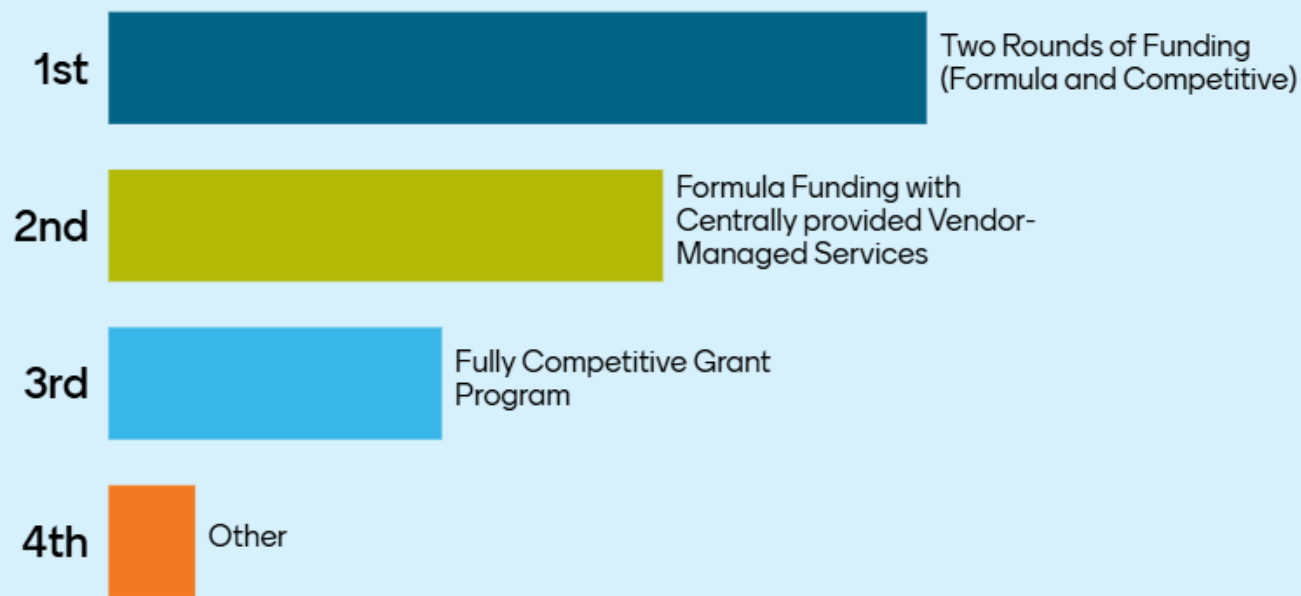
Jurisdictional Support Program

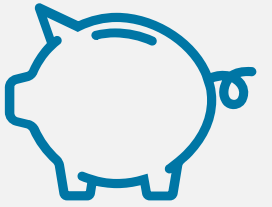
- **\$34.8 million in subawards to DRCOG's member governments.**
 - Enable local government to implement, enforce, and collaborate on building decarbonization policies.
 - Direct staff capacity (internal or contracted) and other process and system support.
 - Avg \$600,000 over the next 4 years for all communities.
 - 2025 Goal – applications open this summer & first round of jurisdictional awards granted by fall.
- **Recommended award format being developed by BPC working group**
 - 3 community workshops held to date.
 - Questions being discussed - funding distribution & eligible uses.



Local government feedback so far...

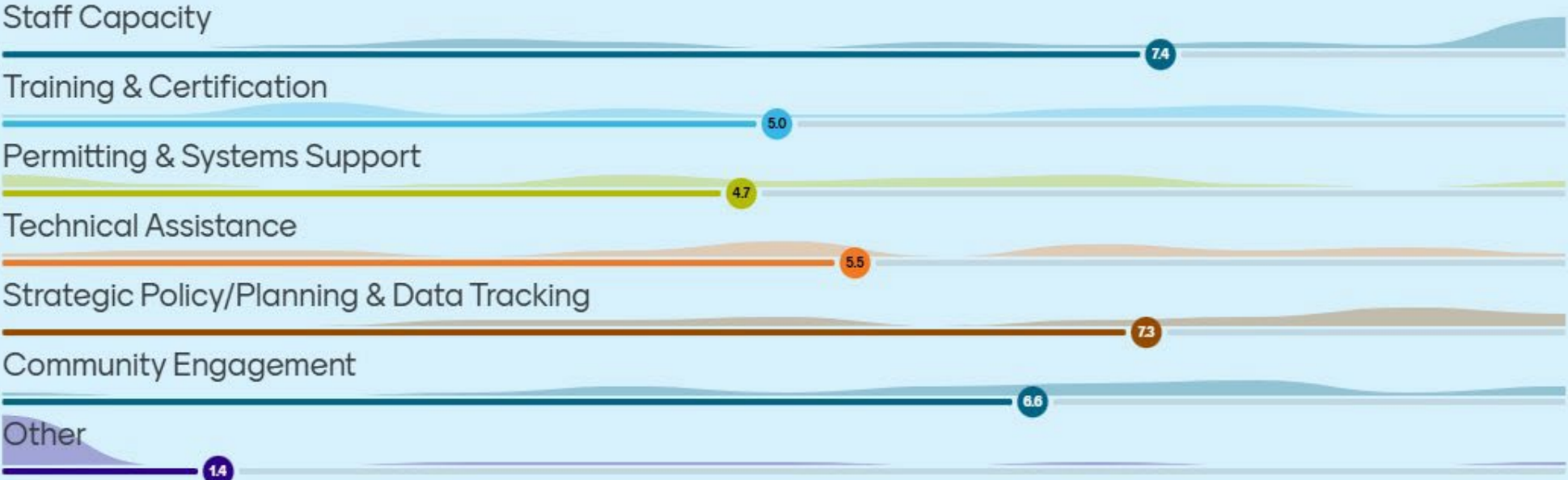
Rank your preference on funding allocation proposals. If "other", please submit written comments about your proposed alternative





Local government feedback so far...

Indicate your community's interest in the following funding categories. If "other", please submit written comments about your proposed addition.





Working Proposal

- **First round – formula funding.**
 - Timeline: August through September 2025.
 - Grant range: \$50,000 to \$2,000,000.
 - Weighted Criteria: 2025 population, 2025 jobs, 2050 population, 2050 jobs.
 - Eligible uses: Staff capacity, training and certification, permitting and systems support, technical assistance, strategic policy and data support, community engagement, and other.

- **Second round – competitive grant.**
 - Timeline: Summer 2026?
 - Grant range: To be determined.
 - Weighted Criteria: To be determined, but likely bonus if not awarded in round 1.
 - Eligible uses: Same.



Jurisdictional Support Program next steps

- **March 17** - BPC workshop to review of formula metrics, discussion of application process, reporting requirements, etc.
- **March 24** - Publish jurisdictional allocation packet for public comment.
- **May** - Final jurisdictional allocation, requirements, and eligible uses draft review to oversight committee for review.
- **June** - Oversight/Board approval of jurisdictional support program structure.
- **July → September** - Applications open and contracting begins.
- **October** – local government begin using awards / hiring new staff.



Building Policy Collaborative Peer Network

- **\$2.5 million contract for regional policy network facilitation.**
 - Coordination, stakeholder engagement, attending community councils, preparing materials, maintaining databases, and composing proposals.
 - 2025 Goals - Jurisdictions endorse Policy Roadmap towards zero emissions buildings and identify policy priorities through 2030.
- **Currently in vendor selection process for peer network facilitator.**
 - Interviews finalized this week!
 - Vendor selection and contracting in March/April
 - BPC Peer Network planning with vendor starting April/May.
- **Future BPC community workshops.**
 - Focus on policy collaborative work April – June.



Policy goals



- Potential Policies:
 - Building Codes;
 - Building Performance Standards;
 - Emissions & Equipment Standards;
 - Rental & Contractor Licensing;
 - Permitting.



Research

- **\$1 million budget for localized research.**
 - Data gathering and analysis to support collaborative needs.
 - Initial research areas:
 - Costs, benefits, and equity impacts of strengthening local energy/emissions policies.
 - Building stock analysis.
 - Electrification baseline & grid capacity.
 - Electric-preferred policy effectiveness & unintended consequences.
- 2025 Goal - hire vendor, identify research questions, and initial research completed.



Technical committee's role

Support, feedback, and dissemination

- Support and feedback on jurisdictional awards.
- Feedback and insight on research questions and challenges identified by the peer network.
- Getting the word out about the support available to local jurisdictions and encouraging participation in the BPC.

Thank you!

Gregory Miao

Program Manager

Building Policy Collaborative

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