

Regional Building Decarbonization Oversight Committee

Meeting date: September 12, 2025

Agenda Item #: 4 (Attachment B)

Innovation Pilot Grant Program Introduction

Agenda item type: Discussion

Summary

Staff will introduce the Innovation Pilot Grant Program, a \$6 million initiative designed to accelerate building electrification and energy efficiency adoption through regional pilot projects.

Background

The program takes inspiration from the TECH Clean California initiative, which awarded \$3.85 million to 19 projects between 2021–2024 to accelerate adoption of clean heating technologies. These pilots demonstrated the effectiveness of targeted, scalable approaches for overcoming barriers such as emergency replacement scenarios, utility allowance misalignment, and deployment in disadvantaged communities.

DRCOG's \$6 million Innovation Pilot Grant Program will award average subgrants of \$200,000 to support community-driven innovations and small business-led projects. The program's goals are to:

- Demonstrate scalable solutions to persistent market barriers.
- Inform decarbonization decision-making with public data, analysis, and case studies.
- Support entrepreneurial approaches and underserved communities in adopting clean technologies.

The Regional Building Decarbonization Oversight Committee will participate in grant criteria development and award selection processes.

Previous discussion/action

None

Recommendation

None

Attachment

Staff presentation

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Mac Prather, Incentives, Advising and Low-Income Communities Program Manager, mprather@drcog.org.

