



Decarbonize DRCOG Program Update

Regional Building Decarbonization Oversight Committee- September 12, 2025

Budget and Timeline

We have expended less than 1% of the budget (about \$2 million).

- \$50m/year program from Q1 2026- Q4 2029.

Current Timeline-

- **September 2025-** Presentation to Rocky Mountain Utility Exchange.
- **December 2025-** Website launch and contractor outreach/registration.
- **February 2026-** Full program launch, including advising and incentives.

Our team



Robert Spotts
Manager, Decarbonization



Sharon Day
Manager, Administration
& Finance

Building Policy

Workforce & Industry Development

Energy Advising, Rebates, & Low-income Programs

Communications & Community Engagement

Climate Pollution Reduction Planning

Administration and Finance



Greg Miao
Program
Manager



Clay McCombe
Program
Manager



Mac Prather
Program
Manager



Chris Selk
Program
Manager



Maddy Nesbit
Senior Planner



Katie Maxted
Contracts Lead



**Crystal
Egelkamp**
Senior Program
Specialist



**Devon
Reifsneider**
Senior Program
Specialist



**Fernando
Briones**
Senior Program
Specialist



Andy Birkey
Senior Program
Specialist



Kenia Flores
Compliance Lead

**Luke
Charbonneau**
Senior Program
Specialist



Emily Loker
Senior Program
Specialist

Vacant
Contracts and
Compliance
Specialist

Vacant
Contracts and
Compliance
Specialist

Opportunities

- Partnerships continue to develop with utilities, local governments, and the state.
- Vendors invested in collaboration and positive outcomes.
- Continue seeking unique funding opportunities.

Challenges

- Workplan amendments.
- Market uncertainty.
- Achieving aspirational workplan targets.



Marketing, Communications and Community Engagement Update

Regional Building Decarbonization Committees – September 2025

Marketing

- We have a name!
 - ✓ Market research.
 - ✓ Stakeholder interviews.
 - ✓ Communication Advisory Committee.
 - ✓ Brand Accelerator Workshop.
- Internal rollout:
 - ✓ DRCOG Staff.
 - ✓ DRCOG Board.
 - ✓ Decarbonization Committees.
- Campaign launch: December 2025.

KARSH • HAGAN

GBSM
INSIGHT | STRATEGY | RESULTS



INSTITUTE FOR THE
BUILT ENVIRONMENT
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



POWER
AHEAD
COLORADO



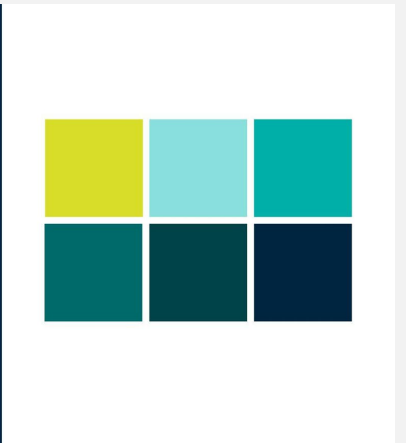
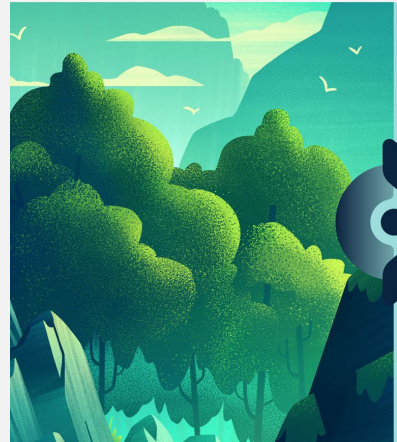
POWER
AHEAD
COLORADO

A Program of **DRCOG**



POWER
AHEAD
COLORADO

A Program of **DRCOG**





Communications

Working with GBSM on:

- ✓ Crisis communications.
- ✓ Earned media.

Working with ImageX on:

- ✓ Minimum Viable Product launch.
- ✓ Wireframes.
- ✓ Comprehensive website.

Community Engagement

- Consultant selected: Kearns and West.
- Work with Partners in Energy.
- Current timeline.





Workforce & Industry Development Update

Regional Building Decarbonization Committees – September 2025

Contractor Navigation Hub

- Design phase
 - ✓ Building Out Digital Platform.
 - ✓ Stipend Plan for Contractors.
 - ✓ Contractor Agents Hired.
 - ✓ Find-A-Contractor Page.
- Contractor is our First Customer:
 - ✓ Engaging with Industry.
 - ✓ Discussing Partnership with Utilities.
 - ✓ Universal Rebate Portal.
- Contractor Launch: December 2025





Green Workforce Hubs

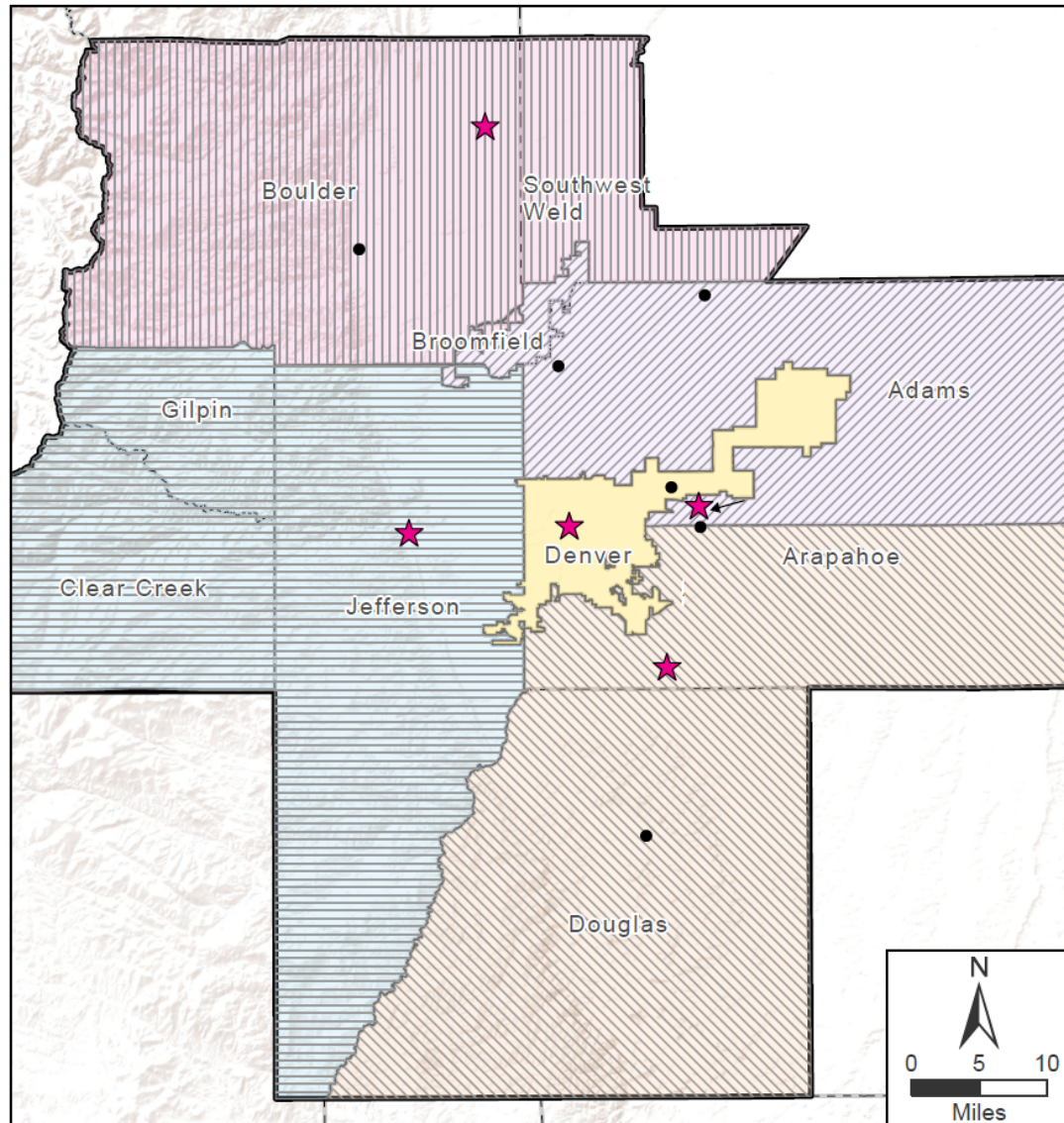
Finalizing contract

- ✓ Career pathway tracks.
- ✓ 3,800 new workers trained.
- ✓ Wraparound services.

Ribbon cutting launch

- ✓ January 2025.





-  Adams County Workforce Center
-  Arapahoe/Douglas Works!
-  Boulder County Workforce Center
-  Denver Workforce Development
-  Jefferson County Business and Workforce Center
-  Green Workforce Hubs
-  Partner Workforce Centers
-  County boundaries
-  DRCOG boundary

Source Data: DRCOG, Esri Basemap; SR 6428
 Creator: PJordan
 Location: \\TPO\0-Projects\Decarbonization\Green Work Force Hub Centers

GWF hub locations

- ★ **Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center**
6974 South Lima St, Centennial, CO 80112
- ★ **Denver Workforce Development**
201 W Colfax Ave, Denver, CO 80202
- ★ **Jefferson County Business & Workforce Center**
3500 Illinois St, Suite 1600, Golden, CO 80401
- ★ **Adams County Workforce & Business Center**
3155 Chambers Rd., Unit C, Aurora, CO 80011
- ★ **Workforce Boulder County**
515 Coffman St., Longmont, CO 80501

- *Partner workforce centers will still offer services to jobseekers.*

Growth Access Programs (GAPs)

Young adults training program

✓ Vendor selected.

Multilingual training program

✓ Vendor selected.

Justice-impacted training program

✓ RFP posting September 2025.





State HVAC license

2025 DORA sunrise review

- ✓ HVAC application was accepted.
- ✓ Engagement and research are underway.

Next steps

- ✓ Assist state with industry engagement.
- ✓ Recommendation in December 2025.



Incentives, Advising, Innovation Grant and Full-Service Low-Income Programs

Overview of incentives, advising and low-income communities programs

Strategic Goals

- Highly efficient, all-electric buildings are status quo.
- Building upgrades are easily navigable by all.
- Incentives and programs support contractor's businesses.

Objectives

- 1,600 low-income households retrofit by 2029.
- 39,800 housing units and businesses advised by 2029
- Incentives for 26,000 single- and multi-family units and 4.15M sq. ft. commercial space by 2029
- All in pursuit of pollution reduction objectives

Incentives and energy advising (\$59.6 million)

The logo for veic, featuring the word "veic" in a bold, orange, lowercase sans-serif font, centered on a dark teal rectangular background.

- Support customers in choosing **cold climate heat pumps** and similar highly efficient all-electric technologies.
- A **benefit to HVAC contractors**, businesses and workforce.
- **Support customers** in making easy, informed decisions.



Full-service low-income program (\$48 Million)

- **Program Vision**
- A comprehensive initiative designed to accelerate the adoption of clean space and water heating technologies across homes in the Denver metropolitan area.
- The program aims to enhance the well-being of low-income households while advancing regional decarbonization goals.
- By addressing barriers to building efficiency and electrification holistically, the program seeks to transform the market and create lasting, equitable change.
- Serve more than 1,600 low-income households by 2030
- From community feedback: Access to cooling, health and indoor air quality, utility bills, safe and secure housing are timely and critical needs.



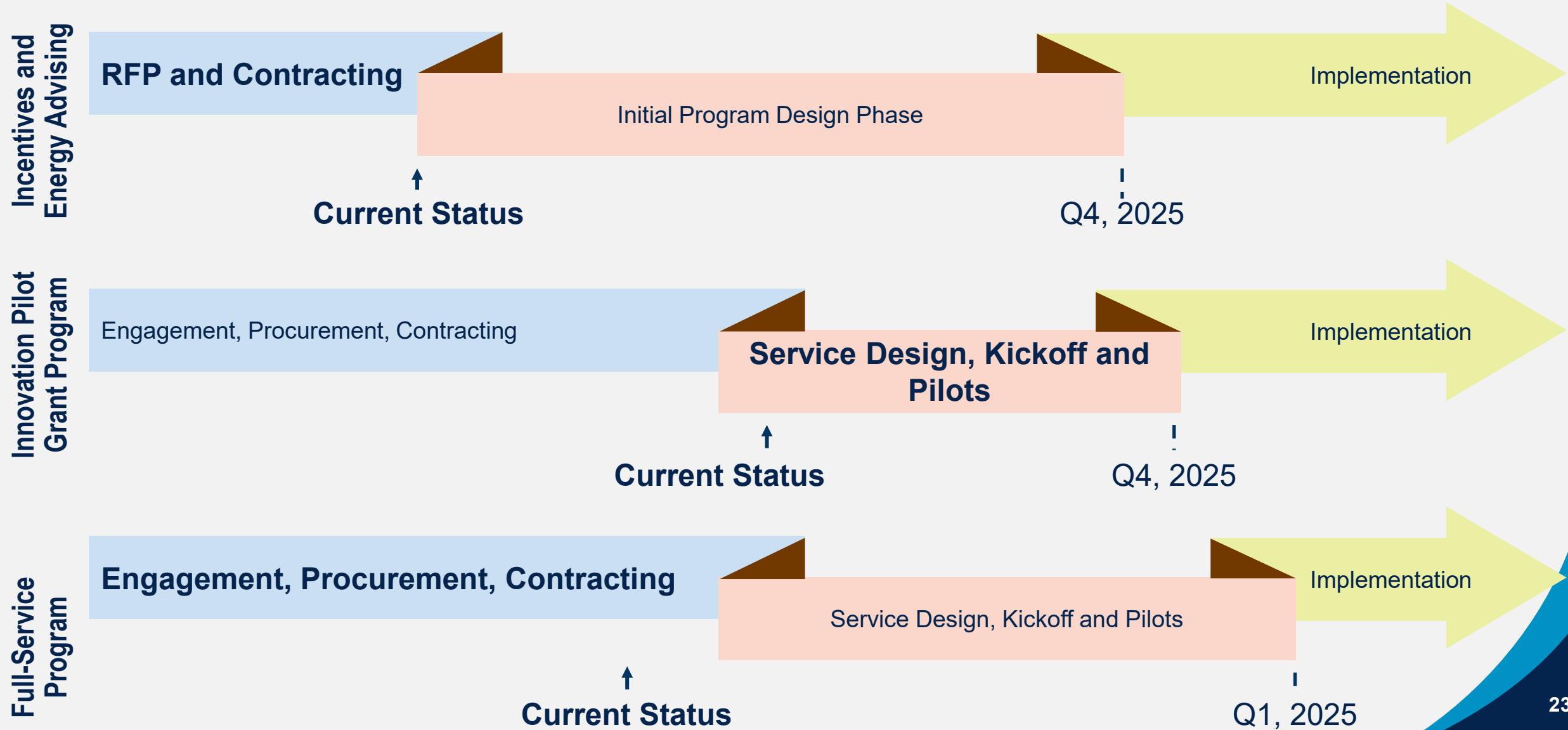
**ENERGY
OUTREACH
COLORADO**

Innovation pilot program (\$6 Million)

- Award an average of **\$200,000 per subaward** to entrepreneurial businesses, technologies, CBO's with high potential to accelerate electrification and energy efficiency adoption and bust barriers to service delivery.
 - Demonstrate scalable solutions to key market barriers via regional pilot projects.
 - Inform decarbonization decision-making with public data, analyses, and case studies.
- Target small businesses, novel approaches and community-driven innovations
- Oversight Committee will evaluate grant criteria and selections.

The logo for the Western Energy Institute (veic) is displayed in orange text on a dark teal background. The letters are lowercase and bold, with a small orange circle above the 'i'.

Program Timelines





Building Policy Collaborative

Building Policy & Contractor Team

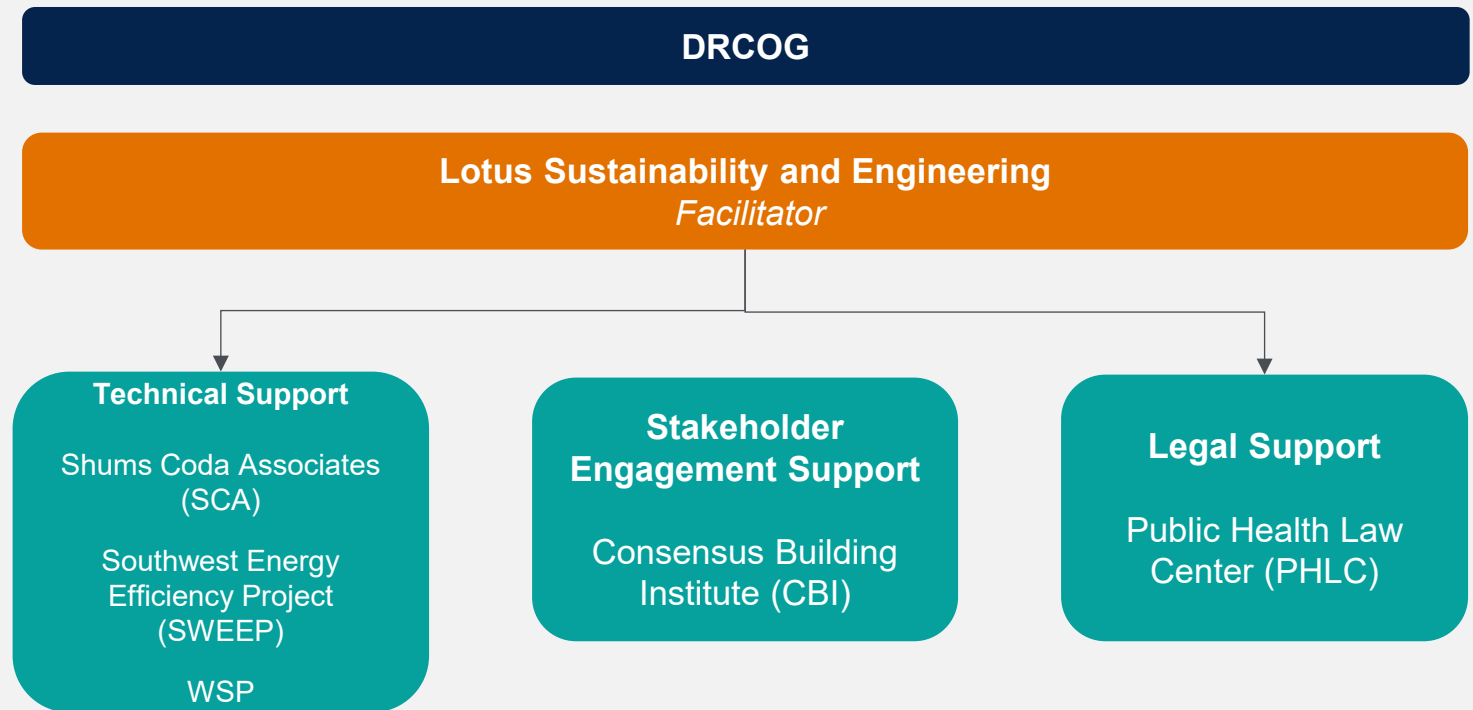
DRCOG Building Policy



Greg Miao
Program Manager



Crystal Egelkamp
Senior Program Specialist



Big Picture Updates



Jurisdictional subaward
open through October 30,
2025.



Building Policy Collaborative
launched August 7.



Research program being
finalized.

BPC: Benefits & Resources



**Regional Decarbonization
Roadmap**



**Collaboration
and Peer Learning**



**Model Policy
Options**



**Regional
Engagement**



**Research
Support**

BPC Structure

Steering Committee

Full BPC – all participating communities.

Cohorts – similar sized communities.

Policy Working groups – communities interested in working on the same policies.

BPC Updates & Next Steps

- **First full BPC meeting held August 7.**
 - ~ 60 attendees including staff and contractors representing 29 jurisdictions.
- **First round of cohort meetings complete.**
- **Building Decarbonization Roadmap** - to be developed by cohorts through December 2025 and finalized by January / February of 2026.
- **2026** – divide into policy working groups to develop model policies and work on policy implementation.





Jurisdictional Subaward

Subaward Goals

- Reduce building-related climate pollution emissions through local policy change and support community-wide efforts.
- Support jurisdictions' capacity to adopt and implement local building policies, maximizing regional consistency.
- Support jurisdictions in BPC participation.



June 2, 2025
Applications open.



October 31, 2025
Application deadline.



Spring 2026
Round 2 opens.

Jurisdictional Subaward: **Eligible Uses**



Staff Capacity



Permit & Systems Support



Training & Certification



Engagement & Coordination



Technical Assistance



Custom Measures

Jurisdictional Support Program

\$34.8 million in subawards to DRCOG's member governments.

- 4 applications received so far totaling \$5.9 million (Denver, Lakewood, Westminster, Longmont).
- Anticipate numerous additional applications to be submitted by jurisdictions in September and October with contracting to take place October through December.

Application focus areas:

- Staffing to support policy adoption and implementation (energy analysts, plan reviewers, codes officials, inspectors).
- Streamlining heat pump permitting.
- Adopting advanced energy codes and benchmarking programs.

Jurisdictional Support Program next steps

Now through October 30, 2025

continued outreach and support to jurisdictions to encourage applications.

Nov. 2025 – Jan. 2026

February, 2026 – design of round 2 subaward policy .

continued application review and contracting.

Now through December 2025

Research

- **\$1 million budget for localized research.**
 - Solicited RFP feedback from key partners
 - Anticipate issuing RFP in September
 - Key Research areas:
 - Policy modeling - costs, benefits, and equity impacts of strengthening local energy/emissions policies identified in the roadmap.
 - Building stock analysis and retrofit strategies.
 - Electrification baseline & grid readiness.
 - Electric-preferred policy effectiveness & unintended consequences.