

# EPA CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT (CPRG) PROGRAM

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## Item #5: Climate, Energy and Environmental Policy Committee

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Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG)

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# CPRG Implementation Grant Competition

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Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) released September 20, 2023

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=350252>

- **Eligible applicants:** Lead organizations with CPRG planning grants and other state, municipal, tribal, and territorial entities.
- **Purpose:** Implementation of GHG reduction measures from relevant PCAP's developed under CPRG planning grants.

## Key Dates

**February 1, 2024**, Optional Notice of Intent to Apply Due

**March 15, 2024**, Deadline for Submitting Questions

**April 1, 2024**, NOFO Closes and Applications Due by 11:59 PM (EDT)

**July 2024**, Anticipated Notification of Awards

**October 2024**, Anticipated Award

# Implementation Grants Competition

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- Grants **must implement GHG reduction** policies, programs, projects, and measures **identified in a PCAP** developed under CPRG planning grant.
- GHG reduction measures may **reduce GHG emissions or enhance carbon removal**.
- Applications must provide **benefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities, air pollution benefits, and be cost-effective**.
- GHG measure outputs may be qualitative or quantitative.

## **EPA anticipates grant applications for the following:**

- New, independent GHG reduction measures funded by CPRG alone;
- Expansions of ongoing GHG reduction measures funded partly by CPRG; and,
- New GHG reduction measures needing CPRG funding to complete total implementation.

# Funding & Expected Awards

## For general competition (\$4.3B)

- EPA anticipates awarding 30 to 115 grants ranging between \$2 million and \$500 million.
- Grants expected to be awarded within 5 tiers, with funds targeted for each tier.
- Total amount requested will determine tier application evaluated at.

<b>Tier</b>	<b>Grant Ranges</b>	<b>Funds Targeted for Each Tier</b>	<b>Anticipated Number of Grants to be Awarded</b>
Tier A	\$200,000,000 – \$500,000,000	\$2 billion	4-10
Tier B	\$100,000,000 – \$199,999,999	\$1.3 billion	6-13
Tier C	\$50,000,000 – \$99,999,999	\$0.6 billion	6-12
Tier D	\$10,000,000 – \$49,999,999	\$0.3 billion	6-30
Tier E	\$2,000,000 – \$9,999,999	\$0.1 billion	10-50

# Implementation Grant Evaluation Criteria

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Heavy emphasis on GHG reductions and clear description and implementation path for projects or programs

- Impact of GHG Reduction Measures (**60 points**)
- Overall Project Summary and Approach (**45 points**)
- Budget (**45 points**)
- LIDAC (**35 points**)
- Environmental Results – Outputs, Outcomes, and Performance Measures (**30 points**)
- Programmatic Capability and Past Performance (**30 points**)
- Job Quality (**5 points**)

# Implementation Grant Eligibility and Award

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## Limitation on application participation

- Submit **one application as individual applicant.**
- Submit **one application as lead applicant for a coalition.**
- Serve as a coalition **partner on multiple applications.**

## Awards

- EPA anticipates awarding **no more than two grants to applicants at the same level of government within a single jurisdiction** (e.g., a single state, municipality, tribal area, or territory).
- EPA will make selections to ensure **diverse geographic coverage of CPRG implementation funding across the different funding tiers.**
- EPA will not award **multiple grants to implement the same measure in the same location.**

# PCAP Measure Development

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## Measure Framework

- Priority measures need to be determined for inclusion in the PCAP
- Measures can be broader than a specific project or program but will incorporate project or program ideas
- Must reduce GHG emissions between 2025 and 2030 and beyond 2030
- Integrate GHG reduction strategies already identified as priorities
- Cost-effectiveness (short term reductions/program or project budgets)
- Demonstrate gaps in federal funding for implementation
- Conduct LIDAC benefits analysis (qualitative)
- Focus on measures with authority to implement\*

*\*Process can include initial necessary planning, studies, assessments, software, etc.*

# Building on COG 2030 Climate & Energy Action Plan

## Mitigation Strategy Actions (COG CEAP)

- Planning
- Equity\*
- Clean Electricity
- Zero Energy Buildings
- Zero Emission Vehicles
- Zero Waste
- Mode Shift and Travel
- Sequestration

*\*All measures require low-income and disadvantaged communities benefit analysis for PCAP and CCAP*



**Table ES-1: Metropolitan Washington Priority Collaborative Mitigation Actions**

Climate Action Area	Action ID	Priority Collaborative Action
Planning	PL - 1	Advance Climate Planning and Track Progress
Equity	EQ - 1	Enable Equitable Planning Practices
	EQ - 2	Prioritize Sustainable Energy Access for All
Clean Electricity	CE - 1	Advocate for Aggressive Renewable Portfolio Standards
	CE - 2	Accelerate Development of On-Site Renewables
	CE - 3	Accelerate Deployment of Battery Storage
	CE - 4	Accelerate Development of Microgrids for Critical Infrastructure
	CE - 5	Accelerate Development of Large-Scale Off-Site Renewables
	CE - 6	Advocate for and Implement Community Choice Aggregation
Zero Energy Buildings	ZEB - 1	Expand Building Benchmarking Requirements
	ZEB - 2	Accelerate Deep Building Retrofits
	ZEB - 3	Enhance Green Building Codes and Policies to Facilitate Net Zero Energy Building Development
	ZEB - 4	Expand Proper Disposal and Leak Detection of Refrigerants
Zero Emission Vehicles	ZEV - 1	Expand Light-Duty Electric Vehicle Deployment
	ZEV - 2	Accelerate Electrification of Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles
	ZEV - 3	Build Out Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Network
Mode Shift and Travel Behavior	MSTB - 1	Invest in Infrastructure that Increases Transit, Carpooling, and Non-Motorized Travel
	MSTB - 2	Bring Jobs and Housing Closer Together
	MSTB - 3	Enhance Options for Commuters
Zero Waste	ZW - 1	Implement Curbside Organics Recycling Programs
	ZW - 2	Reduce Solid Waste Generation
	ZW - 3	Build Markets for Circularity
Sequestration	SQ - 1	Strategically Plant New Trees on Publicly Owned Land
	SQ - 2	Enhance Regulatory Capacity to Manage Tree Canopy and Forest Protection
	SQ - 3	Enhance Incentives and Financing Mechanisms for Tree Planting and Preservation on Privately Owned Lands

Source: Metropolitan Washington 2030 Climate and Energy Plan



# GHG Reduction Measure Examples

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## Transportation Sector

- Promotion of electric vehicles and charging infrastructure
- Updating building and zoning codes for sustainable development

## Electric Power Sector

- Installation of renewable energy on municipal facilities
- Streamlining permitting for renewable energy projects

## Buildings Sector

- Programs to promote building electrification
- Adoption of up-to-date energy codes

Other eligible sectors include **Industrial Sector; Waste, Water, and Sustainable Materials Management Sector; Agricultural Sector; Carbon Removal Measures.**

# Project/Program Survey Preview

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To confirm/prioritize PCAP measures looking for project and program ideas including:

- Project concept title, description, and sector(s)
- Strategy title (from identified strategies)
- Direct project/program or supportive of other?
- Policy requirements, is project currently feasible?
- Approach to implementation
- Lead agency and legal authority (include collaborating agencies)
- Budget/Cost and how funding to be leveraged
- Details on GHG, LIDAC, equity, and workforce impacts (plan to assess)
- Expected outputs and outcomes (results and effects of program/project)

# Project/Program Example: Required Information

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## **Project Title:** *Expand Solarize Programs*

**Project Description:** Expand Solarize Programs to more households across the region.

**Strategy Linkages:** Expand deployment of on-site renewables. Prioritize Sustainable Energy Access for All. Accelerate Deep Building Retrofits.

**Sectors:** Residential Built Environment, Renewable Energy/Solar

**New or Expand Existing:** Expansion of existing program. Could also launch new programs.

**Lead Agency & Partners, Subrecipients, other program beneficiaries:** TBD

**Policy Requirements:** No new policies are required.

**Implementation Approach:** Lead applicant will directly fund the existing program through an Agreement with Project Partners. Procurement to on-board a Contractor(s). Home-owners and businesses would be eligible for direct payment for hardware and installation of solar systems and efficiency upgrades. Include funding for marketing, education, and training.

**LIDAC Analysis:** The program will directly impact designated LIDAC communities for project implementation. See attachment for details of specific LIDAC locations identified.

# Example Continued: Encouraged Information

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## **EXAMPLE Project Title:** *Expand Solarize Programs*

**Budget/Cost:** Goal of 300 system installed in 3 years, workforce program, outreach \$4.5 million

**Leverage Funding Sources:** The CPRG funding would leverage existing utility program funding to rapidly expand the program offering. Other funding sources could include the Solar For All Program under the EPA GGRF. EECBG funds may be eligible to fund program as well.

**GHG Projections/Targets:** Use PJM emission factor to estimate GHG reduction for every KWH of on-site solar generated. Energy efficiency component of this program also results in emission reductions. Programmatic outputs and outcomes to be determined.

**Equity Impact:** The program will positively contribute toward equity in the area by making renewable, solar energy more affordable for all, consequently lowering energy costs for households who spent a disproportionate amount of their income on energy costs.

**Workforce Impact:** Program will create high-quality jobs with an emphasis on workers from underserved populations through new training opportunities such as workforce development to install and provide solar technology. Analysis TBD.

**Outputs & Outcomes:** Tons of pollution (GHGs and co-pollutants) reduced with respect to low-income and disadvantaged communities. Analysis TBD.

# Overall Timeline

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- November 13 - Kickoff meeting of Steering and Technical Committees
- **December 1 - Members provide feedback on strategies and inputs for projects/measures**
- December TBD – Special Engagement with CBOs, key stakeholders
- December TBD – Technical Committee meeting – Discuss Projects/Measures
- December TBD – Mid-course check in with Steering Committee – Review list of Projects/Measures
- December/early January – ICF and COG Draft the PCAP
- January TBD – Technical Committee meeting – Review Draft PCAP
- January TBD – Steering Committee meeting – Approve Final Draft PCAP
- February – COG and ICF complete PCAP
- **March 1, 2024 – PCAP due to EPA**
- **April 1, 2024 – Implementation grant applications due**

**By DECEMBER 1** Complete the survey online at  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6VG68MF>  
or mail it in Word or Excel form  
to [aboggs@mwcog.org](mailto:aboggs@mwcog.org)

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