

EPA CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT (CPRG) PROGRAM

Climate, Energy and Environmental Policy Committee

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Item#5



CPRG Refresh - Planning Grant

Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) – due March 1, 2024

- Identify high priority, implementation ready measures to reduce GHG emissions and provide community benefits.
- Includes a GHG inventory, GHG reduction measures, review of authority to implement, and benefits to low-income, disadvantaged communities.
- Implementation grants must tie to PCAP measures.

Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) – summer/fall 2025

- Comprehensive, economy-wide regional climate action plan.
- Builds on the PCAP.

CPRG Refresh – Implementation Grant

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 Grant Evaluation Criteria

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**)

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.

Tier	Grant Ranges	Funds Targeted for Each Tier	Anticipated Number of Grants to be Awarded
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

UPDATE FROM STATE CPRG LEADS

Recap of COG PCAP Development Process

Summer-Fall 2023 – Initial stakeholder discussions and contracting

November 2023 – Steering and Technical Committee kickoff

November – December 2023

- Open survey for project ideas
- Open survey for community climate priorities
- Meetings with stakeholders, local governments, states
- Presentations to COG Committees
- Development of draft measures
- Stakeholder feedback on draft measures

January 2023

- Finalize measures list
- PCAP drafting
- Continued stakeholder discussions

Example Stakeholders Engaged

- Arcadia Food
- Neighborhood Sun
- Sierra Club
- Common Grain Alliance
- LEAP
- Mobilize Frederick
- Virginia PACE
- Accokeek Foundation
- Southern Environmental Law Center
- Georgetown University
- University of Maryland
- Maryland Clean Energy Center
- WMATA
- WSSC
- Pepco, Exelon, Dominion
- Washington Gas
- GWRCC Board
- COG Committees (TPB Tech, CEEPC, MWAQC, TPB, MWAQC-TAC, Chief Equity Officers Committee, BEEAC / REVI joint meeting, ACPAC, (FARM) Policy Committee

PCAP Measures

- Accelerate the deployment of energy efficiency solutions and decarbonization of residential, institutional, municipal, and commercial buildings.
- Accelerate the deployment of clean and renewable energy.
- Provide and promote new and expanded opportunities to reduce vehicle miles traveled through public transportation, non-motorized travel, and micromobility and shared travel options.
- Accelerate the deployment of low-emission transportation, fuels, and vehicles.
- Accelerate the expansion of the regional tree canopy and reduce tree canopy loss.
- Reduce GHG emissions from waste and wastewater treatment.
- Study, plan for, and deploy district energy and microgrid opportunities.
- Accelerate the deployment of off-road/non-road electric equipment.

PCAP Cross-Cutting Themes

- Provide education, marketing and outreach, and real-time data to accelerate the deployment of GHG reduction technologies, facilitate behavior changes, and to increase participation in climate and energy programs.
- Build on existing or develop new programs to provide training, paid internships, and job opportunities for a clean energy workforce.
- Deploy shared resources and funding through a centralized program for implementation ready projects such as for Institutional Buildings (e.g., municipal buildings, universities, schools, and hospitals) or to accelerate climate action for a set list of climate actions and technologies that benefit multiple jurisdictions.
- Actions supporting clean energy financing, and incentives to increase clean energy, energy efficiency, and electrification, such as Green Banks, green financing, interest rate buy downs, and revolving loan fund (e.g., green bonds, clean energy loans), ESPCS, as well as grants and rebates.

PCAP Outline

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. INTRODUCTION

- CPRG Program Overview
- PCAP Overview and Definitions
- Scope of the PCAP
- Approach to Developing the PCAP

2. METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON'S CLIMATE CONTEXT

- GHG Reduction Goals
- GHG Inventory
- Business-As-Usual Projections
- Metropolitan Washington LIDACs

3. GHG REDUCTION MEASURES

4. CROSS-CUTTING ENABLING ACTIONS

5. NEXT STEPS

APPENDIX A. GHG INVENTORY, BAU, AND GHG REDUCTION MEASURE QUANTIFICATION TECHICAL APPENDIX

APPENDIX B. EXISTING MSA CLIMATE AND ENERGY PLANS AND GOALS

APPENDIX C. IDENTIFICATION OF LIDACS IN THE WASHINGTON-ARLINGTON-ALEXANDRIA, DC-VA-MD-WV MSA

APPENDIX D. PROJECT IDEAS SUBMITTED TO COG

APPENDIX E. COMMUNITY CLIMATE PRIORITIES SURVEY RESULTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION ON STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Example PCAP Measure

Accelerate the deployment of energy efficiency solutions and decarbonization of residential, institutional, municipal, and commercial buildings.

- **Description:** Decarbonizing buildings through energy efficiency, fuel switching, adaptive reuse, and other actions are a high priority for the MSA. Building energy consumption accounted for approximately 50 percent of GHG emissions in the metropolitan Washington region in 2020. This measure focuses on increasing opportunities for owners and users of all building types to access and install technologies to decrease overall energy consumption and increase energy efficiency. It covers both market rate and low/moderate income customers.
- **LIDAC Benefits:** Reduced energy burden; indoor and outdoor air quality and public health benefits.
- **GHG Emission Reductions:** Under development.
- **Key Implementing Agencies and Partners:** State and county governments and associated entities (may include departments of energy, environment, housing, school districts, and others); energy utilities; businesses, hospitals, private schools, universities, data centers, places of worship; property owners, developers, renters; contractors and service providers.

Example PCAP Measure

Implementation Activities:

- Building benchmarking voluntary and mandatory programs;
- Improved building energy performance standards;
- Strengthened green building policies and energy codes;
- Energy audits and site assessments;
- Net zero building development;
- Expanded or new programs for retrofits and upgrades to single and multifamily homes (e.g., building efficiency retrofits (e.g., window replacements, insulation, more efficient and/or electric appliances), full or hybrid electric heat pumps or more efficient gas heat pumps);
- Implementing energy efficiency and fuel switching in data centers and other large energy users (e.g., hospitals), including implementing solutions to reduce the use of or transition from back-up diesel generators;
- Expanded or new programs for retrofits and upgrades to municipal and government buildings, including public schools, government buildings, and operations (e.g., building efficiency and electrification retrofits, street lighting and stadium lighting retrofits, microgrids); and
- Planning and addressing electric panel upgrades in residential and commercial properties to support electrification.

Example PCAP Measure

- **Authority to Implement:** Maryland and D.C. have enacted legislation mandating Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS), but as a Dillon Rule state Virginia law does not allow local governments to establish BEPS or stretch beyond existing state code. All other activities mentioned above can be implemented or are being implemented through existing voluntary or regulatory programs.
- **Geographic Coverage:** This measure will reduce GHG emissions across the entire MSA.
- **Example Funding Sources:** Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants; IRA Home Efficiency Rebates and Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates; State Energy Program; Green and Resilient Retrofit Program; Weatherization Assistance Program; Washington DC Sustainable Energy Utility; Montgomery County Green Bank.
- **Sample Tracking Metrics:** Number of residential units retrofitted; square footage renovated; number of units or square footage constructed as net zero; GHG emissions reduced.

PCAP Finalization

January 24, 2024, Distribution of initial draft PCAP for Committee reviews

January 29, 2024, Joint Steering Committee and Technical Committee Meetings

February 7, 2024, Committees feedback on PCAP due to COG

March 1, 2024 or prior, Submit PCAP to EPA

By JANUARY 30 Complete the LIDAC Survey or share
with colleagues

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7676015/CPRG-LIDAC-Questionnaire>

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