



Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Application: Grant Support and Subrecipient Commitment

Consent

Author: Garrett Ballard-Rosa

Attachments: Yes

Approved by: James Corless

Referring Committee: Land Use & Natural Resources

Issue:

The federal Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program is making available \$4.6 billion in implementation grant funding through a competitive application process. The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) is leading a CPRG grant proposal on behalf of the region, which has identified Green Means Go as one of the proposed grant activities.

Recommendation:

The Land Use and Natural Resources Committee recommends the SACOG Board of Directors authorize the Executive Director to sign a letter of support for the regional CPRG grant application, a letter commitment for SACOG to serve as a subrecipient should the region be awarded CPRG grant funds, and a Memorandum of Agreement between all grant partners as required by the CPRG guidelines.

Background/Analysis:

The CPRG program will make available \$4.6 billion nationally for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. An initial planning phase of funding has supported the development of Priority Climate Action Plans in regions to coordinate greenhouse gas reduction measures for this \$4.6 billion in implementation funding. SMAQMD is the recipient of the CPRG planning investment in our region, and lead organization for the development of the implementation activities. The area covered in our region's Priority Climate Action Plan includes the SACOG six-county area as well as the Tahoe basin and Nevada County.

Discussion/Analysis:

As the lead organization for the Priority Climate Action Plan, SMAQMD has led a regional process to develop a grant proposal for the CPRG implementation grants. The Priority Climate Action Plan identified three key areas of implementation activity:

Figure 1. Priority Climate Action Plan Areas



Through the last six months, project sponsors proposed specific ‘measures’ (i.e., implementation activities/project) within each of those three areas. The process included a CPRG steering committee, topical area working groups within each of the areas to evaluate the proposed measures, as well as an external review of submitted concepts based on CPRG performance criteria. The process culminated by recommending three implementation activities for the regional CPRG grant, one within each of the three priority areas.

Figure 2. CPRG Grant Components

Priority Climate Action Plan Area	CPRG Grant Proposal Activity	Climate Benefits
Built Environment	Green Means Go	Accelerate infill development through infrastructure development Reduces VMT
Transportation	Smart Mobility Hub Development	Converts remaining VMT to eVMT through ZEVs, charging infrastructure
Natural and Working Lands	Carbon Farming	Reduces impacts on natural and working lands. Improves soil and sequesters carbon

If the region’s CPRG application is successful, SACOG would be the subrecipient for the Green Means Go component of the grant, and pass through the funding to the specific projects identified in the CPRG grant development. To identify these projects, Green Means Go staff carried forward the CPRG built environment working group for a final stage of project assessment (in other words, identified as part of this grant development process, not through a subsequent call for projects).

The working group consisted of the following agencies (membership was open to any entity participating in the CPRG process):

- SACOG

- SMAQMD
- City of Davis
- City of Rancho Cordova
- City of Folsom
- City of Woodland
- City of Sacramento
- City of Elk Grove
- City of Roseville
- City of South Lake Tahoe
- Placer County
- Sacramento County
- Yolo County

Nine sponsors proposed ten projects totaling \$57.2 million through the working group. Based on the direction given through the larger CPRG process, the Green Means Go portion of CPRG has a \$35-\$40 million funding target. The working group completed its assessment on March 12, with the finalized set of projects included in Attachment A.

As an identified subrecipient in the grant proposal, SACOG needs to sign a commitment letter for the CPRG grant proposal, as well as a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with all grant partners. While the MOA is not needed until after the grant submission on April 1, having one executed at the time of submission will help demonstrate the extensive level of coordination that has occurred the last six months through the CPRG process, as will a letter of support.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

If the regional CPRG grant application is successful, SACOG would be a subrecipient of approximately \$35-\$40 million of CPRG funding to go towards Green Means Go infrastructure projects. The total includes a small amount (\$250,000) to cover the grant financial, accounting and reporting requirements, as well as continue Green Means Go technical assistance.