City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: **Finance**

ACM: **Cassey Ogden**

DATE: **March 5, 2024**

SUBJECT

Consider approval of a resolution of the City of Denton ratifying a letter of support to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to designate the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) as the lead applicant to the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program Implementation Grant on behalf of the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metropolitan Statistical Area (DFW MSA) and neighboring jurisdictions; and providing an effective date.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

This action supports Key Focus Area: Promote Sustainability and the Environment.

BACKGROUND

The CPRG program provides grants to states, local governments, tribes, and territories to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution. CPRG is funded by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and is a two-staged grant program providing funding of $250 million for noncompetitive planning grants (Phase 1) and $4.6 billion for competitive implementation grants (Phase 2).

NCTCOG is submitting an Initial Plan under Phase 1 outlining the current and planned activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the region. In addition, NCTCOG is submitting a CPRG implementation grant proposal requesting $500 million on behalf of the region to fund initiatives contained in the Initial Plan. This proposal includes up to $25 million to fund the engineering, design, and construction of dedicated on-street bicycle facilities. On January 18, 2024, NCTCOG requested Letters of Support from entities within the DFW MSA to gauge interest by local agencies that could implement improvements if the funding were to be awarded by the EPA. The letter supports the designation of NCTCOG as the lead applicant for the DFW MSA and identifies three proposed projects for on-street bicycle improvements in the City of Denton.

- Proposed Project No. 1: Road safety and bike-pedestrian improvements at Duchess and Loop 288.
- Proposed Project No. 2: On-street bike lane improvements in downtown and UNT.
- Proposed Project No. 3: On-street bike lane improvements in downtown and TWU.

NCTCOG's established structure, operations, and relationships uniquely position the association to facilitate and coordinate the collective efforts of the local governments in the North Texas area. Supporting NCTCOG as the lead applicant to submit a proposal to the CPRG for the DFW MSA aligns with the EPA's prioritization of a regional climate plan and recommendation of a coordinated effort. Lead applicants for metropolitan areas are required to submit a grant proposal by April 1, 2024. The City provided a Letter of Support on behalf of NCTCOG as part of the grant application on January 26, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends ratification of the Letter of Support to the EPA to designate NCTCOG as the lead applicant for the CPRG grant application.

FISCAL INFORMATION

No cost-share or matching funds are required for the CPRG funding.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 - Agenda Information Sheet
Exhibit 2 - Resolution
Exhibit 3 - Letter of Support

Respectfully submitted:
Jessica Williams
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared By:
Daniel Jones
Senior Grants Analyst