



Department Source: Sustainability

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 16, 2023

Re: Authorizing Application for a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources – Air Pollution Control Program

## Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration a resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to apply for a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR's process for this grant requests successful applicants accept grants within ten days of notification. Should the City of Columbia be successful in its application, a timely acceptance from the City Council would be unlikely or would compromise staff's ability to meet the program's other schedule requirements. The grant funds will be used to support community engagement events designed to collect information from community members and stakeholders regarding the State of Missouri's Priority Climate Action Plan.

## Discussion

As part of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is administering the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program to combat damaging climate pollution by reducing pollution.

EPA's CPRG program has two phases: planning and implementation. During the planning phase, state and local agencies will receive grant funds to develop climate action plans that identify emissions reduction measures. During the implementation phase, EPA will award grant funding to implement the identified measures. Only emissions reduction measures identified in the climate action plans will be considered eligible for implementation funding.

DNR is re-granting part of its planning-phase funding to local governments for support of three public engagement events. These events are intended to result in the identification of community-supported emission reduction measures for inclusion in the State of Missouri's Priority Climate Action Plan.

Grant awards up to \$10,000 will be made through a non-competitive process with no match requirement. On September 28, 2023 DNR detailed the specific timeline requirements of the grant program during a public webinar. One of these requirements is that applicants accept awards within 10 days of notice of a successful application. DNR also indicated that all meetings must be held by November 30, 2023. Because of these constraints, Staff is requesting Council grant advance authority to the City Manager or his designee to accept a CPRG award in the event the City of Columbia is successful.



## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: N/A

Long-Term Impact: A/A

## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Secondary,

Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

### Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Environmental Management, Secondary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

## Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A

## Suggested Council Action

Provide advance authority to the City Manager or his designee to accept an award of a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.