



Department Source: Sustainability

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: February 4, 2019

Re: Adopting a resolution accepting technical assistance for financing strategies for climate action and adaptation plan implementation.

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared a resolution accepting technical assistance through the Urban Sustainability Director's Network (USDN). The City of Columbia is partnering with municipalities from USDN to conduct a deep financial analyses as part of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) development. This resolution commits staff from the Office of Sustainability to work with our USDN partners, who received a grant, to develop a finance map for Columbia's CAAP. Participating cities will pay \$5,000 as their matching support for the grant. These funds have already been budgeted and appropriated in the Office of Sustainability Budget.

Discussion

The City of Columbia is developing its first Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP). Climate Action Plans remain the primary strategy for cities in establishing policy direction, focus, and approach to implementing a range of sustainability activities. These plans have well developed best practices around issue areas, carbon accounting, and other features. However, the lack of standard inclusion of financing and funding in CAPs is a significant barrier to implementation, and a weakness in the professionalism of climate and sustainability as a municipal service. Building on the Financing Sustainable Cities Toolkit (USDN Innovation Fund, 2016), this project will provide for the development of comprehensive financing and funding analysis for six USDN member cities, including Columbia, as well as the creation of a guide to assist other cities in performing similar work in future CAP updates. By including reasonable cost estimates of actions, likely and potential sources of funding, and finance mapping to show over-reliance or under-reliance on available funding streams, this effort will increase the likelihood of successful implementation of each CAP, in addition to providing direction to municipal staff seeking implementation funding for particular actions.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: \$5000

Long-Term Impact: N/A



Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Operational Excellence, Secondary Impact: Infrastructure, Tertiary Impact: Social Equity

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

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

Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A

Suggested Council Action

Recommend adoption of this resolution.