



Planning & Zoning
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March 20, 2024

Director Erick Shambarger
City of Milwaukee Environmental Collaboration Office
200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI 53202

Director Shambarger,

On behalf of the City of West Allis, I'm writing to support the City of Milwaukee's application for funding under the 2024 EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) to implement projects that reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) as part of a coalition of municipalities and jurisdictions in the Milwaukee-Waukesha, WI Metropolitan Area. The City of West Allis was active in the CPRG Planning efforts led by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission and encourages EPA to make this transformational investment of just under \$10,000,000 to help us implement major projects that reduce GHG.

Per the 2045 Comprehensive Plan, West Allis has long-term goals of supporting sustainability efforts within the realms of transportation, housing, parks & open space, and utilities & community facilities. To support the implementation of sustainable efforts, grant opportunities and other funding methods may be explored to reach sustainability goals.

If awarded, my jurisdiction will collaborate with a shared Community Environmental Sustainability Manager to work directly with municipal staff, businesses and other stakeholders on the EPA CPRG implementation. The position will be an official employee of another community that is subawarded funding from the grant, but the position will work in our offices about one day per week with our community's administration. In that role, the Community Environmental Sustainability Manager will report to the Mayor and City Administrator, in collaboration with other city departments, and help us publicly reduce greenhouse gasses and incorporate environmental sustainability in our operations and community at large. We will pursue other grants or use local funds to support this shared staff person past the period of the grant and into the future. Further, my jurisdiction commits to regular meetings with partners under supervision of the City of Milwaukee Environmental Collaboration Office to coordinate work and carry out grant outcomes.

Additionally, if awarded, our City/Village/County may endeavor to work with We Energies to subscribe to major new investments in renewable energy through the Renewable Pathways Program. Under this proposal, the grant will pay for the first four years of the program. Our community would subscribe to the fifth year and possibly beyond using local funds. We will also work together on shared sustainability priorities including a regional network of EV charging stations, commercial building energy efficiency, and other strategies.

Please contact me if you need any additional information or if you have any questions at me at (414) 302-8466, planning@westalliswi.gov

Sincerely,

Steve Schaer AICP, Planning & Zoning Manager
City of West Allis