

Attachment A
Meeting Summary
Regional Building Decarbonization Oversight Committee
Friday, June 13, 2025
Virtual Meeting Only – Hosted on Zoom

Members (or Voting Alternates) Present:

Steve Barr (Chair)	City of Littleton
Doug Rex	Denver Regional Council of Governments
Nicole Speer	City of Boulder
Stephen Shepherd	Building Owners and Managers Association
Andrew Holder	Xcel Energy
Shere Walker-Ravenell	Black Parents United Foundation
Steve Douglas	Commerce City

Additional Alternates Present:

Ron Papsdorf (Alternate)	Denver Regional Council of Governments
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Public: Russ Sands

DRCOG staff: Cam Kennedy, Chris Selk, Robert Spotts, Clay McCombe, Mac Prather, Greg Miao, Andy Birkey, Emily Loker, Devon Reifsneider

Call to Order

Chair Steve Barr called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

May 9, 2025 Regional Building Decarbonization Oversight Committee Meeting Summary

The summary was accepted.

Discussion Items

Local IMPACT Accelerator: Opportunities for Local Policy Adoption

Robert Spotts, Manager, Building Decarbonization introduced Russ Sands, Director of Local Climate Solutions, Colorado Energy Office, who discussed the \$50 million program, Local IMPACT Accelerator, which supports local government adoption of transformative climate policies in the sectors of buildings, transportation, land use, and waste. Russ also discussed how jurisdictions in the DRCOG region can coordinate efforts and funding strategies in light of eligibility rules that intersect with existing DRCOG programs.

Chair Barr inquired about cost-matching requirements. Russ replied that the general cost match is 5%, so if you ask for \$5 million, you'd be expected to put up only \$250,000. However, there are zero-match options, for example, if you're a federally recognized tribe like the Mountain Ute or Southern Ute Indian tribes. Beyond that, the appendices on the COE website lay out some other options, such as focusing on low-income communities, that could get you to zero-match if you qualify.

Director Nicole Speer asked if separate letters of intent were needed for both rounds of the project and when the timeframe for round two submittals would be. Russ replied that both rounds require letters of intent and the timeframe for round 2 is between October 1 – November 17.

Director Speer inquired if there would be the possibility of an application to qualify for the zero-match option if more than 40% of the funding was focused on low-income communities. Russ stated that as long as you can verify how the funding will be spent and explain it, then that option is on the table.

Director Speer asked if this funding could be used in a way to close gaps caused by the federal government which has cut funding for programs focused on climate justice. Russ stated that the website shows a range of policies and examples that can serve as a litmus test regarding what sort of projects this funding can be used on.

Director Stephen Shepherd asked how the state's building performance plan compares with this initiative and what some of the potential financial implications are. Russ replied that there is an interagency guidance team comprised of CDOT, CDPHE, DOLA, CEO, etc. that connects and collaborates to ensure no one is stepping over each other when it comes to these sorts of programs.

Opportunities for Improvement – Colorado's HVAC Industry

Clay McCombe, Program Manager, Building Decarbonization, discussed options to improve processes, safety, and welfare in the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) industry across Colorado's jurisdictions. HVAC technicians are currently municipally regulated. This system leads to a variety of different standards and protocols when it comes to education, safety measures, and welfare across jurisdictions. DRCOG is exploring options to improve processes across jurisdictions in a way that serves contractors, protects consumers, and elevates best practices across jurisdictions.

Chair Barr inquired if current contractors could be grandfathered in, or would they need to go through the entire new process to receive a new statewide license. Clay replied that there would be a year-long grace period for the industry to adjust to new

regulations. Additionally, it is possible that some current licenses could automatically qualify someone for the new statewide license.

Chair Barr asked if there could be an interstate reciprocity program so that contractors wouldn't have to begin from scratch if they moved here. Other programs such as geology and engineering do allow licenses to carry over across certain states. Clay mentioned this is something he's researched and several states, including nearby Utah, already have reciprocity agreements which could serve as potential templates.

Administrative Items

Member Comment/Other Matters

Robert Spotts stated that on Tuesday, the Decarbonization Team went up to Wellington to take a building science boot camp. The event helped highlight the risks, limitations, and opportunities inherent in the decarbonization space. Additionally, a lot of work is being done with our selected vendors and more information will be discussed during next month's meeting.

Next Meeting – July 11, 2025

Adjournment

There were no additional comments, and the meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.