

Finance and Budget Committee

Meeting date: August 6, 2025

Agenda Item #: 7

Discussion of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with Kearns & West for community engagement services for the building decarbonization program in an amount of \$2,300,000 through August 1, 2027 with the option to renew for an additional \$1,700,000 with a term ending October 16, 2029 upon satisfactory performance for a total contract amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.

Agenda item type: Action item

Summary

This action is requesting approval to contract with Kearns & West to provide community engagement services for DRCOG's building decarbonization program.

Background

DRCOG received a \$199.7 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program to implement a regional building decarbonization initiative.

In June 2025, DRCOG released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit services from agencies qualified and experienced in developing equitable community engagement plans for federally funded projects, creating a robust grant-application process for community-based organizations, and disbursing grant funding to CBOs to assist in community engagement efforts. As stated in the RFP, to successfully compete for and be awarded this contract, interested firms needed to demonstrate the experience, capability, understanding and resources to handle a program of the size, scope and complexity of the DRCOG Climate Pollution Reduction Grant as well a proven track record in equitable community engagement. A solid knowledge of the Denver region and the presence of local staff were other considerations.

DRCOG received seven proposals in response to the RFP that were reviewed and evaluated by a selection panel including subject matter experts from DRCOG staff and a staff person from Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC). The panel interviewed three firms and unanimously selected Kearns & West due to their deep understanding of the Denver Region, expertise in community engagement, and ability to execute the subaward program to local community-based organizations.

Action by others

None

Previous discussion/action

None



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Recommendation

Move to adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with Kearns & West for community engagement services for the building decarbonization program in an amount of \$2,300,000 through August 1, 2027 with the option to renew for an additional \$1,700,000 with a term ending October 16, 2029 upon satisfactory performance for a total contract amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.

Attachment

Draft resolution

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, at 303-480-6701; or Chris Selk, Program Manager (Communications), at 303-350-5465 or cselk@drcog.org.

