

January 2024

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Metro is leading an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) on behalf of the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area, which will help Metro and other public agencies identify near-term, high-impact opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

About the CPRG planning grants

The CPRG program offers 4-year grants to regions and states to create plans and identify strategies that:

- Significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a manner that improves equity, community health and advances other agency goals.
- Can be implemented by public agencies.
- Are aligned with federal and state funding sources.

As part of the CPRG grant, Metro will produce two plans:

- A Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), due March 1, 2024, that identifies high priority, implementation-ready greenhouse gas reduction actions that can be funded with available resources including a separate set of CPRG implementation grants that EPA is making available to public agencies across the U.S. in spring 2024.
- A Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP), due late summer 2025, that includes a comprehensive inventory of greenhouse gas emissions for the metropolitan area and a broader set of strategies to reduce emissions.

These plans will help the region pursue the growing number of federal and state funding programs focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Grant eligibility

In particular, projects must be included in the PCAP to be eligible to apply for \$4.3 billion in competitive CPRG implementation grants from EPA. Applications for these implementation grants are due April 1, 2024.

Any public agency in the metropolitan area can lead an implementation grant application for any of the actions included in the PCAP. Similarly, the CCAP may also help make projects eligible for other federal climate implementation funds.

The timeline below shows how the two CPRG plans are aligned with opportunities to pursue implementation funds.



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Priority Climate Action Plan

The PCAP focuses on identifying high-impact climate actions that can be readily implemented by public agencies with funding from EPA's CPRG implementation grants.

The plan will include:

- An inventory of greenhouse gas emissions in the metropolitan area.
- A list of strategies to reduce these emissions.
- An assessment of whether each strategy is ready for implementation.
- An analysis of the greenhouse gas emissions reductions and other benefits of each strategy.

Metro is focusing the PCAP on strategies that have been endorsed by public agency partners and the public through the adopted climate action plans that are in place throughout the metropolitan area.

Climate Partners' Forum

Metro has established the Climate Partners' Forum, a group of staff from agencies around the metropolitan area, to guide the development of the PCAP. Forum members help to ensure that the PCAP reflects partners' prior work on climate and to support applications for climate funding in the future.

Comprehensive Climate Action Plan

There are many opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area – and not all of them will be ready to apply for funding in spring 2024.

Greenhouse gas reduction strategies that need more time for development are candidates for the CCAP, which is due at the end of summer 2025. Stay updated to learn more and participate in this process.

Opportunities for collaboration

Metro is not the only agency leading a CPRG planning grant that is relevant to the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area. The states of Oregon and Washington also have CPRG planning grants that relate to communities in the metropolitan area, and the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians is leading a planning grant that covers tribes throughout Oregon and Washington.

Any of these plans may identify greenhouse gas reduction strategies that support agencies in the metropolitan area in meeting their climate goals. The resources to the right contain links to more information about complementary CPRG planning grants.

Stay up to date

Contact Metro project manager **Eliot Rose** for more information about how to engage with Metro's CPRG grant:

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Learn more about the Portland-Vancouver metro area's CPRG planning grant at:

oregonmetro.gov/climategrant

Learn more

For more information about state level plans that will also cover the Portland-Vancouver metro area, visit the websites below.

Oregon: bit.ly/3sWSRs1

Washington: bit.ly/3TbREal

EPA's CPRG website has detailed information, both about the CPRG planning grants and implementation grants: **bit.ly/epacprg**

