

Agenda Item Summary

To: CRCOG Policy Board

From: Kyle Shiel, Principal Planner

CC: Matt Hart, Executive Director;

Caitlin Palmer, Director of Regional Planning & Development

Meeting Date: November 19, 2025

Subject: Resolution endorsing the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan

Background: The Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program (CPRG) is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) program providing grants to states and local governments to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. CRCOG is the lead agency for the Hartford-East Hartford-Middletown MSA and has been awarded \$1 million in noncompetitive planning funds to develop regional climate action plans – the second of which is a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP). Through the spring and early summer of 2025, CRCOG and RiverCOG staff have worked with our consultant partners Dewberry to develop the CCAP, which was submitted to EPA in late July 2025. The first deliverable, the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) was adopted by the Policy Board in February 2024.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG: The Greater Hartford Region Comprehensive Climate Action Plan includes emission reduction measures across a range of sectors that can be implemented by municipalities and other regional stakeholders. The CCAP provides a flexible roadmap for municipalities seeking strategies to reduce emissions.

Financial/Operational Impact: CPRG-related activities are conducted at no cost to member towns.

Project Schedule: The CCAP was submitted to EPA in late July 2025. In September, EPA program staff confirmed the CCAP met program requirements, and EPA accepted the plan. The third and final phase of the project is a Status Report, due in 2027.

Recommendation: CRCOG staff recommends the Policy Board approve the attached resolution endorsing the final Comprehensive Climate Action Plan.

Attachments:

- Resolution

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE ACTION
PLAN (CCAP) FOR THE HARTFORD-EAST HARTFORD-MIDDLETOWN
MSA**

WHEREAS, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 appropriated \$5 billion to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program (CPRGP), to be administered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2023, EPA announced availability of \$250 million for the first phase of the program, which issued non-competitive planning grants, administered as cooperative agreements, to fund development and expansion of climate action plans (Plans) that will include programs, policies, measures, and projects that will achieve or facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) air pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), in its capacity as the Regional Planning Organization (RPO) for two-thirds of the municipalities within the Hartford MSA, has received \$1 million and entered into a cooperative agreement with EPA; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG in partnership with the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments and Dewberry have completed a Priority Climate Action Plan for the Hartford-East Hartford-Middletown MSA;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT, the Capitol Region Council of Governments does hereby endorse the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP). The plan may be marked Final and dated November 2025, and study recommendations may henceforth be incorporated into CRCOG's planning documents.

CERTIFICATE

I certify the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the CRCOG Transportation Committee, acting as the Policy Board, at its meeting on November 19, 2025.

BY: _____
Jason Bowsza, Secretary

DATE: _____