

DRCOG Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

A Zero-Emission Building Initiative

The Denver Regional Council of Governments has been awarded \$199.7 million from the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants to **slash climate pollution** by electrifying buildings.

Over a five-year span, the project will **cut greenhouse gas emissions from buildings by 70%**, focusing on low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDACs). Equity isn't just part of the program; it's at its center.

The initiative will **replace fossil fuel-burning appliances in homes and businesses and build a future-forward workforce**. Together, these efforts will improve public health, spur innovation, and energize the economy.

Created by a coalition of 58 local governments with backing from diverse supporters—including Senators, Representatives, and Governor Jared Polis—this effort is poised to lead the Denver Metro Area into a brighter and healthier future.

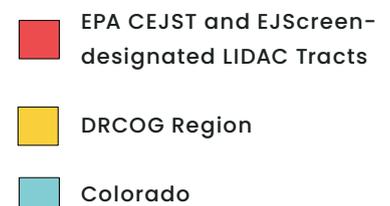
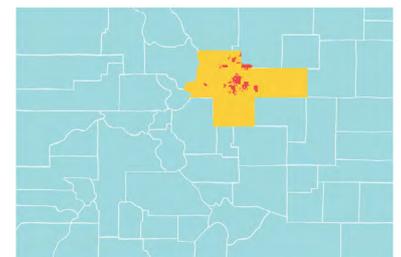
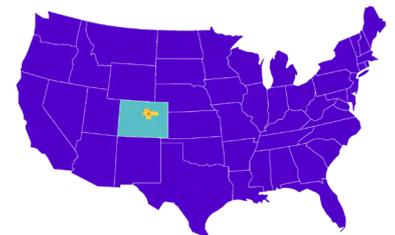
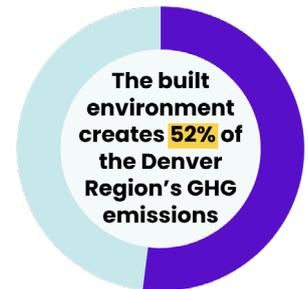
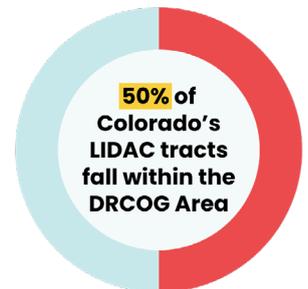
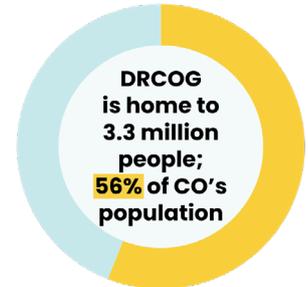
Highlights

This regionwide initiative will:

- Cut 148,200,000 metric tons of CO₂e by 2050 – the equivalent of taking 35 million gas-powered cars off the road for a whole year.
- Support low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDACs), exceeding the goals of the federal Justice40 initiative.
- Receive \$73 million in matched funding from local governments committed to amplifying impact.
- Train 4,800+ workers for the electrification workforce, including 1,000 upskilled workers.
- Engage 1.6 million Coloradans in electrification and decarbonization through a public awareness campaign.
- Issue 40,000+ rebates for decarbonization services and electric appliances, like heat pumps, electric water heaters, electric cooktops, and ranges.
- Significantly improve outdoor air quality in a region with high levels of air pollutants like ozone.



DRCOG brings 58 member governments together to address the region's most challenging issues.



Program Structure

Four climate pollution-cutting programs:

- Free, full-service home decarbonization for LIDACs, including weatherization and upgrades.
- Free, data-driven energy advising to help residential, multifamily, and commercial building owners plan and implement upgrades.
- Rebates and incentives for electrification equipment and services.
- A Building Policy Collaborative that supports coordinated, regional policy implementation and local government capacity building.

To ensure the success of these programs, this project will undertake:

- Robust community engagement to develop programming, communications, and more.
- Comprehensive, accessible communications and public awareness campaign.
- High-quality workforce and industry development.

MEASURE	BUDGET	IMPACT 2025-2030
Program Administration*	\$32.4 M	1.6M+ people engaged
LIDAC Home Decarbonization	\$48.1 M	1,600 residences retrofit
Energy Advising	\$17.5 M	50k+ clients advised
Rebates and Incentives	\$43.1 M	40k+ rebates issued
Policy Collaborative	\$39.2 M	58 jurisdictions supported
Workforce and Industry Development	\$19.4 M	4.8k+ workers trained
TOTAL CPRG FUNDS	\$199.7 M	
Local Government Matching Contributions	+\$73.3 M	

* includes centralized community engagement and communications

Contact Information

To learn more, email DRCOG Communications Director Steve Erickson at serickson@drcog.org.

SUPPORTERS

90 letters of support from governments, workforce centers, community organizations, and others, including:

Elected Officials:

- Sen. Michael Bennett
- Sen. John Hickenlooper
- Rep. Diana DeGette (CO-1)
- Rep. Joe Neguse (CO-2)
- Rep. Jason Crow (CO-6)
- Rep. Brittany Petterson (CO-7)
- Rep. Yadira Caraveo (CO-8)
- Gov. Jared Polis
- Att’y. Gen. Phil Weiser

Labor:

- African-American Trade Association
- Denver Joint Electrical Apprenticeship & Training Committee
- Denver Metro Building Owners and Managers Association
- Energy Efficiency Business Coalition
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 68
- Independent Electrical Contractors Rocky Mountain Association
- Pipefitters Local Union No. 208
- Rocky Mountain Mechanical Contractors Association
- Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers Local Union 9

Nonprofits:

- Bloc Power
- Energy Outreach Colorado
- Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver
- Regional Air Quality Council
- Rewiring America
- U.S. Green Building Council

Workforce Development:

- CO Community College System
- Denver Workforce Dev. Division
- Mi Casa Resource Center

Utilities

- Longmont Power & Communications
- Xcel Energy
- United Power