



**City of Albuquerque
Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG)
Draft Implementation Plan
October 31, 2023
Submitted by: Single Space Strategies**

Background/Overview

In May 2023, the City of Albuquerque’s Sustainability Office, in partnership with Bernalillo County and the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG), submitted their application for a \$1 million formula planning grant through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The City, as lead agency, was officially awarded the *planning grant* in September 2023 with funding through 2027.

This planning grant will build on the progress made to date to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) and air pollution emissions, as well as deepen work to support frontline communities across the Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The planning grant funds allow for broad and deep participation across local government processes with a diverse group of organizations and individuals. The CPRG centers community input and GHG reduction measures that greatly impact low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC).¹

Key Planning Grant Deliverables and Timeline

- Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) - Due March 1, 2024
- Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) - Due Summer/Fall 2025
- Status Report - Due Summer/Fall 2027

The planning grant can be thought of as a “grant to get a grant.” The second phase of CPRG is *implementation* and there is \$4.3 billion available for competition in 2024. The planning grant is designed to provide support for local governments to develop the materials needed to compete for this implementation funding including the creation of a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) which is a prerequisite for applying for implementation monies.

The initial planning grant deliverable – the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) - is a narrative report due on March 1, 2024 that includes a focused list of near-term, high-priority, implementation-ready measures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution and an analysis of GHG emission reduction that would be achieved through that implementation.

The PCAP must include:

- A simplified GHG inventory;
- Quantified GHG reduction measures (i.e., projects);

¹ We acknowledge that using this language for communities that have been historically, intentionally, and systematically underserved and overburdened perpetuates the narratives of white supremacy, but note it here because it is the language the federal government is using.

- A low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC) benefits analysis; and
- A review of authority to implement.

The CPRG planning grant greatly increases the City Sustainability Office’s capacity to engage representatives from various City departments and other governments across the MSA in brainstorming and collaboration activities related to identifying GHG reduction measures; develop a prioritized list of GHG Reduction Measures (i.e., projects); conduct an updated GHG inventory and analysis of GHG reduction measures; get community and stakeholder buy-in on projects(i.e., community engagement); complete analysis and summarize all data collected during the community engagement phase of the plan; and finalize which measures to move forward to either the PCAP or the CCAP.

The activities and timeline outlined in the City’s planning grant application are as follows:

Summer (June - August 2023):	Fall (September - November 2023):	Winter (November 2023 - March 2024):
<p>Develop and hire FTE position within the Sustainability Office to coordinate and manage the grant</p> <p>Conduct preliminary benefits analysis for low-income & disadvantaged communities</p> <p>Develop list of GHG reduction measures in collaboration with County and MRCOG officials to share with public</p> <p>Create outreach materials for public input</p>	<p>Conduct public meetings and deploy open online participation form</p>	<p>Analyze and summarize public feedback for PCAP</p> <p>Refine final priority GHG reduction measures (i.e., projects) based on public feedback and GHG reduction potential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These will address key GHG emissions sectors and co-benefits based on community input • Refinement of GHG reduction measures will draw from existing plans (CABQ 2021 Climate Action Plan, Albuquerque Vision Zero Action Plan, Connections 2040 Transportation Plan) • These measures will be identified and selected based on the Justice40 Initiative, with a commitment of 40% of projects directly supporting frontline communities. <p>Finalize all sub-deliverables in PCAP</p>

CPRG funding also allows the City to contract an environmental consultant to analyze and update their latest [Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#), based on the work completed regarding GHG reduction measures. In its last iteration, the GHG Inventory identified stationary (homes, buildings), transportation (road, air, train), and waste (water and waste generation) as expected emissions sectors throughout the metro area where the City will focus its analysis.

The GHG inventory activities and timeline outlined in the City’s application are as follows:

September 2023 - March 2024:	July 2025:
<p>Analyze and research inventory building off 2017 emissions data</p> <p>Expand scope of existing GHG Inventory to include all of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical Area (expanding outside of Albuquerque city limits)</p> <p>Include focused analysis of priority reduction measures (i.e., projects)</p>	<p>Updated GHG Inventory announcement & introduction</p>

Single Space Strategies Involvement Overview and Report Content Outline

Through partnership with the City’s Office of Equity and Inclusion, the Sustainability Office first engaged Single Space Strategies in April 2023 to assist in the development of its successful application for the CPRG Planning Grant. Once the application was submitted in May 2023, the Single Space team then shifted its focus to engage and collaborate with appropriate City Departments and other governmental partners in the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County area to develop the initial list of potential GHG reduction measures (i.e., projects) to be included in the community engagement process.

This process started with the Single Space team providing an orientation to working group members on the CPRG program, goals, and requirements. Single Space offered this orientation several times as new City staff came on to the project.

To begin to identify projects for possible inclusion in the PCAP and CCAP, Single Space created a project rubric into which working group members could input specific information about their projects. This rubric included information on the project’s sector,

Single Space activities during project development phase:

- biweekly meetings with representatives from the City, Bernalillo County, and MRCOG,
- approximately 10 presentations on the CPRG program with City employees across at least 7 departments,
- facilitation of a working group with around 25 members from across 7 City Departments, Bernalillo County, MRCOG, Village of Corrales, and Albuquerque Public Schools (APS),
- generation of a project repository with over 30 individual project proposals.

the approximate amount of GHG reduction expected after implementation, and the communities that would benefit from the project. Single Space then convened members of the working group to a brainstorming session to identify the impact of each project as well as the effort that would be required for implementation. The goal of this session was to identify high impact, low effort projects that could be included in the PCAP and which high impact, high effort projects might be better suited for the CCAP.

Based on the rubrics completed by working group members and the results of this brainstorming session, Single Space created a project repository that includes all of the relevant information about each project and categorizes projects for potential inclusion in the PCAP or CCAP, pending community input. In a final working group meeting, Single Space presented the categorized projects and offered suggestions for potential collaboration across projects that would increase the impact on GHG reductions and community benefits.

Projects submitted by City Departments and other governmental agencies are detailed within this report. Single Space has recommended which of these projects should move forward in the community engagement process and which should be considered for the CCAP. The CPRG requires refining these projects through community engagement before they are submitted in the PCAP. Single Space has thoroughly reviewed EPA program guidance and synthesized timelines for key CPRG planning grant sub-deliverables in this report. The report concludes with recommended pathways forward.

CPRG Planning Grant Sub-Deliverables and Requirements

The three key deliverables for the CPRG planning grant each include sub-deliverables.

Plan Element	Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP)	Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP)	Status Report
GHG Inventory	Required	Required	Update Encouraged
GHG Emissions Projections	Not Required	Required	Update Encouraged
GHG Reduction Targets	Not Required	Required	Not Required
Quantified GHG Reduction Measures	Required (priority measures only)	Required (comprehensive)	Status and Updates Required
Benefits Analysis	Encouraged	Required	Required
Low Income/ Disadvantaged Communities Benefits Analysis	Required	Required	Required

Plan Element	Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP)	Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP)	Status Report
Review of Authority to Implement	Required	Required	Update Required
Intersection with Other Funding Availability	Encouraged	Required	Required
Workforce Planning Analysis	Encouraged	Required	Required
Next Steps/Future Budget and Staffing Needs	Not Required	Not Required	Required

[Source: EPA CPRG Planning Grants Program Guidance](#)

The remainder of this report will focus on PCAP sub-deliverables.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory - Required

Per the EPA, planning grant recipients may opt to begin with a simplified GHG inventory for the PCAP, and then complete additional analyses and data collection necessary to develop a comprehensive GHG inventory in the second deliverable - the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) - in 2025. As mentioned, the City will draw from its latest GHG inventory, and is contracting with an environmental consultant to conduct the updated analyses, including GHG estimation for the projects submitted in the PCAP. Notably, Bernalillo County is also conducting its own GHG inventory, which should be incorporated into the PCAP and CCAP where possible. The comprehensive inventory required later in the CCAP must expand outside of the Albuquerque City limits to include all of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

GHG Emissions Projections - Not Required

While emissions projections for priority projects are not required for the PCAP, the City is contracting with an environmental consultant to estimate GHG reduction for the projects submitted in the PCAP.

GHG Reduction Targets - Not Required

This sub-deliverable is not required for the PCAP and the City opted to expand on this work for the CCAP, due in 2025.

Quantified GHG Reduction Measures (Projects) - Priority Measures Required

The PCAP must include a focused list of near-term, high-priority, implementation-ready measures that have been identified for implementation by the lead organization and other collaborating entities. For the lead organization (the City), such measures should be those it plans to implement directly and/or in partnership with collaborating agencies. The PCAP should also include measures that will be implemented by other entities (e.g., Bernalillo County) within the MSA.

Each measure should include an estimate of the quantifiable GHG emissions reductions, key agency or agencies, geographic location, implementation schedule and milestones, review of authority as needed, identification of other funding sources where possible, and metrics for tracking progress. Lastly, because the projects in the PCAP will likely be part of an application to

compete for CPRG implementation funds, agencies are encouraged to develop cost estimates for their measures, so they are prepared.

As mentioned, the bulk of Single Space's work and collaboration with agencies thus far has been dedicated to developing this focused list of measures. Once the list is refined and finalized based on community input, the City and its partners should gather and finalize the necessary information for each measure it intends to submit in the PCAP. Details about this list of priority projects are provided in the next section of this report.

Benefits Analysis - Encouraged

This sub-deliverable is not required for the PCAP and the City opted to expand on this work for the CCAP, due in 2025.

Low-Income Disadvantaged Communities (LIDAC) Benefits Analysis - Required

Planning grant recipients must include a preliminary analysis of benefits for LIDACs they anticipate will result from the GHG reduction measures (i.e., projects) included in their PCAP. [The EPA indicates](#) that it will require an accounting of such benefits to consider future CPRG implementation grant applications. Examples of community benefits from projects include but are not limited to: co-pollutant emission reductions (e.g., criteria air pollutants and air toxics), increased climate resilience, improved access to services and amenities, jobs created and workforce development, and decreased energy costs from energy efficiency improvements. Per EPA guidance, the PCAP should identify disadvantaged communities in the jurisdiction covered by the plan, how the recipient meaningfully engaged with those communities in the development of the plan, and how they intend to continue their engagement in the future.

The City will be contracting with a consultant to facilitate the community engagement process, which will result in the refinement of the list of GHG reduction measures (i.e., projects) compiled by Single Space and included in this report.

Review of Authority to Implement GHG Measures - Required

The PCAP and CCAP will include a range of proposed GHG reduction measures (i.e., projects). Both plans will need to identify for each project whether the relevant government already has existing statutory or regulatory authority to implement the measure, or whether such authority still must be obtained. The PCAP must include a schedule of milestones for actions needed by key entities (e.g., legislative, administrative agency, etc.) for obtaining any authority needed to implement each listed project. Single Space initiated work for this sub-deliverable during the working group sessions, whereby officials were asked to consider additional authority and/or bureaucratic constraints when identifying the level of effort each project would require. Once the GHG reduction measures have gone through the community engagement process, and the list of projects for the PCAP is finalized, the City's planning grant manager should ensure that timelines and milestones for obtaining authority (where necessary) are included in the submission of the PCAP.

Intersection with Other Funding Availability - Encouraged

The EPA indicated in its program guidance for both the planning and implementation phases that recipients and applicants should make use of other funding sources wherever possible, demonstrating that they've attempted leveraging resources elsewhere before including a project in an implementation grant application. While this component is not required for the PCAP, Single Space gathered this information where possible for each project to ensure that projects are well situated for consideration by the EPA. See Appendix A.

Workforce Planning Analysis - Encouraged

This sub-deliverable is not required for the PCAP and will be taken up after March 1, 2024 to be included in the CCAP, due in 2025.

Next Steps/Future Budget & Staffing Needs - Not Required

This sub-deliverable does not apply to the PCAP or CCAP and will be included in the Status Report deliverable in 2027.

List of GHG Reduction Measures for Community Engagement

The Single Space Strategies team engaged in a robust collaboration process with City Departments, as well as partners with Bernalillo County, MRCOG, the Village of Corrales, and Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) to develop the initial list of projects to be included in the community engagement process. This work began by developing and presenting materials on the CPRG program itself, ensuring everyone in the working group was informed of the CPRG's purpose, requirements, and key deliverables.

The team also facilitated working group sessions wherein officials were asked to brainstorm and develop projects that meet PCAP criteria. To assist the officials in these activities, Single Space developed project rubrics and a repository that captured key information needed for consideration, including but not limited to:

- brief description
- priority emissions reductions sectors and sink sectors identified by the EPA;
- priority sectors identified within the City's 2021 Climate Action Plan;
- EPA-identified low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC);
- estimated GHG emissions reductions;
- additional funding sources;
- and what stage the project is currently (planning/exploration, early stages of implementation, full implementation)
- key notes/questions

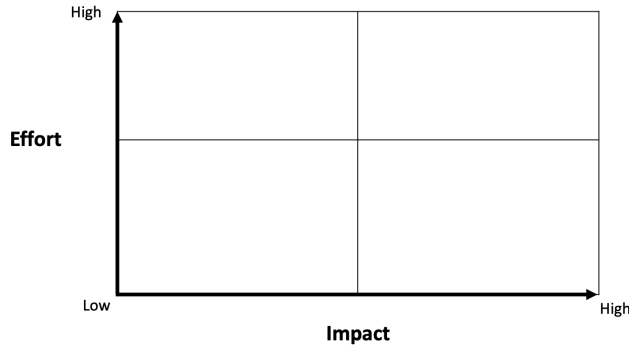
The working group was also asked to document levels of effort and impact for each project so that the Single Space team could begin determining which projects were implementation-ready and, therefore, well situated for community engagement and the PCAP. This exercise also provides preliminary insights into the Review of Authority to Implement, another sub-deliverable for the PCAP. To do this, each project was placed on an effort and impact matrix (see Appendix A for effort-impact ratings by project) whereby general definitions of effort and impact were as follows:

- EFFORT
 - Low Effort - little to moderate additional time investment, low to moderate scale of work (e.g. one block or neighborhood), staff and resources already acquired or dedicated to project, little to moderate collaboration with other departments required, community input has been done or anticipated little pushback, funding already secured or earmarked
 - High Effort - significant additional time investment, large scale project (city or county-wide), one or many new staff or resources required, substantial interdepartmental or intergovernmental collaboration required (e.g. City Council

approval), significant community impact and/or push back anticipated, additional funding required.

- **IMPACT**

- Low Impact - little or insignificant reduction in GHG emissions, little to no impact or involvement with metro area communities, not yet scalable
- High Impact - significant reduction in GHG emissions, wide-ranging impact and involvement with communities and partners or can be scaled to do so



Equipped with information gathered from these materials and exercises, Single Space then performed extensive review of all projects, cross-referencing them with EPA program guidance and the stated priorities within the City's 2021 Climate Action Plan, to identify which GHG reduction measures would be most competitive (and likely to be funded) in the implementation phase of the program and should therefore be included in the next phases of PCAP development (i.e., GHG analysis, community input and benefits analysis, and statutory authority review).

The following list includes 30 projects that Single Space identified for the City and its partners to submit to the community for input. The Single Space team worked with staff to ascertain as much of the information critical to the PCAP where possible, but some information is still needed on some projects that are still being designed (e.g. GHG emission reduction figures). We highlight those gaps in the project repository (see Appendix A) and strongly encourage the City and its partners to obtain that information before presenting projects to the community for input.

Project Name	Brief Description	Government Entity	City Department	Contact
Transportation				
Claremont Bike Blvd	Implement bike blvd treatment on Claremont from Richmond to Moon.	City of Albuquerque	DMD	Valerie Hermanson
Rail Trail - Old Town Segment	Multi-modal urban trail project connecting disadvantaged communities to jobs, cultural districts, and transit.	City of Albuquerque	MRA	Ciaran Lithgow
Rail Trail - Barelás Segment	Multi-modal urban trail project connecting disadvantaged communities to jobs, cultural districts, and transit.	City of Albuquerque	MRA	Ciaran Lithgow
San Pedro Bike Lanes	From Bell Ave to Claremont. Restriping to add new bike lanes and upgrade signalized intersections.	City of Albuquerque	DMD	Valerie Hermanson
Public EV charging stations in county	Install DC Fast Chargers downtown and at Route 66 Visitors Center at Central & I-40	Bernalillo County	Public Works	Richard Meadows
Electrify City fleet vehicles	Replacing Gasoline Powered City Fleet Vehicles with Electric Fleet Vehicles across Multiple City Departments	City of Albuquerque	City-wide	Jeff Hertz/Tammy Fiebelkorn
Affordable Mobility Platform	Implementation of Albuquerque's first EV rideshare program.	City of Albuquerque	City Council	Jeff Hertz /Tammy Fiebelkorn
CABQ Uptown Connect	Development of a transit plaza including approximately 6 bus docks with protected waiting areas, signage, security features, lighting, parking spaces, dwelling units, and retail spaces.	City of Albuquerque	Transit	Carrie Barkhurst
CABQ Zero Emission Bus Deployment	Creation of an entirely low or no emission vehicle fleet, including 163 full size buses, 84 paratransit vans, and various support vehicles.	City of Albuquerque	Transit	Chris Payton
Electrification of fleet vehicles	Conversion of Aviation vehicle fleet to zero emission vehicles.	City of Albuquerque	Aviation	Alex Schroeder
Electrification of rental car shuttle buses	Convert rental car shuttle buses to zero emission vehicles.	City of Albuquerque	Aviation	Alex Schroeder
Aviation EV charging stations	Install publicly accessible EV charging stations around Sunport and DE II property	City of Albuquerque	Aviation	Alex Schroeder

Project Name	Brief Description	Government Entity	City Department	Contact
On-route chargers at Transit Centers	Construction of additional on-route charging capability at end points of routes to support growing electric bus and van fleet.	City of Albuquerque	Transit	Chris Payton
Yale Operations and Maintenance Facility Upgrade - Electrification of Fleet Infrastructure	Upgrade of Transit Department's Yale Facility which will include adding infrastructure to support a zero emission fleet.	City of Albuquerque	Transit	Chris Payton
Electrification of Paratransit vehicles	Convert paratransit vehicles to zero emission vehicles.	City of Albuquerque	Transit	Chris Payton
Electrification of APS Bus Fleet	Build/install an electric bus charging system at each depot, and systematically replace diesel buses with electric coaches. Maintenance equipment and training for the District's bus mechanics.	Albuquerque Public Schools	Facilities Design & Construction	Tony Sparks
Electric vehicle charging at every APS High School	Build/install EV charging (4-6 ports) at all 12 high school campuses.	Albuquerque Public Schools	Facilities Design & Construction	Tony Sparks
Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, Electric Public Transit	Add additional solar and battery to Daytona Transit Station to support 15 new electric busses	City of Albuquerque	Energy And Sustainability	Saif ISmail
Public EV Charging at Mesa Del Sol	EV Charging, Cool Paving, and Landscaping Upgrades at Mesa Del Sol Building	City of Albuquerque	Planning	Robyn Rose
Electricity Generation and/or Use				
Community Energy Efficiency Project	Provision of free energy audits, retrofit plans, and home upgrades for homeowners from underserved communities	City of Albuquerque	Office of Sustainability	Denise Castillo Gonzales
Bernalillo County Community Center Energy Efficiency Upgrades and Public Facing EV Charging Stations	EV charging stations, solar PV canopy installations, and energy efficiency improvements at four County community centers.	Bernalillo County	Public Works	Brian Bonanno
Landscaping Equipment Electrification	Electrification of small machinery used (chainsaws, leaf blowers, weeding machines, etc.), and	City of Albuquerque	Parks & Rec	Sean O'Neill

Project Name	Brief Description	Government Entity	City Department	Contact
	electrification of vehicles used for the park maintenance (large commercial grade lawn mowers and some vehicles).			
Yale Operations and Maintenance Facility Upgrade - Energy Efficiency for Green Buildings	Energy efficiency upgrades as part of the Transit Department's Yale Facility	City of Albuquerque	Transit	Chris Payton
City Wide Battery Storage	Increasing battery storage throughout the city	City of Albuquerque	Energy And Sustainability	Saif Ismail
Energy efficiency project	Upgrade all buildings across the city with more energy efficient HVAC, roofing, and LED lighting retrofits.	City of Albuquerque	Energy And Sustainability	Saif Ismail
Waste & Materials Management				
Community Composting System expansion	Expand the current network of 3 community compost systems in the metro area, which serve the immediate community, to include at least 1 in each council district.	City of Albuquerque	Sustainability	Sandra West
Residential Food Waste Reduction	Implement residential food waste reduction project through educational materials, tools, etc.	City of Albuquerque	Sustainability	Sandra West
Reinstate composting program at the Sunport	Reinstate successful composting program that was put on hold during COVID within context of Aviation's concession renovation	City of Albuquerque	Aviation	Alex Schroeder
Parks and Rec Green Waste Management	Using the green waste from the City's Greenhouse and Open Space Bone Yard to create usable compost, or compost teas that can be used back in the park system, community gardens, greenhouse operations, etc.	City of Albuquerque	Parks & Rec	Sean O'Neill
Natural & Working Lands				

Project Name	Brief Description	Government Entity	City Department	Contact
Parks and Rec Increasing Tree Inventorying	Inventory trees in previously un-inventoried public properties like street medians and other city-owned facilities to improve air quality and energy-saving modeling.	City of Albuquerque	<i>Parks & Rec</i>	<i>Sean O'Neill</i>
South Valley Street Tree & Green Stormwater Infrastructure	Installation of street trees in green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) (e.g. bioswales and rain gardens) in the public right-of-way in Albuquerque South Valley neighborhoods.	Bernalillo County	Public Works	Megan Marsee

Key Recommendations, Concerns, and Paths Forward

There remain several outstanding required elements and sub-deliverables that stand to impact the City and its partners' ability to submit their PCAP on time. The City's application identified key activities, timelines and milestones which met the CPRG criteria in May 2023. However, the City did not receive the planning grant funds until September 12, 2023, which presented risk to its ability to engage in the activities critical to the PCAP (e.g., the community engagement process). While the Single Space team was contracted to serve as subject matter experts in the successful application for the CPRG Planning Grant and the development of the GHG reduction measures for the PCAP, we highlight the risks related to other sub-deliverables and provide recommendations on strategy and change management to the best of our ability below.

Key Recommendations

- Hire a grants manager
- Hire relevant consultants and adjust timelines required for subdeliverables
- Obtain missing project data and perform robust community engagement
- Continue outreach to other communities in MSA
- Continue to Engage CPRG Working Group & Improve Fundability of Projects

Hire a Grants Manager

Staffing and staff capacity is a primary concern related to fulfilling the requirements of the CPRG planning phase as well as having the capacity to submit for \$4.3 billion in implementation grant money in April, 2024. A significant portion of the planning grant budget was allocated by the City to cover salary, benefits, and resources for a full-time CPRG Grants Manager position. The timeline submitted within the planning grant application had this person being hired in Summer 2023, facilitating progress on sub-deliverables, and preparing the PCAP for submission before March 1, 2024.

As mentioned above, the City did not receive the planning grant funds until September 2023, presenting significant delay in the job posting and hiring. It is Single Space's understanding that the position will be posted by the end of October 2023. Given the time to recruit and hire in conjunction with upcoming holidays and office

closures, it is likely that this person will not start until 2024. Without this hire, there is a lack of capacity of City employees and partners to carry out the planning grant deliverables and implementation application.

For example, project leads in the CPRG working group need support with identifying LIDAC, GHG reduction estimates, and estimating costs. The City, as lead agency, needs a focused staff member to champion the CPRG project, coordinate with contractors and the CPRG working group, and address any gaps in the City's ability to complete planning grant sub-deliverables.

Single Space strongly recommends that a Grants Manager is hired as quickly as possible and that an interim responsible person is identified. This interim person should understand the status and required elements of CPRG, maintain working group progress, coordinate with the community engagement consulting team, coordinate with the environmental consultant, and engage with other recommendations included in this report. This interim person can onboard the Grant Manager once hired. Without someone to maintain this project until a Grants Manager is hired, it is unclear that the City will meet the March 1, 2024 deadline for a comprehensive PCAP and, thus, maintain the City and its partners' ability to compete for CPRG implementation money.

Hire Relevant Consultants & Adjust Timelines for Required Sub-Deliverables

The City's planning grant timeline outlines progress on sub-deliverables throughout 2023, including progress on community engagement and GHG reduction estimation. All PCAP sub-deliverables are due March 1, 2024, but the EPA encourages early submission. Without a Grants Manager hired or consultants to enact progress on sub-deliverables in 2023, the City will need to update its sub-deliverable timelines.

Community Engagement Consultant. As of October 31, 2023, the City has released and closed a Request for Proposals (RFP) but has not yet identified a contractor to perform the community engagement aspects of the grant. By the end of November 2023, the City predicted it would have conducted all public meetings with community members and deployed an open online participation form. This timeline will not be realized. However, conducting community engagement so that projects can be refined and included in the PCAP is still required. Community engagement needs to happen before subsequent sub-deliverables (e.g., authority to implement) can be performed. Single Space recommends that the community engagement team adjusts the timeline to perform comprehensive community engagement in a way that allows for a respectful process with community based organizations and community members as well as provides enough time to complete subsequent required work on projects moving forward in the process.

Environmental Consultant. Similarly, the City released and closed an RFP for an environmental consults to perform the GHG inventory or to analyze estimated reductions for individual projects. Single Space is unaware if the City has identified a contractor for that work at the time of writing this report. The City predicted that this work would begin in September. Single Space recommends that this consultant be contracted as soon as possible so they can collaborate with the CPRG working group to identify and refine estimated GHG reductions for each project being included in the community engagement process and begin work on the GHG inventory. This consultant will likely need to communicate with the community engagement team to coordinate timelines and process for sub-deliverables.

Obtain Missing Project Data & Perform Robust Community Engagement

Single Space identified 30 projects for the City and its partners to submit to the community for input. The Single Space team worked with staff to ascertain as much of the information critical to the PCAP where possible, but some information is still needed on some projects that are still being designed (e.g. GHG emission reduction figures). We strongly encourage the City and its partners to obtain that information before presenting projects to the community for input.

EPA CPRG guidelines indicate that projects with strong community engagement should be included in the PCAP where possible. Thus, the community engagement process is extremely important when determining which projects from this list of 30 should be included in the PCAP. Additionally, in line with Justice40, at least 40% of the CPRG funds awarded to submitted projects need to benefit LIDAC. Thus, Single Space recommends that the City's Justice40 Oversight Coordinating Committee be included as an accountability partner throughout the community engagement process.

Continue Outreach to Other Communities in the MSA

The initial call for working group participation in the CPRG application phase did not go out to all communities within MSA, including tribal communities. Rather, given the limited time and budgetary capacity of the City as the lead agency, the application only included Bernalillo County and MRCOG as identified governmental partners, with a focus on the greater

Albuquerque/Bernalillo County area. During the process of developing GHG reduction measures (projects), MRCOG put a call for projects out to its partners in the region and Single Space was able to connect with and onboard the Village of Corrales and Albuquerque Public Schools as additional governmental partners who will sign on to the PCAP submission.

However, the Albuquerque MSA spans four counties with cities, towns, villages, and census-designated places within each. The MSA includes five cities: Albuquerque (Bernalillo County), Belen (Valencia County), Moriarty (Torrance County), Rio Communities (Valencia County), and Rio Rancho (Sandoval County). Ten villages are contained within the MSA and only the Village of Corrales was engaged in the working group. Over 30 census-designated places are contained within the MSA, including Cochiti, Isleta Village, Jemez Pueblo, Pueblo of Sandia Village, San Felipe Pueblo, Santa Ana Pueblo, Santo Domingo Pueblo, and Zia Pueblo.



We encourage the City to engage representatives, at least at the county level of Sandoval, Torrance, and Valencia to ascertain if they would like to submit project proposals for consideration within the community engagement process. Further, the Grants Manager should contact the [All Pueblo Council of Governors](#) to similarly ascertain if tribal communities within the MSA would like to submit project proposals for consideration within the community engagement process.

To receive implementation money, projects must be included in the PCAP that is due March 1, 2024. While not all projects might receive the implementation funding through the City, other entities are eligible to apply directly, if they are included in the PCAP. Accounting for the budgetary and time constraints outlined throughout this report, Single Space recommends reaching out to these entities to identify where they might be able to partner on similarly designed projects at minimum. A grant manager could employ methods and materials similar to those used by Single Space to achieve this, even in a short amount of time. Additionally, these groups' projects and community engagement should be prioritized for the CCAP moving forward. Given that other groups have had more time to organize their projects, Single Space recommends reaching out to these groups as soon as possible.

Continue to Engage CPRG Working Group & Improve Fundability of Projects

Core members of the CPRG working group are extremely engaged and thoughtful about their projects. Single Space recommends that the City, as lead agency, identifies someone to continue to facilitate this group's progress on obtaining data missing about their projects, LIDAC identification and benefits analysis, community engagement, GHG reduction estimates, authority to implement, estimating cost, and identification of other funding sources.

The EPA program guidance makes clear that they want to fund projects that greatly reduce emissions and have the greatest impact on LIDAC. Single Space identified that one way to increase fundability of projects is to group projects by similar areas to increase their overall GHG reduction potential. For example, there were eight electric vehicle charging station projects submitted. Instead of asking the EPA to consider the small GHG reduction achieved by eight individual projects, consider combining these projects into an MSA-wide electric vehicle charging station project, with much greater GHG reduction potential.

This will require coordinating government collaboration across the MSA and the City making sub-awards to partners like Albuquerque Public Schools. These partners are not likely able to coordinate the resources to submit for grants of this scale on their own making collaboration especially important. See Appendix B with projects grouped by sub-sectors. Single Space recommends determining if departments and governments are interested in collaborating on projects wherever possible. Additionally, including educational components to projects is one potential way to increase the impact for LIDAC. Further, it may be possible to hire contractors from the community to help implement projects and increase jobs for LIDAC. Increasing GHG reduction as well as benefits for LIDAC will likely increase the EPA's interest in funding these projects.

Appendix A: Project Repository

Please see Project Repository in the Zip drive of files provided to Denise Castillo Gonzalez.

Appendix B: Projects Grouped by Common Focus

Transportation – Multi-modal transit

- Claremont Bike Boulevard – Valerie Hermanson
- San Pedro Bike Lanes – Valerie Hermanson
- Rail Trail – Old Town – Ciaran Lithgow
- Rail Trail – Barelmas – Ciaran Lithgow

Transportation – EV Charging

- County Downtown & Route 66 Visitors Center – Richard Meadows
- EV charging @ Sunport & Double Eagle Airports – Alex Shcroeder
- On-route chargers at Transit Centers – Chris Payton
- EV charging at APS High Schools – Tony Sparks
- EV Infrastructure at Daytona – Saif Ismail
- EV infrastructure at Yale Facility – Chris Payton
- BernCo Community Center EV Charging Stations – Brian Bonanno
 - also EE upgrades under Electricity Generation and/or Use
- EV Chargers & Cool Paving @ Mesa del Sol - Robyn Rose

Should all EV Charging be submitted as one and sub-awarded by City?

- APS will need subawarded

Transportation – Fleet Electrification

- Citywide Fleet Electrification – Jeff Hertz
 - Should the City projects be rolled up and combined? Can approach City-wide in phases?
 - APS *might* need subaward
- CABQ Zero Emission Bus Deployment – Chris Payton
- Convert Aviation fleet to ZEVs – Alex Schroeder
- Aviation Rental car shuttle buses to ZEVs – Alex Schroeder
- Electrification of Paratransit Vehicles – Chris Payton
- Electrification of APS Bus Fleet – Tony Sparks
- Parks & Rec fleet electrification – Sean O’Neill
 - also machinery under Electricity Generation and/or Use

Transportation – Other

- Affordable Mobility Platform – Jeff Hertz
- CABQ Uptown Connect – Carrie Barkhurst

Electricity Generation and/or Use

- Community Energy Efficiency Project – Denise Castillo Gonzales
- BernCo Community Center EE Upgrades – Brian Bonanno
 - also EV Charging Stations under Transportation
- Parks & Rec machinery electrification – Sean O’Neill
 - also fleet electrification under Transportation
- Transit Yale Facility Upgrades – Chris Payton
- Citywide Battery Storage – Saif Ismail
- City EE upgrades across all buildings – Saif Ismail
 - Should all City EE projects be combined into one? Is this phased?
 - Add Mesa del Sol project from Planning (Rose) that’s currently in the PCAP

Waste & Materials Management

- Community Composting System Expansion in EJ Communities – Sandra West
- Reinstate composting program @ Sunport – Alex Schroeder
 - Partner w/Sandra West @ Sustainability Office
- Residential Food Waste Reduction in EJ Communities – Sandra West
- Parks & Rec Green Waste Management City Greenhouse – Sean O’Neill
 - Partner w/ Sustainability Office

Natural & Working Lands

- Parks & Rec Tree Inventorying – Sean O’Neill
- BernCo South Valley Street Tree & Green Stormwater Infrastructure – Megan Marsee
 - Can this be partnered with Parks & Rec Tree Inventorying?
 - GIS project in CCAP might be able to partner w/this one later

Appendix C: List of Files

Single Space provided a Zip folder containing these files to Denise Castillo Gonzalez with the City of Albuquerque Sustainability Office. These files include all background materials on the City's CPRG Planning Grant, materials developed by Single Space for the purposes of working group facilitation and materials supporting the development of the project repository.