



Letters of Support

Elected Officials

Ohio State Senator Stephanie Kunze
 Ohio State Representative Dontavius L. Jarrells
 Ohio State Representative Mary Lightbody
 Ohio State Representative Adam C. Miller
 Ohio State Representative Anita Somani, MD
 Franklin County Recorder Daniel J. O'Connor, Jr.
 Franklin County Clerk of Courts Maryellen O'Shaughnessy
 Columbus Mayor Andrew J. Ginther
 Columbus City Council President Shannon G. Hardin
 Columbus City Council Member Emmanuel V. Remy

State and Local Governments

Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks
 Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio

Agencies & Coalitions

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
 Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
 SMART Columbus

Corporations & Private Business

Columbus Micro Systems
 Koko

Hospitals, Public Charities, & Non-Profit Agencies

Central Ohio Reuse Coalition
 Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed
 Green Columbus
 Natural Resources Defense Council
 Ohio Health

The Columbus Foundation

The Recycling Partnership

Educational Institutions

The Ohio State University Sustainability Council
 The Ohio State University Sustainability Institute

Professional Organizations & Trade Associations

Ohio Beverage Association

Project narrative, appendices, and letters of support are available online:
<http://www.columbus.gov/swifapplication>



Ohio Senate
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-5981

Committees:
Transportation - Chairwoman
Financial Institutions & Technology
Insurance
Local Government & Elections
Rules & Reference

Stephanie L. Kunze
State Senator
16th District

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

I am writing to express my commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the

realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

I stand ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Kunze". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephanie Kunze
State Senator
District 16

1st House District
Franklin County



Committees

Finance Subcommittee on
Higher Education, Ranking
Member
Finance
Constitutional Resolutions
Insurance
Rules & Reference

Columbus Office

Vern Riffe Center
77 South High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-5343
Rep01@ohiohouse.gov

DONTAVIUS L. JARRELLS

Assistant Minority Leader | State Representative
Ohio House District 1

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

Today, I write to express my commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan, released this past December, committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region. Moreover, these initiatives are important to ensure the continued vitality and safety of Ohio House District 1.

My office stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Jarrells", written over a white background.

Dontavius L. Jarrells
Assistant Minority Leader

4th House District

Parts of NE Franklin County
Including Gahanna, New Albany,
Westerville, Columbus, Blacklick,
and Area Townships



Committees

Agriculture
Energy & Natural Resources
Higher Education
Pensions (Ranking Member)
Primary & Secondary Education

Representative Mary Lightbody 4th House District

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program. I am a science educator with 30 years of teaching experience in both K-12 and higher education classrooms in Central Ohio. I am also a lifelong environmentalist, and widow of Richard Noss, PhD. PE, who was a water resources engineer. We have been strong advocates of the 3R's, and both reduced and reused items before we recycled them.

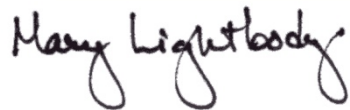
I am a state representative, and am honored to be the State Lead for Ohio to the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators (NCEL). I serve on both the Agriculture and the Energy and Natural Resources committees in the current 135th General Assembly in Ohio. My district includes portions of Columbus, and the streams and rivers that cross my district feed into the watershed that includes its urban area. I was very pleased when the Columbus Climate Action Plan was released in December 2021, because that plan commits our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals. Through my husband I know that landfills can accept only a finite amount of material, and require careful management and monitoring. The more recyclable materials we can divert from our landfill the better!

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in

efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

I respectfully request your full and fair consideration of the City of Columbus' application for this grant opportunity, and am ready to help city leaders implement their programs should the funding be received.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Lightbody". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "M" and "y".

Mary Lightbody
State Representative
4th House District





February 10, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

I am writing in support of the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals. Columbus is truly leading the way.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, Ohio's largest city, and address climate inequities. The project will increase waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects are a critical piece in supporting bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

I ask that you give Columbus' innovative approach and application every consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam C. Miller".

Adam C. Miller
State Representative (OH-06)



February 13, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan, EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

I am writing to express my commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

As a state representative, I am ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects if funds are awarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anita Somani".

Anita Somani MD
State Representative
Ohio House District 11



The Honorable Maryellen O'Shaughnessy
Franklin County Clerk of Courts

Administration
373 South High Street, 23rd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614.525.3600

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

On behalf of the Franklin County Clerk of Courts Office, I am writing this letter to express our strong support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Franklin County Clerk of Courts' Office employs approximately 200 full-time Deputy Clerks that serve in five divisions: Auto Title, Legal, Fiscal Services, Information Technology, and Administration. Four of those divisions are in seven different offices in the Franklin County Courthouse complex. The fifth, Auto Title, is in four branch offices throughout Franklin County. Each division is important to the Franklin County Clerk of Courts' two major functions: management of court documents and issuance of auto titles.

Ensuring that our employees live and work in a healthy, thriving community is of great importance to me as an elected official. Before I was elected as Clerk of Courts in 2008, I was a member of Columbus (Ohio) City Council and advocated for an effective recycling program.

Bold action is needed, and the Columbus Climate Action Plan goes a long way toward reaching our goals.

The Franklin County Clerk of Courts Office stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maryellen O'Shaughnessy".

Maryellen O'Shaughnessy
Franklin County Clerk of Courts



Daniel J. O'Connor, Jr.

Franklin County Recorder

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Franklin County Recorder's Office is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released in December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our organization stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. O'Connor Jr.
Franklin County Recorder



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

January 31, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The City of Columbus is proud to support these applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

Led by our Sustainable Columbus initiative, the Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our organization stands ready to partner with the community and implement these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Ginther, Mayor
City of Columbus



February 14th, 2023
The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

On behalf of Columbus City Council, I am writing to express my commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan, released in December, 2021, committed our community to ambitious action on climate. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion via the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will play a critical role in supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

City Council stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded. This grant will have a transformative impact on the City of Columbus, helping us realize our goal of a cleaner and more sustainable community.

Sincerely,



Shannon G. Hardin
President
Columbus City Council



SHANNON G. HARDIN, PRESIDENT | ROB DORANS, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
NICHOLAS J. BANKSTON | LOURDES BARROSO de PADILLA | MITCHELL J. BROWN | SHAYLA D. FAVOR | EMMANUEL V. REMY

CITY CLERK | ANDREA BLEVINS, CMC

EMMANUEL V. REMY

Member of Council

T (614) 645-3559

EVRemy@columbus.gov



February 9, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

I, Councilmember Emmanuel V. Remy, am writing to express my commitment and support for the City of Columbus, Ohio, and Keep Columbus Beautiful applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant for Political Subdivisions (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03) program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23) program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan introduced in 2022 sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Keep Columbus Beautiful is committed to abiding by the guidelines detailed in this plan to ensure we work together to address these environmental concerns and achieve those goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities. This will be done through increased waste diversion with the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and investment in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities.

As Chair of the Environment Committee, I am highly attuned to the environmental concerns that affect the city we call home. The proposed projects with Keep Columbus Beautiful align with my goals to combat litter, stop illegal dumping, create opportunities for clean-ups throughout the city, and educate Columbus residents. Since partnering with Keep Columbus Beautiful, our first annual Cleaner Columbus Citywide Cleanup in 2022 was a huge success due to their tools, resources, and



SHANNON G. HARDIN, PRESIDENT | ROB DORANS, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

NICHOLAS J. BANKSTON | LOURDES BARROSO de PADILLA | MITCHELL J. BROWN | SHAYLA D. FAVOR | EMMANUEL V. REMY

CITY CLERK | ANDREA BLEVINS, CMC

City Hall | 90 West Broad Street | Second Floor | Columbus OH 43215 | T (614) 645.7380 | F (614) 645.7399 | columbuscitycouncil.org

EMMANUEL V. REMY

Member of Council
T (614) 645-3559
EVRemy@columbus.gov



guidance. We are proud to announce that our second annual cleanup event will be held on April 1, 2023.

Due to the successful leadership and work done by Keep Columbus Beautiful, I know they are a team that stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Thank you for your time and please reach out to my office if there are any questions.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "E. Remy", enclosed within a light blue oval shape.

Emmanuel V. Remy
Member of Council



**SHANNON G. HARDIN, PRESIDENT | ROB DORANS, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
NICHOLAS J. BANKSTON | LOURDES BARROSO de PADILLA | MITCHELL J. BROWN | SHAYLA D. FAVOR | EMMANUEL V. REMY**

CITY CLERK | ANDREA BLEVINS, CMC

City Hall | 90 West Broad Street | Second Floor | Columbus OH 43215 | T (614) 645.7380 | F (614) 645.7399 | columbuscitycouncil.org

Metro Parks



1069 West Main St
Westerville OH 43081

Tel: 614.891.0700

TTY: 614.895.6240

Fax: 614.895.6208

www.metroparks.net

Park Commissioners:

Aryeh Alex

JB Hadden

George McCue

Director:

Tim Moloney

Your Metro Parks:

Battelle Darby Creek

Blacklick Woods and
Golf Courses

Blendon Woods

Chestnut Ridge

Clear Creek

Glacier Ridge

Heritage Park
and Trail

Highbanks

Homestead

Inniswood Metro
Gardens

Pickerington Ponds

Prairie Oaks

Quarry Trails

Rocky Fork

Scioto Audubon

Scioto Grove

Sharon Woods

Slate Run Farm
and Park

Three Creeks

Walnut Woods

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our organization stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

Tim Moloney
Executive Director



February 14, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan, EPA Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code: 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our organization stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Lombardi", is written over a printed name and title.

Joe Lombardi
Executive Director



Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor
Anne M. Vogel, Director

January 13, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) is writing to express its support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling for Political Subdivisions grant program and the Recycling Education and Outreach grant program.

Ohio EPA has discussed the proposed projects with the City of Columbus and believes that the proposed projects will support the goals of the State Solid Waste Management Plan. The construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and investment in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion. These projects promise to be a critical piece in supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice-focused waste reduction plan and creating diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region. Furthermore, we believe this project will directly benefit the central Ohio region and provide an observable model for other areas of the state (and the nation).

Ohio EPA stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

Nichole D. Lemin, MS, REHS, MEP
Chief
Division of Materials & Waste Management

Jonathan Bernstein, P.E.
Chief
Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
morpc.org

T. 614. 228.2663
TTY. 1.800.750.0750
info@morpc.org

February 10, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan,

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is a voluntary association of 83 local governments across Central Ohio's rural, suburban, and urban areas. We provide programs, services, and funding related to transportation, land use, data, sustainability, and economic prosperity. I am writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed the city to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convivence Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the Central Ohio region.

MORPC stands ready to support the City of Columbus and all of Central Ohio in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Kind regards,

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



Smart Columbus

170 S Civic Center Dr.
Columbus, OH 43215
614.223.2170
smart.columbus.gov

February 6, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: **Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)**

Dear Administrator Regan:

Smart Columbus is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

Smart Columbus is a private-public not-for-profit whose mission is to anticipate and advance what is new and next at the intersection of technology and community good. We believe in order to be a city of the future we must become more equitable, environmentally sustainable, and digitally enabled.

The City's proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convivence Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

These proposed projects address The Columbus Climate Action Plan (CAP) which was released this past December 2021. The CAP commits our community to ambitious action on climate and is guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

Smart Columbus strongly supports the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jordan Davis'.

Jordan Davis
Executive Director

January 9th, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

Columbus Micro Systems, Inc. is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

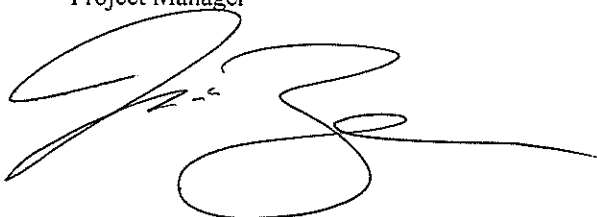
The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convivence Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our organization stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

Jake Boyd

Project Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jake Boyd', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

Koko is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convivence Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our organization stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adria Hall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Adria Hall, Founder + Chief Planet Lover

Koko Shop LLC

January 16, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590



Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Central Ohio Reuse Coalition (CORC) is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

About CORC

The Central Ohio Reuse Coalition is made up of nonprofits, local sustainability groups, green businesses, faith-based organizations and committed individuals who live and work in Central Ohio. CORC's vision is to eliminate plastic pollution and improve the health of the community by replacing single-use plastic containers with reusables in businesses and schools.

To bring this vision to fruition, CORC has adopted the following three goals:

1. Implement outreach and education strategies to create public demand for circular policies and solutions to replace disposable "make-take-waste" packaging and food and drink container systems.
2. Advocate for elected officials to enact policies and ordinances that encourage reusable solutions and reduce disposables.
3. Encourage and support business owners, institutions, and event planners to facilitate circular economy initiatives based on closed-loop, circular solutions that replace disposables with reusables.

CORC members bring decades of cumulative experience in community organizing as well as knowledge and experience in a range of professional endeavors including education, communications, retail, arts, community work, and project management.

CORC Founder and Director, Douglas Calem, is a member of the City of Columbus' Climate Action Plan Waste Working Group. Douglas is also a member of Upstream Solution's National Reuse Network and a member of their National Coalition Leadership Network. Douglas has lived in Columbus for more than 24 years.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convivence Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

The Central Ohio Reuse Coalition stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

Douglas Calem
Founder and Director
Central Ohio Reuse Coalition

January 23, 2023

To: The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Letter of Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (**SWIFR**) and Recycling Education and Outreach (**REO**) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed (HUC's 05060001 11-01 thru 11-03) are writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus, Ohio's applications for the grants mentioned above. The City of Columbus's Climate Action Plan was released this past December 2021 committing our community to ambitious actions on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and the REO grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of the bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

FLOW stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded. We are already partners in reducing litter and increasing recycling via educating residents about Prescription Drop off days, Election Sign Recycling and other programs

Respectfully,



Ms. Kelly Thiel
Chairwoman, FLOW

"Keeping the Olentangy River and its tributaries clean and safe for all to enjoy, through public education, volunteer activities, and coordination with local decision-makers".



January 16, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

Green Columbus is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convivence Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our organization stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelly Douglas".

Shelly Douglas
Executive Director
shelly@greencbus.org
(614) 321-7645



January 23, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council) is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

Through NRDC's Food Matters Project, we have worked with Columbus to develop safe food donation outreach materials in partnership with health inspectors and created a food waste reduction grants program for local community organizations. The City of Columbus recently demonstrated their leadership and commitment to climate action with the release of The Columbus Climate Action Plan in December 2021. The Plan committed the Columbus community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. Recognizing that waste reduction is a key climate solution, the Plan also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste landfilled by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach these ambitious goals.

The proposed projects for the SWIFR and REO grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities by respectively 1)

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

40 W 20TH STREET | NEW YORK, NY | 10011 | T 212.727.2700 | F 212.727.1773 | NRDC.ORG

increasing waste diversion with the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convivence Centers, and 2) deploying a community-based education campaign, which will focus on reducing contamination in the municipal solid waste stream and increasing recycling program participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be critical in catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice-focused waste reduction and diversion vision for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region. They will also move us closer to achieving the food waste reduction goals, and cementing key partnerships, developed through Columbus' ongoing participation in NRDC's Food Matters Initiative.

NRDC stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects and achieving the city's food waste reduction goals should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Yvette Cabrera".

Yvette Cabrera,
Director, Food Waste
Natural Resources Defense Council
ycabrera@nrdc.org

January 17, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

OhioHealth is writing to express its support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released in December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new waste and reuse convivence centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the city of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

OhioHealth believes these actions are in line with our own climate goals, and supports the efforts put forth by the city of Columbus to help our community achieve those same climate commitments.

Sincerely,

1/16/2023

X Allegra Wiesler

Allegra Wiesler
Sustainability Advisor

Signed by: 5741541f-63ea-48d5-888a-f77516712684



**GREEN FUNDS
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
MEMBERS**

Frances Beasley

Elizabeth Crane

Dr. Jerome Cunningham

Jill Evans

William Habig

Jim McCormac

John O'Meara

Samuel Peterson

Tania Peterson

Anne Powell Riley

Irene Probasco

Mark Real

Michelle Slisher

Jerry Smith

Ellen Tripp

William C. Wolfe

February 10th, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan

EPA Administrator

[Environmental Protection Agency](https://www.epa.gov/)

1101A

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and
Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03
and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)**

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Green Funds of The Columbus Foundation is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convivence Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our organization stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

Bill Habig

Volunteer Green Funds Chair

Mark Real

Volunteer Green Funds Vice Chair



125 Rowell Court
Falls Church, VA 22046

RECYCLINGPARTNERSHIP.ORG

February 10, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Recycling Partnership is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, support a circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers, a community-based education campaign, and invest in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our organization shares these fundamental goals and will be available to support the City of Columbus with implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

Craig Wittig

Vice President for Grant Implementation and Community Engagement
The Recycling Partnership



January 18, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

On behalf of The Ohio State University, I am writing to express support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant (SWIFR) for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released in December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus and support a circular economy. Funding will be used to construct two Waste and Reuse Convenience Centers and launch community-based education campaigns. These efforts will help address climate inequities by facilitating increased participation in disadvantaged communities.

The Ohio State University, one of the largest economic engines and waste generators situated in the City of Columbus, is accelerating our comprehensive set of world-leading, university sustainability goals. One of these targets is the Zero Waste Goal, which commits our university to divert 90% of solid waste materials away from landfills through recycling, composting, reuse and waste reduction. Since the launch of the goal in 2015, Ohio State has grown the diversion rate from 29.2% to 40% by utilizing core strategies such as expanding composting programs, developing an action plan based on waste characterization studies, and launching the "Recycle Right" campaign to reduce contamination. We are excited by the potential to develop actionable projects with the City of Columbus to achieve our shared priorities.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

These projects will be critical to support and catalyze the realization of a bold, environmental justice focused waste reduction and diversion opportunities for the residents of our university campus, the City of Columbus, and the central Ohio region.

Ohio State stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded. By working together, we can accelerate waste diversion for Ohio State's campus and for our region.

Sincerely,

Aparna Dial, MS, MBA, LEED AP
Chair, OSUWMC Sustainability Council
Senior Director, Sustainability and Strategic Services



February 6, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
EPA Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-03 and EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Sustainability Institute at Ohio State is writing to express its commitment and support for the City of Columbus' applications for the Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Political Subdivisions program and the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant program.

The Columbus Climate Action Plan released this past December 2021 committed our community to ambitious action on climate, guided and centered by equity. This plan sets a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and a minimum 45% emissions reduction by 2030. It also calls for a 95% reduction in recyclable waste landfilled and a 90% reduction in organic waste by 2050. These efforts mirror The Ohio State University's long-standing commitments to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and zero waste in our university operations. Bold action and vision are needed to reach our shared goals.

The proposed projects for SWIFR and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will benefit the residents of Columbus, which includes Ohio State's community of 100,000+ students, faculty and staff. These projects will support a more circular economy, and address climate inequities through increased waste diversion through the construction of two new Waste and Reuse Convivence Centers, a community-based education campaign, and investment in efforts to reduce contamination and increase participation in disadvantaged communities. These projects will be a critical piece to supporting and catalyzing the realization of a bold, environmental justice-focused waste reduction and diversion program for the residents of the City of Columbus and the central Ohio region.

Our Institute stands ready to support the City of Columbus in implementing these projects should funds be awarded.

Sincerely,

Kate Bartter
Executive Director
Sustainability Institute



December 20, 2022

On behalf of Ohio's nonalcoholic beverage industry and the over 1,607 jobs in Columbus, Ohio, I support the city's recent grant applications for recycling infrastructure assistance and community recycling outreach and education. If awarded funding through the SWIFR Grant Program for political subdivisions, our capital city will accelerate their excellent work.

Columbus is home to two member company production facilities (G&J Pepsi-Cola and Keurig Dr Pepper), a Coca-Cola North America syrup production plant and a large Coca-Cola Consolidated distribution center. All these companies are focused on sustainability goals, including reduction in use of new plastic and increased collection of their 100% recycling bottles and cans.

The goals outlined in the grant application by the city of Columbus will help us meet our commitments by expanding recycling and educating citizens on how "recycle right" to reduce contamination and optimize material recovery.

As you may know, the beverage industry advocated for these grants to be made available. We remain committed to getting all our containers back so that they can be made into new ones. We applaud all efforts by the city of Columbus to help with this worthwhile endeavor and urge your consideration of their funding requests.

Please contact me if you need any additional information about our support. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Kimberly McConville

Kimberly McConville, CAE
Executive Director



1170 Old Henderson Rd., Suite 201
Columbus, OH 43220



P: (614) 442-1803
F: (614) 442-1830



kimberly@ohiobeverage.com
www.ohiobeverage.com
@OhioBeverage