

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Worcester, MA-CT Metro Area  
Information Session

April 5, 2023



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# Agenda

- ▶ Introductions
- ▶ Definition of the Worcester, MA-CT Metro Area
- ▶ Climate Pollution Reduction Grant overview
- ▶ Proposed planning process
- ▶ Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Application
- ▶ Timeline
- ▶ Q & A discussion

# Introductions

- ▶ Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission
  - ▶ One of thirteen Regional Planning Agencies in Massachusetts
- ▶ Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Team
  - ▶ Janet Pierce, Executive Director
  - ▶ Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Director - Transportation
  - ▶ Trish Settles, Deputy Director - Regional Collaboration & Community Planning
  - ▶ Ian McElwee, Principal Planner
  - ▶ Julia Moore, Assistant Planner
  - ▶ Sarah Plutnicki, Assistant Resiliency Planner

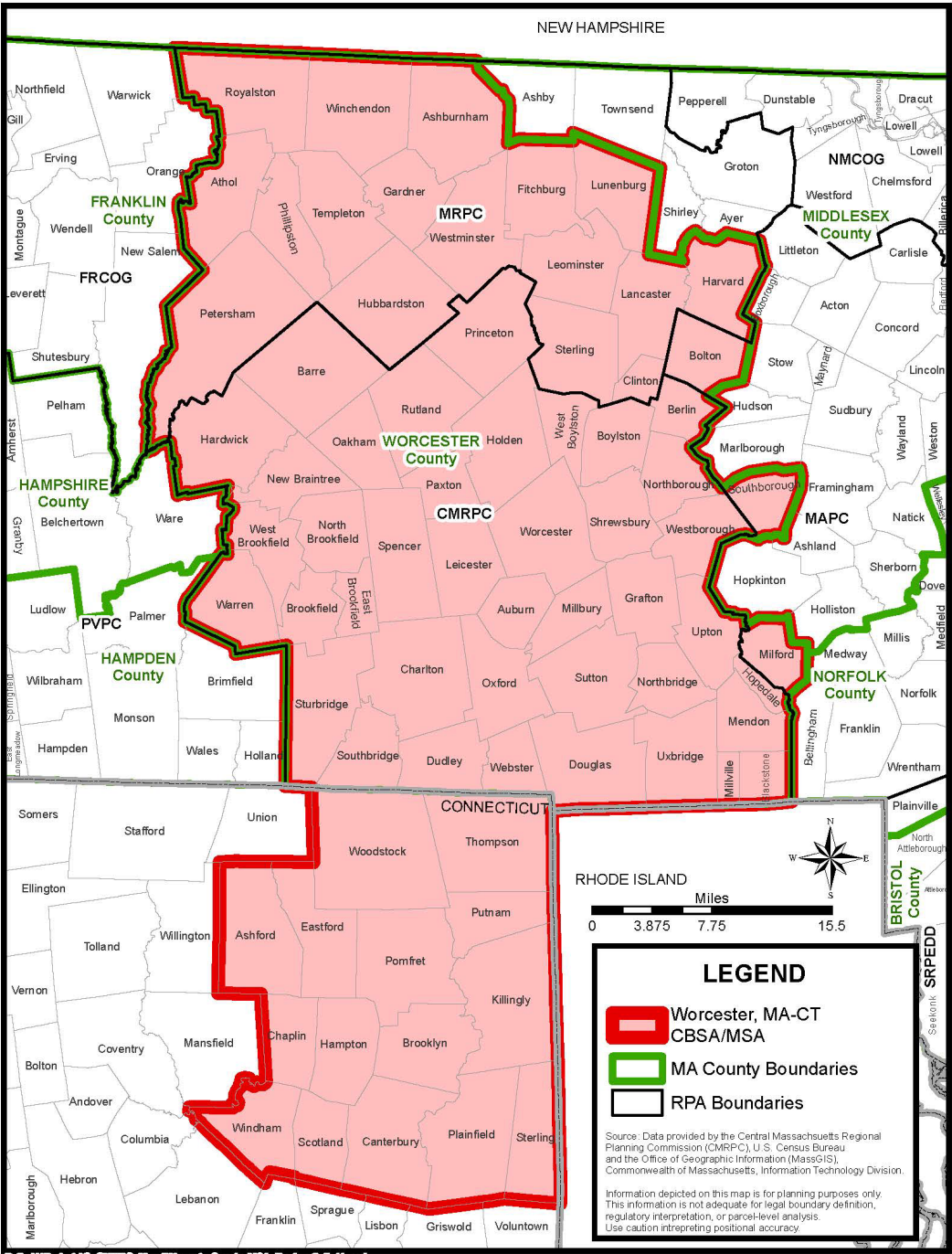




# Definition of Worcester, MA- CT Metro Area

Worcester County, MA

Windham County, CT



**CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS**  
Regional Planning Commission

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Overview

- ▶ US Environmental Protection Agency program funded through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).
- ▶ Program aims to develop regional short and long term climate plans with a goal to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- ▶ \$5 billion is allocated to the EPA through the IRA for this program.
  - ▶ \$250 million is allocated to eligible entities as planning grants.
  - ▶ \$3.6 billion will be available for grants to implement GHG reduction measures.
- ▶ Of the \$250 million for planning grants
  - ▶ \$3 million to state, DC, and Puerto Rico
  - ▶ \$1 million to each of the 67 most populous metropolitan areas (Worcester, MA-CT Metro Area falls in this category)
  - ▶ \$27 million to tribes and US territories

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Overview

- ▶ Four year planning grant
- ▶ Three deliverables are required:
  - ▶ Primary Climate Action Plan
  - ▶ Comprehensive Climate Action Plan
  - ▶ Status Report

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Overview

## Primary Climate Action Plan

- ▶ Aim is to develop short-term, high-priority, and implementation-ready measures to reduce GHG pollution and an analysis of GHG emissions reductions that would be achieved through implementation.
- ▶ Plan must include:
  - ▶ A GHG inventory
  - ▶ Quantified GHG reduction measures
  - ▶ Low-income and disadvantaged communities benefits analysis
  - ▶ A review of authority to implement.
- ▶ Due March 2024





# Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Overview

## Comprehensive Climate Action Plan

- ▶ Aim is to develop near- and long-term GHG emission reduction goals, and provide strategies and identify measures to achieve these goals.
- ▶ Plan must include:
  - ▶ A GHG inventory
  - ▶ GHG emissions projections
  - ▶ GHG reduction targets
  - ▶ Quantified GHG reduction measures
  - ▶ A benefit analysis for the full geographic scope and population covered by the plan
  - ▶ Low-income and disadvantaged communities benefits analysis
  - ▶ A review of authority to implement.
  - ▶ A plan to leverage other federal funding and a workforce planning analysis
- ▶ Due Summer 2025



# Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Overview

## Status Report

- ▶ Due at the end of the four year period.
- ▶ Report must include:
  - ▶ The implementation status of the quantified GHG reduction measures
  - ▶ Any relevant updated GHG analyses or projections
  - ▶ Next steps and future budget/staffing needs
- ▶ Due Summer 2027

# Proposed Planning Process

- ▶ CMRPC will lead the planning process and grant administration.
- ▶ We plan to work closely with the RPAs/COGs in Worcester County and Windham County.
- ▶ Use sub-grant awards to work with partners for community engagement in non-CMRPC areas and GHG emissions analysis and modelling for the full area.
- ▶ Establish a grant steering committee to oversee the planning process and plan/report developments.
- ▶ Establish a technical advisory committee and steering subcommittees to provide expert/professional feedback on plan/report components.
- ▶ Provide project updates to all communities through social media/project website.

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Application

- ▶ Grant will be awarded in a non-competitive process
- ▶ Certain documents must be submitted to the EPA before the project can proceed.
- ▶ Three components:
  - ▶ Project narrative including workplan narrative and detailed budget
  - ▶ EPA standard forms
  - ▶ Letters of support

# Timeline

- ▶ Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Application Deadline - May 31, 2023
- ▶ Grant Awarded - Summer 2023
- ▶ Priority Climate Action Plan Deadline - March 3, 2024
- ▶ Comprehensive Climate Action Plan Deadline - Summer 2025
- ▶ Status Report - Summer 2027

Deadline to submit letters of support: Friday, May 12



# Q & A Discussion

## Contacts

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