



Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 7/22/2024

Agenda Item No: 11B	Department: Administration	Presenter: Patterson
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ITEM: Direction to Town Staff to Draft Letter in Support of Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) grant application for a mix of high-speed DCFC and Level Two EV Chargers to be signed by the Mayor

BACKGROUND:

On July 8, 2024, Mr. Jonathan Godes, Regional Grants Navigator for NWCCOG, presented to the MMC meeting hosted by Grand Lake. The following is the information he provided the group:

NWCCOG is trying to pull together communities in the NWCCOG Region (Routt, Grand, Summit, Eagle, Pitkin) and possibly a few other adjacent communities that are within 5 miles of [Federally Designated Alternative Fuels Corridors](#) (AFC) for a potential regional CFI grant. This grant would be for a mix of high-speed DCFC and Level Two EV chargers distributed throughout the region.

While federal grants are always difficult to obtain, NWCCOG believes we would have a compelling application for the following reasons...

- \$1.3 Billion total allocated with \$800 million specific to new applicants
- Fortunately, I 70 and Highways 40, 82 and 34 (to Grand Lake) are designated as AFC's, which includes most of the communities in NWCCOG region with a few exceptions (Yampa, Breckenridge, Blue River, Montezuma and Red Cliff).
- The AFC Program was MUCH less competitive than the Community Program
 - 32 of the 63 AFC applicants rated highly recommended while the Community Program had 175 of 447 applicants highly recommended.
 - While there were far few AFC applicants/awards, both AFC and Community Programs received similar amounts (\$940 million vs. \$1.2 billion)
- Boulder County (Community) and I-25 Corridor were both awarded funding last year, which takes some Front Range applications out of the competition
- Justice 40 - rural communities are considered Justice 40 Communities for this grant only. This means the entire \$800 million is available to our application
- Impact and scope - the 30+ rural communities in 7 counties that have significant commuter and tourism traffic miles driven are compelling in a way that most parts of the state, or country, are not.



NWCCOG wants to gauge the interest that the counties would have for this in the next week as this application is due August 28th.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no fiscal impact to Grand Lake for the provision of this letter. It's unclear if the Town would have to provide any sort of match for the actual grant.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A

SUGGESTED MOTIONS

I make a motion to approve/(deny) Direction to Town Staff to Draft Letter in Support of Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) grant application for a mix of high-speed DCFC and Level Two EV Chargers to be signed by the Mayor