

## Finance and Budget Committee

Meeting date: March 19, 2025

Agenda Item #: 6

**Discussion of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with HDR Inc. for community engagement services for the building decarbonization program, in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000 through October 16, 2029. The initial contract term will run through April 13, 2027, with the option to renew for additional one-year terms upon satisfactory performance.**

Agenda item type: Action item

### Summary

A request to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with HDR Inc. for community engagement services for the building decarbonization program.

### Background

DRCOG received a \$199.7 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program to implement a regional building decarbonization initiative. As part of this effort, \$4 million is allocated for community engagement, which includes \$2.2 million in pass-through grants for qualifying community-based organizations to help lead the public outreach process.

In January 2025, DRCOG released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit services from agencies qualified and experienced in leading community engagement campaigns that include a grant-funding component. As stated in the RFP, to successfully compete for and be awarded this contract, interested firms needed to demonstrate the experience, capability, understanding and resources to handle a program of the size, scope and complexity of the DRCOG Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. The successful firm needed at least a solid knowledge of the Denver region, and there was a strong preference for physical staff representation in the Denver metro area. Firms also needed to exhibit expertise in multicultural and equitable outreach.

DRCOG received six qualifying proposals in response to the RFP that were reviewed and evaluated by a selection panel. The panel included subject matter experts from DRCOG's Communications staff, the building decarbonization program and Boulder County. The panel unanimously agreed that HDR was the top choice, due to their strong experience in establishing frameworks for grant-funding; approach to multicultural outreach; and strong knowledge of regional community-based organizations.



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Based on the selection panel's evaluation, DRCOG staff recommend that the Finance and Budget Committee authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with the preferred consultant, HDR Inc.

**Action by others**

None

**Previous discussion/action**

None

**Recommendation**

Move to adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with HDR Inc. for community engagement services for the building decarbonization program, in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000 through October 16, 2029. The initial contract term will run through April 13, 2027, with the option to renew for additional one-year terms upon satisfactory performance.

**Attachment**

Draft resolution

**For more information**

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