

Capital Area Council of Governments

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August 27, 2019

The Honorable Steve Adler
Mayor
City of Austin
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

Dear Mayor Adler:

This letter is intended as a follow-up on CAPCOG's FY 2020 Air Quality Program Funding request that we sent to your organization earlier this year.

- The Legislature has partially reinstated the regional air quality planning grant program that funded CAPCOG's Air Quality Program from 2002 through 2017.
- When this funding was vetoed for the FY 2018-2019 biennium, the local governments participating in the Clean Air Coalition agreed to jointly fund CAPCOG's Air Quality Program.
- We have been informed by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) that we should expect to receive \$281,250 for the FY 2020-2021 biennium, which represents approximately one-third of the funding needed for CAPCOG's air quality work plan. This funding will be restricted to technical work while prohibiting education and outreach; however, we are uncertain about when this funding will be made available and how it will be administered by TCEQ.

In consultation with a subcommittee of elected officials on the Clean Air Coalition who have been working with us on funding issues, we have decided to proceed with the original FY 2020 budget request and decreased next year's request by the TCEQ funding amount. This ensures we can begin the program on October 1st; currently we don't have commitments in place from several of our CAC local governments and we don't know when we will have a funding contract from TCEQ which is not unusual in the year after the Legislative Session.

We plan to send a draft contract for the amount requested in the coming weeks for a total of \$155,824.00, and will send our reduced funding request for FY 2021 in March or April 2021. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact Andrew Hoekzema, Interim Director of Regional Planning and Services, at (512) 916-6043 or ahoekzema@capcog.org.

Sincerely,



Betty Voights
Executive Director

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City of Round Rock

Enclosures:

Attachment A: CAPCOG Scope of Work for Support of the Regional Air Quality Plan

Attachment B: CAPCOG Air Quality Funding Request for FY 2020