



# PCEF COMMUNITY RESPONSIVE GRANTS/RFP 3

Funding recommendation  
Sept. 5, 2024

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THE BUREAU OF  
**PLANNING &  
SUSTAINABILITY**





# Agenda

## Introductions and background

- Climate Investment Plan development process and adoption.
- Overview of Climate Investment Plan funding areas.

## RFP 3 recommended funding portfolio

- The grant review process.
- Funding recommendations.

## Accountability, measuring, and reporting

## Video of project beneficiaries



# Key takeaways

- RFP 3 marks the first funding opportunity under the inaugural Climate Investment Plan.
- The estimated lifetime reduction in greenhouse gas emissions for projects is estimated to be roughly 85,000 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e.\*
- Adjustments to the process enables us to include more community partners and expand the impact of projects.



\*Not including regenerative agriculture.





# Climate Investment Plan

Sam Baraso, PCEF Program Manager



**PCEF**

# CLIMATE INVESTMENT PLAN

Portland Clean Energy  
Community Benefits Fund (PCEF)  
Climate Investment Plan

August 2023



**The Climate Investment Plan (CIP) allocates \$750 million in climate investments over the next five years.**

The plan includes allocations to 16 strategic programs, a tree maintenance reserve fund, and to the Community Responsive Grants (RFP 3) program.

Strategic programs may be implemented through partnerships with nonprofit organizations, government entities, or businesses.

Community responsive grants are designed to exclusively invest in projects led by nonprofit organizations.

# Funding Categories and Allocations

2023-2028: PCEF will distribute \$750 million across 7 funding categories.







# Community Responsive Grants/RFP 3

Recommended portfolio



# Grant review process

## Application review

- Eligibility screening
- Technical review
- Applicant vetting

## Scoring criteria

- Scoring criteria based on project type
- Weighted based on the share of budget allocated to a funding area
- Up to 100 points

## Scoring panels

- Three members for each panel
- PCEF Committee members, program staff, subject matter experts
- Diverse, balanced, anti-bias training



## 1. ELIGIBILITY & TECHNICAL REVIEW

230 applications

200+ hours reviewing

2 staff per application + subject matter experts as needed

1,300+ emails exchanged



## 2. FINANCIAL REVIEW & ADDITIONAL VETTING

209 applications

3 references per application

300+ hours reviewing



## 3. SCORING PANELS

20 panels

3 members assigned to each panel,  
diverse representation across all panels

14 external reviewers, 11 PCEF staff

35 hours scoring per panel



## 4. RECOMMENDED PORTFOLIO

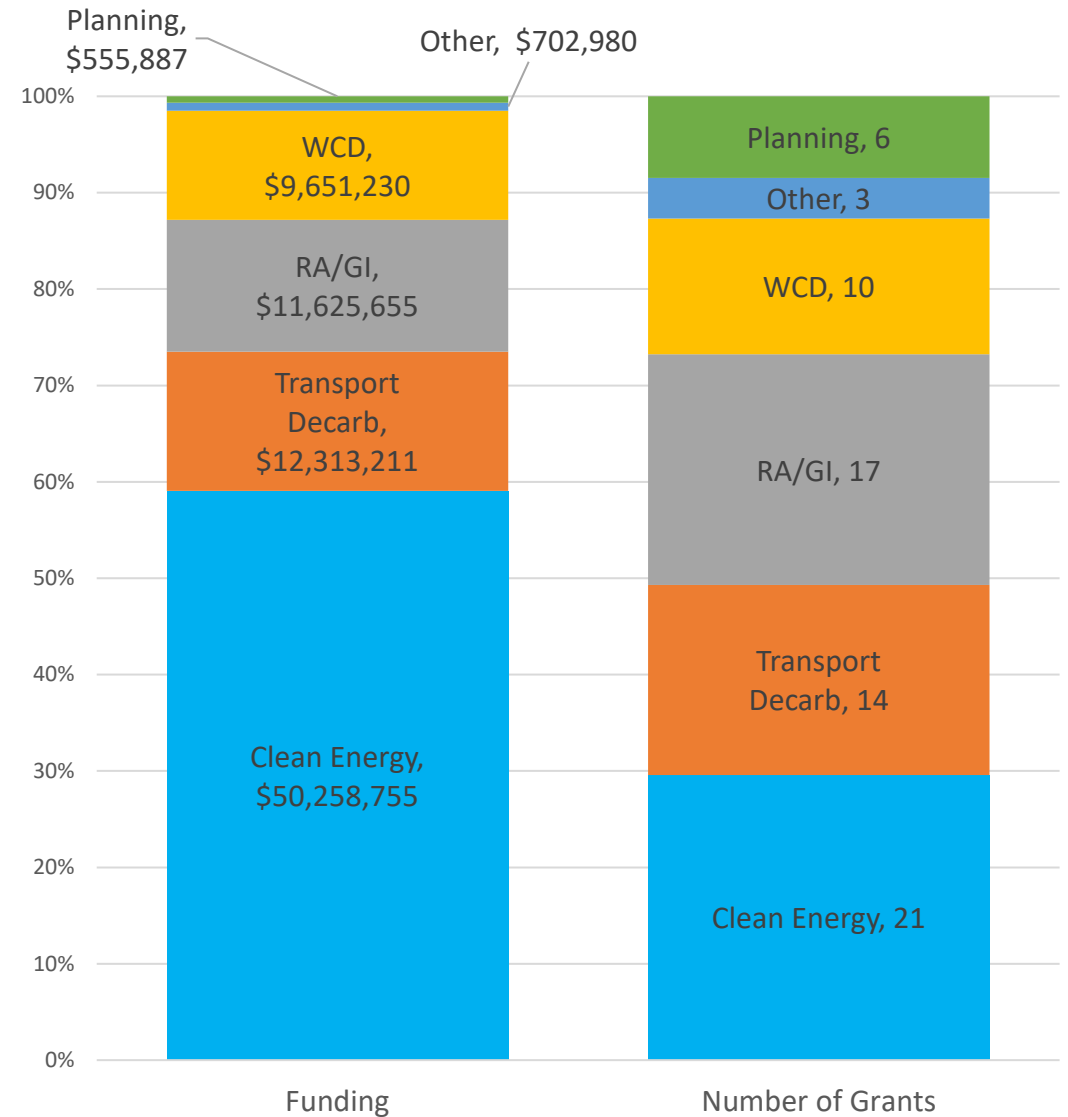
71 applications → 138 applications did not pass



# Funding recommendations

- Grants: 71
  - 65 implementation grants
  - 6 planning grants
- Total funds: \$91.9M
- 85,000 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e

Recommended allocation by funding area



\*WCD: workforce and contractor development

\*RA/GI: regenerative agriculture and green infrastructure



# Geographic distribution

## Projects with physical improvements in proposed portfolio

### District 1

- Funding awarded: \$15,400,799
- Projects within district: 24

### District 2

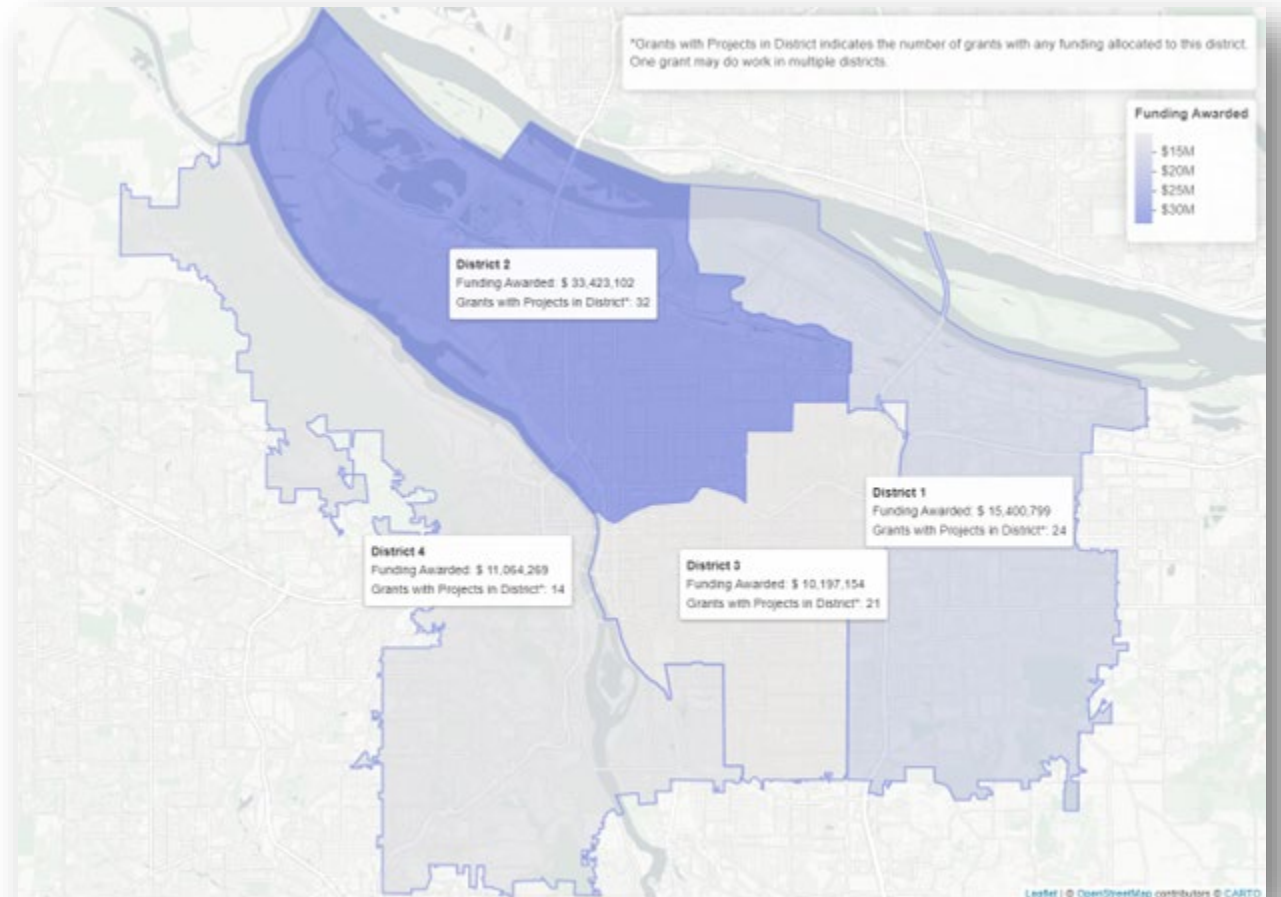
- Funding awarded: \$33,423,102
- Projects within district: 32

### District 3

- Funding awarded: \$10,197,154
- Projects within district: 21

### District 4

- Funding awarded: \$11,054,259
- Projects within district: 14







# Accountability, measuring, reporting





# Accountability, measuring, reporting

- **Transparency.** Visibility to investments and outcomes.
- **Measurement.** Programs have key metrics. PCEF dashboard shows program progress.
- **Reporting.** Workplans detail timelines, milestones, and project progress.
- **Evaluation.** PCEF and grantees ensure goals are on track.





# Accountability in grant management

- Launched WebGrants
- Quarterly reporting
  - All grants required to complete quarterly project reporting and submit payment documentation
  - Payment documentation for all expenses, reviewed by multiple staff before payment issued
  - Project reporting for all milestones, extensive data collection for all deliverables
  - Workforce and contractor utilization reporting
- Verification and quality assurance (QA)
  - Contracted QA provider
  - Site visits and project verification
  - Project completion confirmation and documentation



# PCEF program dashboard



- Welcome
- Overview
- Funding Allocations
- Community Responsive Grants**
- Prioritizing Grant Awards
- Climate Benefits
- Workforce Development
- Contractor Development
- Contractor Workforce Diversity
- Community Engagement

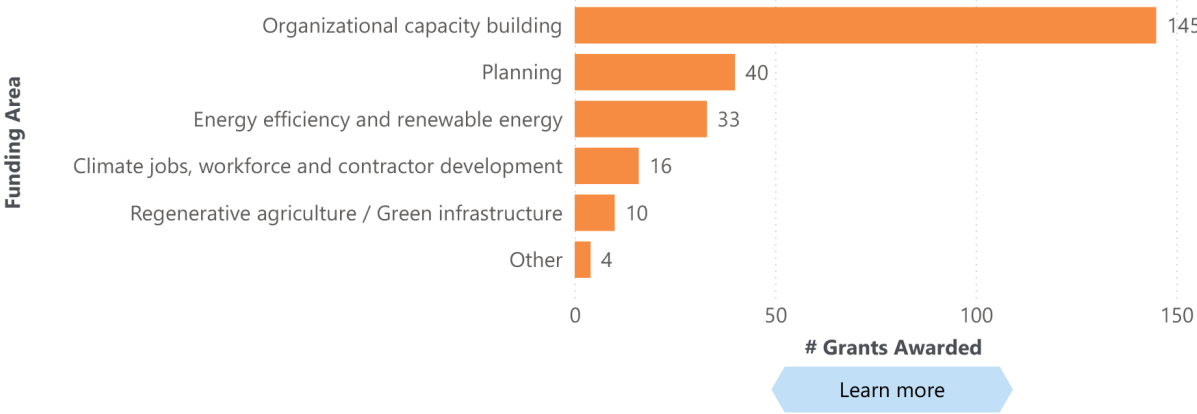
## Community Responsive Grants

**PCEF works *with* our community.** We are committed to community engagement, accountability, and prioritize those most impacted by a changing climate. Community Responsive Grants are awarded for projects designed and led by community-based nonprofit organizations.

Click for detailed instructions on "Drill down" functionality

248	178
Community Responsive Grants Awarded	Nonprofits Supported through Community Responsive Grants

### Number of Community Responsive Grants Awarded by Funding Area







# Questions/Discussion







# THE BUREAU OF **PLANNING** & **SUSTAINABILITY**

## **Sam Baraso**

Program Manager, Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund

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