

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE March 4, 2022

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Department of Energy Better Climate Challenge Partnership**

The United States Department of Energy (“DOE”) has asked the City of Dallas to join the new [Better Climate Challenge](#) partnership. In support of the Comprehensive Environmental and Climate Action Plan (“CECAP”), on Monday, February 28, the City of Dallas accepted DOE’s challenge, joining approximately 100 public and private partners from across the United States.

The Better Climate Challenge is a national leadership initiative calling for commitments to reduce greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions, create jobs, and promote healthy, safe, and thriving communities. The challenge calls for partners to reduce portfolio GHG emissions by at least 50% within 10 years. The City has identified 140 buildings with existing baseline energy data to participate in this program and will be collecting and reporting data annually through the Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) Energy Star Portfolio. This initiative supports our current CECAP effort and is consistent with goals set in the recent Council retreat towards maintaining climate action leadership. The program builds on existing work towards energy benchmarking, facility retrofits for energy efficiency, and other energy-related efforts with the DOE National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

This partnership will assist staff in responding to requests from the Environment & Sustainability Committee by helping staff support the adoption of 2021 International Building Code updates, provide related policy recommendations for updates to the existing Green Building Policy, and develop recommendations for facility project specifications. The challenge will provide peer exchange and technical assistance opportunities that will benefit this effort.

We are proud of the enormous strides we have taken towards a more sustainable environment and better quality of life for the Dallas community. Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact Carlos Evans, Director, Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liz Cedillo-Pereira'.

Liz Cedillo-Pereira
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Deputy City Manager
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Robert Perez, Interim Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Interim Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors