

RESOLUTION #2024-10

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT INNOVATION (EEI) PRIORITY ACTION PLAN (PAP)**

WHEREAS, the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, on July 26, 2023, the Board of Directors of the NWARPC approved Resolution #2023-15 authorizing the use of suballocated Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) funding for the Northwest Arkansas Energy & Environment Innovation (EEI) Action Planning work for the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), including Benton, Washington, and Madison Counties, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the NWARPC strives to promote a sustainable and resilient future for the region, support investment in measures and solutions that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, create high-quality jobs, spur economic growth, and enable access to and enhance NWA competitiveness for federal funding opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the NWARPC has completed the consultant-led regional Northwest Arkansas Energy & Environment Innovation Priority Action Plan (NWA PAP), developed through consultation with stakeholders, the NWARPC Technical Advisory Committee, and the public across the MSA; and

WHEREAS, the NWA PAP will be incorporated into the forthcoming Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP); and

WHEREAS, the NWA PAP seeks to advance Arkansas Investment Priorities and includes a regional priority assessment of five action measures to aid in GHG emission reduction efforts, a focus on low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDACs), and meaningful engagement processes for both stakeholders and the public, as required by the CPRG Planning Grant.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

That the regional Northwest Arkansas Energy & Environment Innovation Priority Action Plan (NWA PAP) is hereby approved and identifies priority action measures to aid the region in greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction efforts, enables access to and enhance NWA competitiveness for federal funding opportunities, and promotes a sustainable and resilient future for the region.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2024.

Judge Barry Moehring, Chair, NWARPC

ATTEST: _____