



## ***BOULDER ENERGY CHALLENGE***

### **2017 Program Announcement**

### **Application Period Opens May 9<sup>th</sup>!**

The City of Boulder is launching a second round of funding through the Boulder Energy Challenge (BEC), which is a grant program designed to solicit innovative solutions from the community for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Boulder. Up to \$200,000 will be awarded to solution-oriented projects that will accelerate Boulder's path to achieving its recently adopted Climate Commitment goals.

#### **Program Objective:**

- Find innovative new ideas that can accelerate Boulder's path to reaching its Climate Commitment goals of:
  - **80% reduction in community greenhouse gas emissions below 2005 levels by 2050**
  - **100% renewable electricity by 2030**

#### **Focus Areas:**

Two funding focus areas have been identified for 2017:

##### Deep Emissions Reduction Strategies

- 2017 funded projects will be new solutions that address one of the Climate Commitment's energy focus areas, including:
  - Electricity source and system change
  - Building energy use
  - Transportation
- Ideas will also be considered that address significant existing barriers to reducing emissions outside of these focus areas.

##### Community Mobilization

- Projects designed to increase active community participation/adoption of emissions reduction/renewable energy related actions
- Projects that create effective engagement and benefits for segments of the community frequently underrepresented in renewable energy system change or other related efforts e.g. electric vehicle adoption, energy efficiency adoption, natural gas appliance replacement etc.

#### **Eligible Project Types:**

- **Pilot projects** – A limited test or trial of a technology, strategy, application, etc. An analysis or testing of the viability of a new idea.
- **New business model testing** – A project that tackles barriers to wide scale adoption of solutions.
- **Efforts to remove key barriers** – Projects or initiatives aimed at removing key legislative, regulatory, financial or other barriers to emissions reduction.

- **New product/service development** – The funding of continued development of a new product or service that has already demonstrated viability.
- **Energy behavior change**– Community education efforts (e.g. education, products or services) aimed at significantly altering behavior that results in emissions reductions with demonstrated effectiveness.
- **Community engagement programs** – A project that results in increased community participation in climate efforts, especially with underrepresented segments of the community.

**Eligible Applicants:**

- Eligibility open to businesses, nonprofits, academic institutions, and individuals
- Entity does not need to be Boulder-based, but implementation must occur in Boulder
- No cost-share requirement, but additional funding outside the BEC grant will earn points in evaluation

**Grant Term and Amounts:**

Maximum grant award is \$100,000. There is no pre-determined distribution of grants. Depending on the quality of proposals received, not all of the available funding may be awarded.

**Additional details regarding the application process will be available on May 9<sup>th</sup>!**

**For additional questions please contact:**

Jamie Harkins, Sustainability Coordinator

Phone: 303.441.1846

HarkinsJ@bouldercolorado.gov