





## WHOLE COMMUNITY APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

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## **Session Presenters**



Nancy Quirk, Energy Program Manager Sustainable Jersey

Jennifer Gonzalez, Chief Sustainability Officer City of Hoboken

Mayor David DelVecchio City of Lambertville

Bob McCoy, Environmental Advisory Committee Township of Maplewood

Arati Kreibich, Council Member Borough of Glen Rock



## Municipal Program Energy Actions



	Climate Planning and Energy Efficiency	Renewable Energy	Alternative Fuel Vehicles	
Municipal Operations	<ul> <li>Municipal Carbon Footprint</li> <li>Energy Tracking and Management</li> <li>Energy Efficiency for Municipal Facilities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>On-Site Solar Energy</li> <li>On-Site Geothermal</li> <li>On-Site Wind Energy</li> <li>Purchase Renewable Energy</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fleet Inventory</li> <li>Purchase Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFV)</li> <li>Vehicle Conversion (to AFV)</li> </ul>	
Community Energy Use	<ul> <li>Community Carbon Footprint</li> <li>Climate Action Plan</li> <li>Residential Energy Efficiency Outreach</li> <li>Commercial Energy Efficiency Outreach</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Wind Ordinance</li> <li>Renewable GEA</li> <li>Make Your Town Solar Friendly</li> <li>Community-Led Solar Initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Make Your Town EV Friendly</li> <li>Public EV Chargers</li> </ul>	



## Gold Star Standard in Energy



- Municipal Operations
  - Municipal buildings
  - Fleet management
  - Operations (landscaping, energy/water conservation, etc.)
  - Driver training
  - Route optimization
  - Green building training

- Community Wide
  - Make Your Town EV Friendly
  - Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
  - Make Your Town Solar Friendly
  - Community Led Solar Initiatives
  - Residential Energy Efficiency
  - Commercial Energy Efficiency

# City of HOBOKEN MASTER PLAN

# GREEN BUILDING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILTY ELEMENT

HOBOKEN

New Jersey Sustainability Summit Whole Community Approaches to Sustainable Energy June 21, 2018 CLIMATE MITIGATION A Sustainable Hoboken provides an environmentally, socially, and economically healthy community today, without compromising the ability of future generations to experience the same.

## **CLIMATE ADAPTATION**

A **Resilient Hoboken** can adapt to and absorb future shocks and stresses to its built and natural systems

## **Capital Partnerships** • Multiple benefits

# Policy

- Redevelopment Plans / Zoning
- Ordinances
- Standards / Guidelines
  - Green Building & Environmental Sustainability Master Plan Element

# Planning



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# **Rainfall Flooding**

# **Drinking Water**

**Energy and Communications** 

# Land Use and Green Building Design

Transportation and Parking

**Natural Resources** 

Waste Management



## GOALS

- 1. Become a Net Zero City by consuming energy from alternative and renewable energy sources by 2022.
- 2. Exceed carbon reduction goals established by the Paris Climate Agreement to achieve carbon neutrality by 2027.
- 3. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from municipal, residential, and commercial energy consumption.
- 4. Ensure energy security, especially for critical facilities, to avoid interruption of service during severe weather events.
- 5. Ensure readiness to communicate and respond to future disaster events.



## STRATEGIES

Reduce Municipal Carbon Footprint Reduce Community Carbon Footprint Integrate GHG emissions reduction planning

Innovative energy and communications systems

Maintain reliable energy and communications infrastructure

Expand communications networks Form smart and connected municipal buildings and infrastructure



### **Reduce Municipal Carbon Footprint**

- 1. Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Climate Action Plan SJ Municipal Carbon Footprint Action
- 2. Direct Install
- 3. Renewable Government Energy Aggregation (R-GEA)

<b>12 Municipal</b> <b>Facilities:</b> City Hall	Total Project Cost	Annual Cost Savings	Capital Cost Savings	Return on Investment
DPW Garage 4 Parking Garages 4 Fire Houses Museum Ambulance Corps	\$105,319	\$100,057	\$204,568	Average 1.13 Years



## **Reduce Community Carbon Footprint**

- 1. Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Climate Action Plan SJ Community Carbon Footprint Action
- Renewable Government Energy Aggregation (R-GEA)
   Solar Challenge



Join the Hoboken Solar Challenge!

hobokensolar.org



City of Hoboken @CityofHoboken 2+ Follow

Hoboken is competing In the @SJ\_Program Solar Challenge. Go green & reduce energy costs. Get free quotes: hobokensolar.org



#### It's the Year of Solar

The Hoboken Solar Challenge is a city program to encourage homeowners to go solar. Hoboken has partnered with EnergySage, an online marketplace to help you receive and compare quotes!

EETS LIKES 21

11:40 AM - 28 Sep 2016 from Hoboken, NJ

hoken Inc. Sustainable Jarsay HobokanGirl.com and 4 others



## Maintain reliable energy and communications infrastructure



# Land Use and Green Building Design

# Reduce GHG emissions from buildings





## Transportation and Parking

### **Reduce GHG emissions from transportation**







### **Reduce GHG emissions from waste operations**



# www.hobokennj.gov/sustainability

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## Lambertville



## Mayor David DelVecchio City of Lambertville



@SJ\_Program | @SJ\_Schools | #SustainableStateNJ

# Local Experiences Implementing Cleaner Energy

Bob McCoy

Maplewood Environmental Advisory Committee

2018 New Jersey Sustainability Summit June 21, 2018

## **Outline of presentation**

- 1. Range of local options: solar, energy efficiency, other source conversions
- 2. Brief description of two solar campaigns in Maplewood: Barriers encountered and Surprising area of growth
- Energy efficiency: Low fruit but challenging to harvest
   Fuel changing: EV's and heating



# Where local efforts fit into the bigger carbon reduction picture



Maplewood Solar and Energy Efficiency Campaigns



Purpose of local campaigns:

- Directly lower greenhouse gas impact through reduced energy use and solar
- Get residents to pay more attention to their energy and its impact

## Anticipated challenges:

- Getting the word out
- Convincing residents that energy efficiency and solar can pay for themselves
- Matching suitable residents with contractors they trust

## Two campaigns:

## Solarize SOMA 2014

## Organized by community volunteers

- Chose single contractor based on price and quality
- Sustainable Jersey Solar Challenge: last 12 months
  - •Full endorsement of the township government
  - Select contractors offering competing proposals



Results: Modest success within the campaigns--considerable interest but disappointing follow through

## **Unanticipated barriers:**

- Mismatch between those with interest and those with suitable sites
- Financial decisions much more complicated than simple payback (competing expenditures & risk concerns)
- Process seems paralyzingly complicated

Unanticipated success: Increased activity outside the programs



#### Maplewood Solar: Total Number and Capacity



183 installations (1091 kW) = 1%+ of electricity used

# Growth of solar capacity

# Why haven't all residents with suitable roofs installed solar?

Perhaps 1200 suitable sites--Disconnect between suitable sites and motivated residents and businesses

- Only about 20% of Maplewood houses are suitable
- 25% of homes and most businesses are rented

Financial considerations lead to decision paralysis

- Ability to invest in solar is typically inversely related to strength of motivation to save on electricity bill
- SREC uncertainty means that the payback time is unclear
- Concern that solar panels will lower the home value or make house hard to sell







### Quick income demographic picture of Maplewood 24,000 people in Six Census Tracts

### Wealthiest is Census Tract 194:

- ~3500 residents
- \$71,778 per capita (double state average)
- \$205,000 median household income (2.8 times state average)

### Least wealthy is Census Tract 197:

- ~6000 residents
- \$29,973 per capita (\$6,600 (18%) less than NJ as a whole)
- \$71,022 median household income (similar to state average)





# Census Tracts and solar installations completed before the end of 2014



### 80% of recent installations have been in the two lowest income Census Tracts





## Energy Efficiency Efforts

Numerous Campaigns:

- Started with Clean Power Choice and Change-a-Light
- Education Campaign for Comfort Partners
- Online clearinghouse for Home Performance with Energy Star
- Comprehensive energy audits of municipal operations and follow up





## How Effective Have These Efforts Been?

- Overall little discernable improvement
- 1/2 of 1% per year decline in residential electricity use
- little change in heating energy use
- fewer than 75 per year comprehensive upgrades
- 10% increase in municipal utilities (lighting improvements offset by new buildings)



## Fuel Switching: No low carbon future without major transition



Electric Vehicles: Cannot switch to EVs without investing in charging infrastructure

Electric heating: Possible to clean up electricity supply but no fossil fuels burn cleanly enough to use for heating

- Major advances in heat pump technology make this possible but will require building-by-building conversion
- Massive investment in long-term future fuel savings



# Community-based programs for a clean energy future:

- Locally tailored energy efficiency programs—save money and reduce capacity requirements
- Community solar—build out locally available solar capacity
- Financial mechanisms to capture the value of investments
   Tools: government energy aggregation, cooperatives,
   utility programs

The Local Angle:









How can we learn from each other? Communities leading New Jersey to a sustainable energy future.

> Contact me: Bob McCoy rfmccoy@verizon.net



## Renewable Energy Aggregation for Glen Rock

### Arati Sadalge Kreibich

Glen Rock Councilmember Liaison to Glen Rock Environmental Commission

Ken Jones • Noelle Siong• Sylvia Rabacchi• Ben Meyer

Glen Rock Environmental Commission





## What is "DEAL"

## <u>Discounted Energy Aggregation pLan</u> – a.k.a. <u>Government Energy Aggregation</u> (GEA) program with a renewable energy component



## **Renewable Government Energy Aggregation**

5 Points 15 Points 35 Points 50 Points

Updated March 2015

# Energy aggregation program that includes a 20% or greater renewable component

Note: PSEG basic service is now 18% renewable

## What is energy aggregation?

- NJ laws passed in 2003 permit towns to establish a customized energy supply for all residents (requires an <u>ordinance</u>)
- Brings energy choice (electricity portion) and lower costs to all residents through bulk purchase and competitive bidding
- PSE&G continues to handle the billing (including for the new supplier) and maintain the "pipes" and "wires"
- Opt-out program
- Over 50 towns in NJ have already done this



## Why Glen Rock wants to create an *R*-GEA?

- Reduce energy costs and our carbon footprint with no effort on the part of residents – a Win-Win!
- No up-front cost to the town. Bids are placed by an energy consultant of our choosing who is paid by the supplier.
- Details of the contract are under *our* control (safe and customizable for our resident's needs) – avoiding 3<sup>rd</sup> party scams
- Many residents are concerned about the environment but worry about costs
- Residents can opt-out at any time

## Why use clean energy?

- 1. Less reliance on fossil fuels improves our air quality
- 2. Greenhouse gas reductions are vital for the planet and our children's future
- 3. Demand for renewables is good for the NJ economy
- 4. DEAL will reduce our "carbon footprint"



## Going Green in NJ

- Purchasing locally generated renewable energy leads to
  - Development of additional renewable energy resources
  - More types of renewable energy
  - More jobs
- Not all renewable energy is created equally
  - NJ Class 1 Renewable Energy Certificate (REC)
  - NJ Class 2 REC
  - PJM REC
  - Green-e Certified, e.g., TX wind

# **DEAL Timeline 2017** Part 1: Education Public Testing Outreach Boro buy-in

the water

Jun - Jul

Apr - May

### Consultant selection

Sep - Oct

forum

Nov - Dec

## DEAL Timeline 2017 Part 1: Education



## **Common Objections**



## R-GEAs are "Opt-out" Programs



### **Discounted Energy Aggregation proposaL**



#### That's DEAL for short!

**DEAL** is a program that allows Glen Rock to purchase energy for its residents (*if they choose*) at a discounted price.

#### Well, what's so good about it?

Well, we've broken it down for you into a long list!

• For the average household, there will be a 5 - 10% *reduction* in energy costs (\$50 - 100 *per year*)

• For the town, this means savings of up to \$500,000 per year!

• Not only will it save money, but it will also help keep the town clean and green!

\* Our new energy source will include up-to 40% renewable energy, which means the town as a whole will contribute much less to toxic air pollution! This means cleaner air for our children.



ed price. • Illinois • Massachusetts

New Jersey

California

Available in:

- Ohio
- Rhode Island
- New York
- \* Light green indicates under consideration.

#### What if I dont want to change?

UT

You don't have to! Once the program is started, you will have the ability to **opt-out** at *any time* and for *any reason*. Instructions to do so will be on your monthly PSE&G bill and posted on the Borough Hall website.

#### Is there anything I need to do?

Nope! The town will switch over to the cheaper, greener energy, and that's it! PSE&G will continue to handle service calls as usual, and they will continute to handle the distribution and any maintenance for the town.





#### Let's GREEN UP GLEN ROCK

Sponsored by The Glen Rock Environmental Commission

## DEAL Timeline 2018 Part 2: Implementation





## The Bidding

- Bid specification
  - 1. 40% Class 1 PJM RECs + 60% BSG
  - 2. 40% Class 1 PJM RECs + 60% Green-E RECs (wind)
  - 3. 3 different contract lengths
- Bid results bids too expensive!
  - Market is uncertain now
  - RFP remains open for 120 days for re-bidding when the market improves

## What's Happening Elsewhere

### In NJ

- 2017 Woodbridge establishes first R-GEA
- 2018 Livingston R-GEA bids too high
- 2018 Essex Hub forms multi-town R-GEA

### Across the US



### In NY

Community Choice Aggregation Westchester County NY





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