RETI CENTER SOLAR ONE

## **LOCAL POWER** A COMMUNITY SOLAR INITIATIVE





#### INTRODUCTIONS

# AGENDA

Background

Intro to Community Solar

Solar for Buildings Owners

153 Coffey St – first building to go solar!

Sign up to be a Subscriber

**Community Visioning Session** 

Questions

#### **BACKGROUND INFO**

# Local Power is developing community solar energy projects to provide savings and low carbon energy.

- Continuation of Red Hook and RETI Center's community resiliency work
- Must benefit affordable or low-income housing
- Partnered with Solar One's Here Comes Solar team to provide solar technical assistance
- Received funding from NYSERDA for solar "pre-development"
- Includes all technical feasibility work for solar energy



#### CONNECTION TO RETI / RED HOOK'S COMMITMENT TO A LOW-CARBON FUTURE





#### CONNECTION TO PREVIOUS PROJECTS + GOALS

#### Local Power is developing community solar energy projects on local buildings.

- Red Hook NY Rising process, 2013 established a set of community goals for resilience, post Super Storm Sandy including a low-carbon future
- Red Hook Community Microgrid Project, outlined a starting point to be creating decentralized large scale solar arrays
- Workforce training and entry level / jobs with growth opportunities to be a critical need for Red Hook

#### DESIRED OUTCOMES



- Secure commitments from local building owners to install solar
- Engage the community (that's you!) as subscribers to the solar projects
- Create workforce training and employment opportunities for low-income residents through RETI Center's workforce training program



# Join at slido.com #11231

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# What other community benefits should this initiative include?

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#### POLL

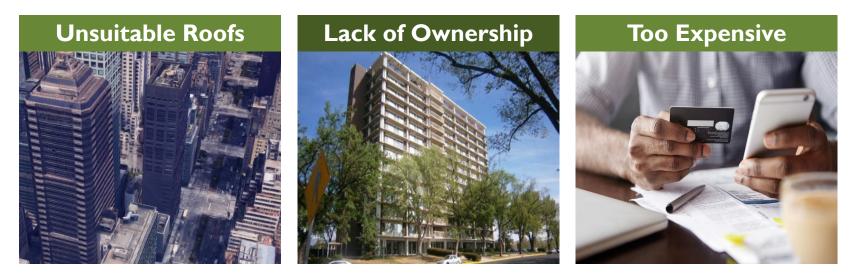
#### What other community benefits should this initiative include?

- Solar workforce training
- EV charging
- Higher savings for low-to-moderate income households
- Creation of a community fund for a low-carbon future
- Other?

# INTRO TO COMMUNITY SOLAR



#### NOT EVERYONE CAN INSTALL SOLAR



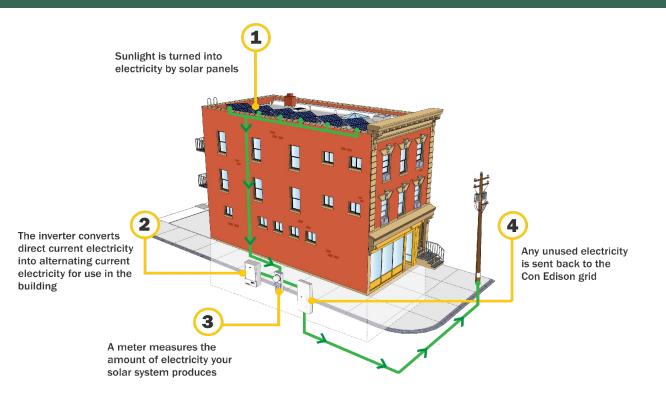
While solar adoption is growing rapidly many New Yorkers still face barriers to participating in and benefiting from solar, that's where community solar comes in.

#### WHAT IS COMMUNITY SOLAR?

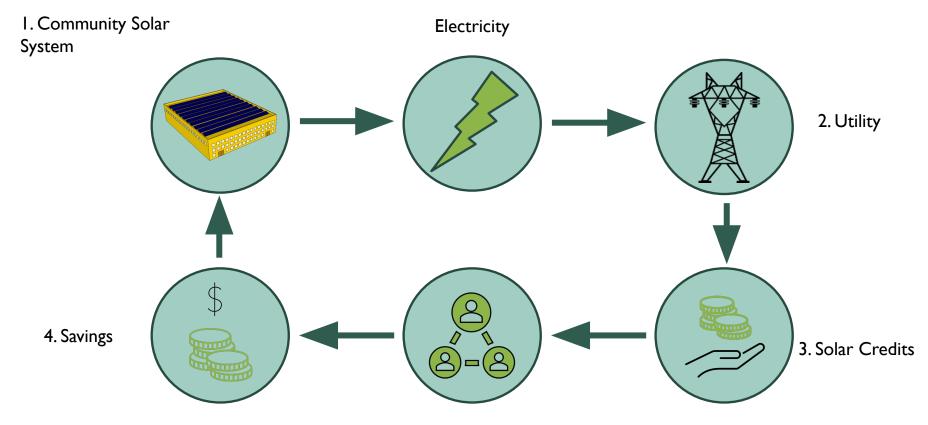
A form of solar energy that allows individual households to join a single, shared solar energy system and reduce their energy bill through solar credits



#### HOW SOLAR WORKS



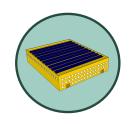
#### HOW DOES COMMUNITY SOLAR WORK?



Subscribers

## I. SOLAR PANELS PRODUCE ENERGY

Each month, the solar panels located in the community will produce solar energy





## 2. Solar Energy is sent to Con Edison



The solar energy is sent to the Con Edison grid. In return, Con Edison calculates the value of the solar energy and converts it to Solar Credits.



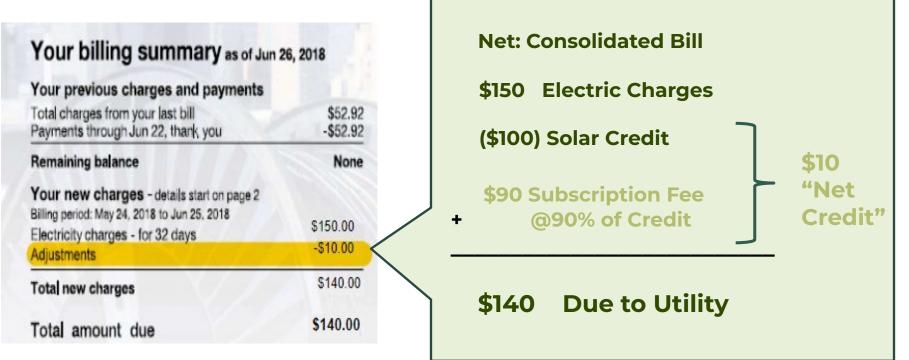
Community Solar System

Con Ed Grid

Solar Credits

#### 3. Credits on your Con Edison Bill

Every month, you will receive a solar credit on your bill that will show up as an "adjustment"



## 4. Savings

**Receive 10% savings every month** because you only pay for 90% of the credits. The adjustments on your Con Edison bill are your monthly savings

None
50.00 10.00
140.00



#### Why Community Solar?

#### **Traditional Solar**

You have to pay for the solar energy system

The roof needs sufficient space for solar panels

The economic and environmental benefits go directly to the building owner or homeowner

You have to be the homeowner or building owner

The solar installation is a long-term commitment

#### **Community Solar**

There is no upfront cost to participate in a community solar project

The solar energy system is not installed on your roof, but elsewhere in NYC

The benefits are shared between the community solar participants

Anyone who pays a Con Edison bill can participate, even renters

You can leave the community solar program anytime without cancellation charges.

#### POLL

Does developing community solar sound like a good way to increase access to renewable energy?



# What benefits interest you most about community solar?

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# SOLAR FOR BUILDING OWNERS



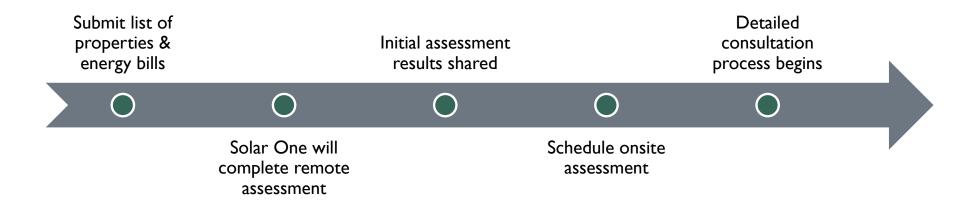
#### SOLAR BENEFITS FOR YOUR BUILDING OWNERS

- No cost installation and financial benefits, including:
  - Lease payment or system ownership
  - NYC Property Tax Abatement, income tax credit
  - Local Law 97 compliance
- Low-maintenance, reliable technology
- Clean, renewable energy
- Community co-benefits
  - Energy Savings
  - Workforce
  - Ownership/Governance
  - Lowering subscriber's carbon footprint



#### NEXT STEPS FOR BUILDING OWNERS

- Interested building owners can submit their list of building addresses and energy bills (if available) to <u>info@reticenter.org</u>
- 2. Local Power will complete the free remote site assessment



#### POLL

What percentage of a community solar system should be allocated to the community? Should there be a minimum requirement of each site that's developed?



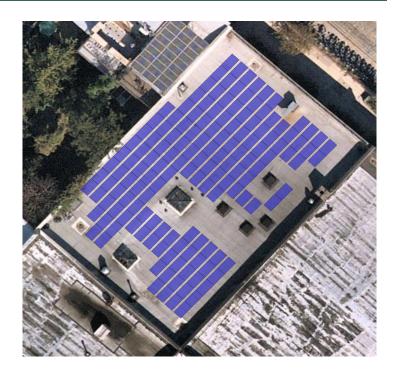
# What percentage of a community solar system should be allocated to the community?

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# I53 COFFEY STREET

# 153 COFFEY STREET – FIRST BUILDING GOING SOLAR WITH LOCAL POWER!

- 50 kW of solar on the roof
- Building owners will receive a roof lease payment and property tax abatement
- Owned by Sunwealth, a mission-driven solar finance company
- Released RFP and selected SunKeeper to provide installation, begins spring 2023



#### 153 COFFEY STREET – BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

Production	Generate 57,305 kilowatt hours of clean, renewable energy
Offset	Offset 32 metric tons of carbon emissions and eliminate other harmful air pollutants
Provide	Provide \$10, 315 in utility bill savings to low-income residents of the local community
Support	Support clean energy jobs and catalyze Local Power's Community Solar initiative

#### POLL

For future community solar projects, how important is community ownership to you?

# SIGN UP TO BE A SUBSCRIBER

2Uur

COMMUNITY SOLAR ALLOWS SOLAR ENERGY TO BE ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE IN NYC

#### Estimated \$100 savings a year

- ✔ Free to sign up
- Cancel anytime, no fees
- ✓ I2-month term
- Auto-renewed contract
- It moves with you if you move within NYC
- Helps fight climate change
- Support job creation and clean energy production

#### WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A SUBSCRIBER TO A PROJECT NOW

- Get on the waitlist first come, first serve for projects
- I0% discount off your Con Ed bill every month
- Contracts will be offered in QI 2023 to secure your account
- See savings by Summer 2023

#### Discussion:

# Are you ready to sign up for community solar, why or why not?

What concerns, if any, do you have?

# COMMUNITY VISIONING SESSIONS



#### SHARE OUR THOUGHTS

We'd like to gather resident input for future projects, so thank you for your initial input during this event.

We'll send a follow-up survey with a few more questions so there will be more opportunities to provide feedback and input.

# **QUESTIONS?**

Contact Info

RETI Center – info@reticenter.org

Visit our website to learn more https://www.reticenter.org/communitysolar



#### ROOF RETI SOLAR TRAINING

Are you or someone you know interested in a career in the solar?

Applications for the October 2022 cohort are still open!

Learn more and apply here: <u>www.reticenter.org/community</u> <u>solar</u>

