

# U.S. EPA's State and Local Energy and Environment Webinar Series

# Clean Energy Finance: Green Banking Strategies for Local Governments

October 1, 2018

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# Clean Energy Finance: Green Banking Strategies for Local Governments

October 1, 2018 1:00 – 2:30 PM Eastern

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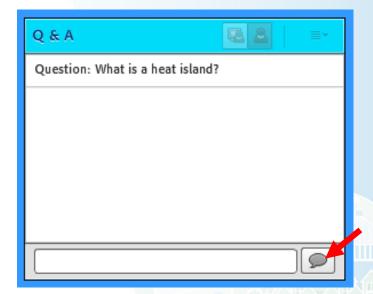
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# How to Participate



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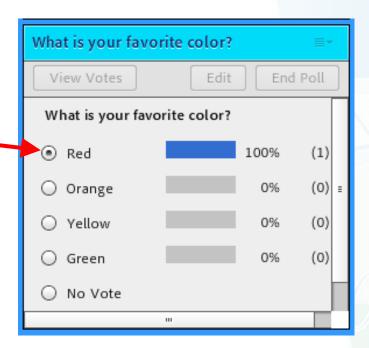


# How to Participate



### **Polling**

- We'll ask several poll questions during the webinar
- On mobile devices or tablets
  - Exit full screen mode
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# Today's Agenda



- Emma Zinsmeister, Senior Community Programs Specialist
   U.S. EPA State and Local Energy and Environment Program
- Jeff Schub, Executive Director
   Coalition for Green Capital
- Bryan Garcia, President & Chief Executive Officer
   Connecticut Green Bank
- Tom Deyo, Chief Executive Officer
   Montgomery County Green Bank
- Question and Answer Session

### Introduction



Emma Zinsmeister, MPH
U.S. EPA State and Local
Energy and Environment
Program



### PA United States Environmental Protection Agency

# U.S. EPA's State and Local Energy and Environment Program

- Investing in energy strategies that lower emissions can be an effective way for state, local and tribal governments to achieve multiple goals:
  - Improve air quality and public health
  - Strengthen energy systems
  - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - Save money
- We offer free tools, data and technical expertise about energy strategies, including energy efficiency, renewable energy and other emerging technologies, to help state, local and tribal governments achieve their environmental, energy and economic objectives.
- Access all of these resources at the <u>Energy Resources for State, Local, and</u>
   Tribal Governments site

**Energy and Environment Program** 

# Clean Energy Finance: Green Banking Strategies for Local Governments



- Primer on green banking that addresses key points for local governments:
  - What are green banks?
  - What are the benefits of green banks?
  - What financing mechanisms do green banks offer?
  - What is involved in establishing and administering a green bank?
  - Other green banking opportunities
  - Is a green bank right for my community?
- Profiles of prominent green banks and how their work is helping to advance community environmental, energy and economic priorities

#### Clean Energy Finance: Green Banking Strategies for Local Governments



#### GREEN BANKING OVERVIEW

Green banks are financial institutions that can leverage public funding to attract private capital for clean energy projects (including energy efficiency, renewable energy, and other distributed energy resources), as well as other "green" investments. They can assist states and communities in partnering with private lenders and investors to mobilize capital, alleviate perceived risks, and design attractive financial instruments to support these investments.

While several states have established green banks, local governments are also exploring this innovative clean energy financing opportunity. The New York City Energy Efficiency Corporation (NYCEEC) and the Montgomery County Green Bank in Montgomery County, Maryland, were the first local green banks in the United States, established in 2010 and 2016, respectively. Washington, DC, passed legislation in July 2018 to create the third local U.S. green bank.

In addition to establishing their own green banks, there are multiple ways in which local governments can support "green banking." Examples include working with state green banks or local finance agencies to help residents and businesses access financing, or establishing local nonprofit entities that attract private capital for clean energy investments by providing services simular to those offered by green bankin. As such, local governments can pursue green banking opportunities that align with their own needs, abilities, resources, and operating contexts.

This paper provides a basic explanation of green banks, the benefits they offer, issues local governments might consider when deciding whether to create a green bank, and several case studies. It also provides information on other green banking opportunities for local governments.

#### WHAT ARE GREEN BANKS?

Although there is no single green bank model, a green bank is generally defined as an institution that leverages limited public dollars to attract additional private investment in clean energy or other "green" investments, such as green infrastructure projects. Green banks typically use their funds to support energy efficiency upgrades, renewable energy projects, and other proven clean energy

technologies. The types of projects that they support vary depending on the local context (see the examples provided at the end of this document). \(^{14}\) To date, more than 75 percent of all green bank investments in the United States have been for renewable energy projects.\(^{16}\)

Depending on state and local priorities and financing needs, green banks typically support projects in targeted sectors or with specific customer profiles, such as commercial property and business owners, residential homeowners, nonprofits, rental property owners, institutions, and government agencies.

#### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF GREEN BANKING?

Local business owners and residents are increasingly interested in clean energy as a means to reduce energy consumption and costs, increase comfort, and protect the environment. While clean energy technologies are becoming more economically viable, the growing demand for these technologies has not always aligned with access to reasonably priced, appropriately targeted, and sustainable financing. Private investors often perceive this market segment as risky. In addition, external funds that are sometimes used to supplement local budgets, such as funds from the state or federal government or charitable foundations, may not always be available. As a result, local governments are interested in attracting more capital to this market to support clean energy investments in their communities and to help advance their environmental, energy, and economic priorities.

Green banks can help address this financing gap since they use their funds to reduce the risks and administrative burdens for private investors, making it easier for the private market to finance clean energy projects. By attracting more private investment into the market, green banks can help local governments increase the accessibility of affordable financing for clean energy projects that is independent of external sources of funding. "This support can help local governments achieve other economic objectives, such as enabling the growth of local businesses that provide clean energy products and services. This section describes several of the primary benefits that green banks and other green banking opportunities offer.

EPA-430-F-18-004 October 2018 1

### **Contact Information**



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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



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# Jeff Schub Coalition for Green Capital





# Scaling Green Bank Financing to Deploy Clean Energy: Local Government Opportunities

Coalition for Green Capital

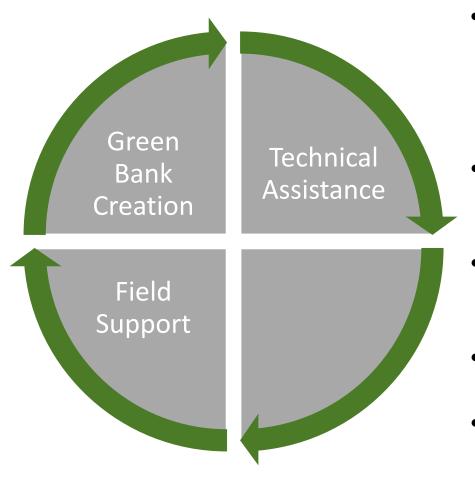
Jeffrey Schub, Executive Director

EPA Webinar - Clean Energy Finance: Green Banking Strategies for

Local Governments

October 1, 2018

# Coalition for Green Capital (CGC) unique role as Green Bank (GB) field catalyst for decade, refining GB model, implementing on the ground, coordinating partners



- CGC, a non-profit, partners with governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and market actors to create Green Banks that increase volume of clean energy investment
- CGC delivers on-the-ground technical expertise to design, start-up and operate GBs
- Helped design & create multiple GBs, which have catalyzed over \$2 billion in clean energy investment
- Currently working in over a dozen states in the U.S.
- Founder and Chief Executive Officer Reed Hundt, former chairman of U.S.
   Federal Communications Commission
- Supported by major global foundations



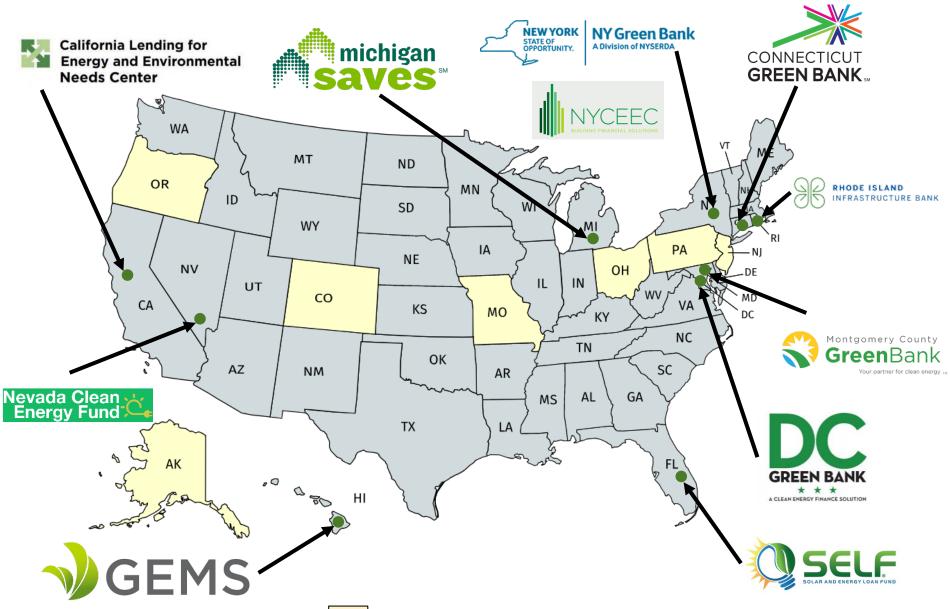
# Green Banks are institutions purpose-built to deliver transformation - generate demand and draw investment



- Green Bank mission is to use finance tools to mitigate climate change.
- Finance institution dedicated to increasing and accelerating investment in clean power goods and services.
- Can be funded by government, charitable contributions or both.
- May deploy capital from public or private sources, invest on its own or in conjunction with private sector investors. Does not typically take deposits.
- Uses methods that catalyze greater overall investment.

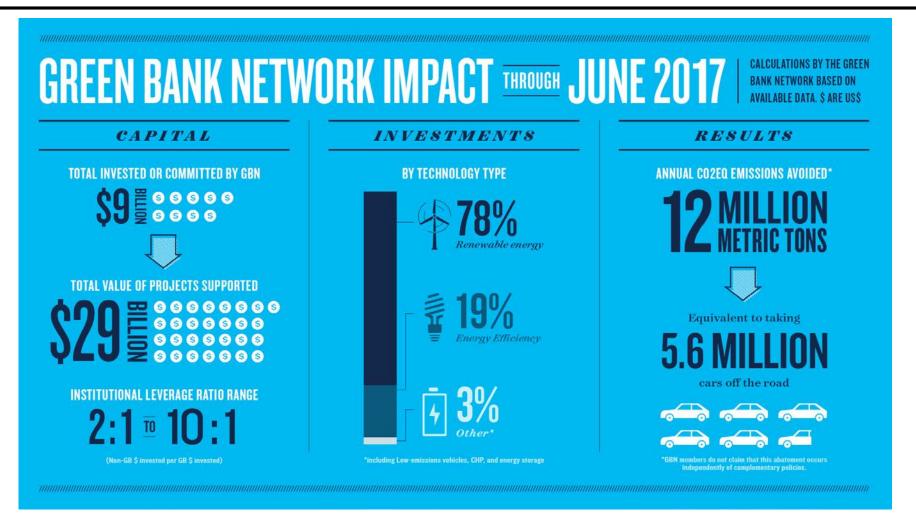
### **Green Bank Goal is Volume & Scale**





GB Exploration Project

# Green Banks around the world have mobilized more than **\$29 billion** in clean energy investments





# Governments have implemented the model through a number of forms

### **Public**



### **Quasi-Public**





# Private Non-Profit







# Energy is local! Sources, uses and price all highly localized, which means need local expertise to build pipeline



Engage Local Market Actors to Create Deal Flow

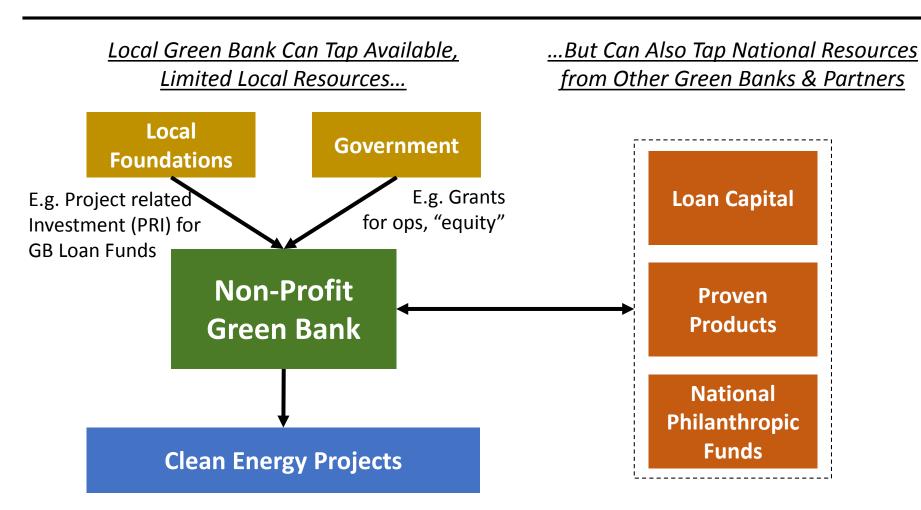
#### Local Clean Energy Markets

Developers, contractors, lenders, investors, specialty finance cos, tech cos, community orgs, government, others.

- No substitute for local expertise to understand market needs, financing challenges, market participants, and investment opportunities
- Large pools of capital want to access deal flow – but don't have resources to do it
- Local Green Banks can bring value to community in many ways, but how to get going without large dedicated pool of public funds?



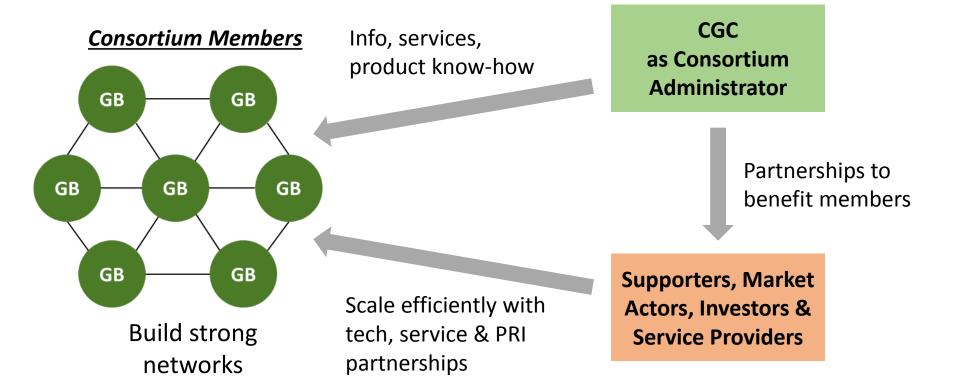
# Trend is toward "lean non-profit" Green Bank that draw on multiple resources, funding and know-how of others





# Parties connected through new Green Bank Consortium to share products, know-how; access capital, services

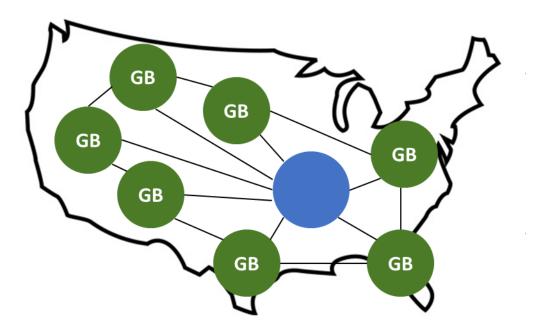
Consortium to be *inclusive, large and collaborative*. Contact CGC to learn more and join the Consortium!





# Local actors can lead new national Green Bank expansion and take advantage of funding, partners, know-how

Building a powerful network of capital, demand formation, investment, and collaboration to activate clean energy  Leaders of Green Bank movement all developing new models to make Green Banking easier across the entire country



Philanthropy wants to spark new national system that can activate Green Banks in new states

Can leverage opportunity to draw in funding, capital, expertise, standard products for your communities





### Thank You

Jeffrey Schub, Executive Director

Coalition for Green Capital

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# Bryan Garcia Connecticut Green Bank





# **Connecticut Green Bank**

Attracting Private Investment, Growing Our Economy, Creating Jobs, and Helping Our Communities Thrive

#### **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

Clean Energy Finance: Green Banking Strategies for Local Governments
October 1, 2018

# **Glossary**



- AMI Area Median Income
- CEO Chief Executive Officer
- CO<sub>2</sub> Carbon Dioxide
- C-PACE Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program
- CSCU Connecticut State Colleges & Universities
- CT Connecticut
- DEEP Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
- EE Energy Efficiency
- EPBB Expected Performance Based By-Down Incentives
- ESA Energy Savings Agreement
- FY Fiscal Year
- HDF Housing Development Fund
- HES Home Energy Solutions
- IPC Inclusive Prosperity Capital
- IRB Interest Rate Buy-down

- LLR Loan Loss Reserve
- LMI Low-to-Moderate Income
- MFAH Multi-Family and Affordable Housing
- MM Millions
- MW Megawatt
- NOx Nitrogen Oxides
- PBI Performance Based Incentives
- PPA Power Purchase Agreement
- PRI Program Related Investment
- PV Photovoltaic
- RPS Renewable Portfolio Standard
- RSIP Residential Solar Investment Program
- SBEA Small Business Energy Advantage Program
- SF Single Family
- SHREC Solar Home Renewable Energy Credits
- SIR Savings to Investment Ratio
- SOx Sulfur Oxide

### **Connecticut Green Bank**



### Mission and Goals



Support the strategy to achieve **cheaper**, **cleaner**, and **more reliable** sources of energy while **creating jobs** and supporting **local economic development** 

- Attract and deploy private capital investment to finance the clean energy policy goals for Connecticut
- Leverage limited public funds to attract multiples of private capital investment while reinvesting public funds over time
- Develop and implement strategies that bring down the cost of clean energy in order to make it more accessible and affordable to customers
- Support affordable and healthy homes and businesses in distressed communities reduce energy burden and address health & safety

# **Green Bank Impact Report** Investment (FY 2012-FY 2018)



#### **Investment**

# Private Investment

billion

#### **Leverage Ratio**



#### **Tax Revenues**



Mobilized **\$1.3 billion** of investment into the **state economy** 

Achieved a **leverage ratio** of **6 to 1** of private
investment to Green
Bank investment

Generated nearly \$60 million in state tax revenues



**Public** 

Investment

Based on data collected in the Connecticut Green Bank data warehouse

Tax revenue estimation methodology for individual income, corporate, and sales taxes developed by the Connecticut Green Bank in consultation with Navigant Consulting with review for reasonableness by the Department of Revenue Services (coming in the Fall of 2018)

## **Green Bank Impact Report**



# Economic Development (FY 2012-FY 2018)

**Jobs** 

**Energy Burden** 

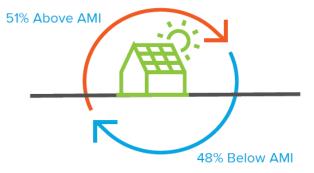
**Accessible and Affordable** 

15,890 direct, indirect and induced job years



30,000+ families





Supported creation of nearly **16,000** direct, indirect and induced **job-years** 

Reduced the **energy burden** on families and
businesses

Supported the residential market to reach income parity and beyond parity for rooftop solar PV



#### **NOTES**

Based on data collected in the Connecticut Green Bank data warehouse https://www.ctgreenbank.com/strategy-impact/impact/

Job estimation methodology developed by the Connecticut Green Bank in consultation with Navigant Consulting, assistance from Avangrid and Eversource Energy, and review for reasonableness by the Department of Economic and Community Development

## **Green Bank Impact Report**



### Environmental Protection (FY 2012-FY 2018)

#### Deployment

#### **Pollution**

or

#### **Public Health**



286.3 MW of installed capacity

Accelerated the growth

and installation of nearly

300 MW of clean energy

4.6 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

which equals



108 million tree seedlings grown for 10 years

23.6 million barrels of oil not consumed



Helped reduce air emissions that cause climate change and worsening public health Improved the lives of families helping them avoid sick days, hospitalizations, and even death

#### NOTES

Based on data collected in the Connecticut Green Bank data warehouse https://www.ctgreenbank.com/strategy-impact/impact/

Pollution estimation methodology developed by the Connecticut Green Bank in consultation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and review for reasonableness by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

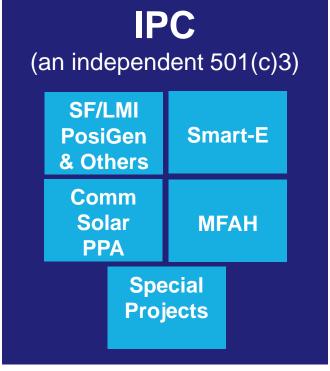
Public health estimation methodology developed by the Connecticut Green Bank in consultation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and review for reasonable by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Department of Public Health.

### **Connecticut Green Bank**



### **Business Units and Nonprofit "Spinoff"**









**Cost Recovered** 

Self Sustaining (i.e., 5%@10 years)



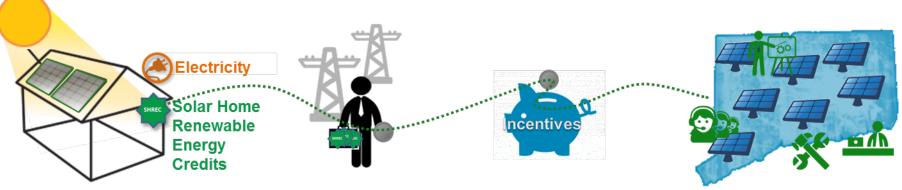
Operating Leverage, Social Return, and Investment Return Opportunity

### **Incentive Business**



# RSIP Incentive and Solar Home Renewable Energy Credits (SHREC) Securitization

A SOLAR HOME PRODUCES...



When panels produce electricity for a home, they will also produce Solar Home
Renewable Energy
Credits (SHRECs). The Green Bank provides upfront incentives through RSIP and collects all the SHRECs produced per statute.

Utilities required to enter into 15-year contracts with the Green Bank to purchase the stream of SHRECs produced. This helps utilities comply with their clean energy goals (i.e., Class I RPS).

The Green Bank would then use the revenues from the 15-year fixed price contracts to support the RSIP incentives (i.e., PBI and EPBB), cover admin costs, and fund securitization or financing costs.

A public policy with 300 MW target will create more locally-sourced sustainable energy, creating jobs, helping make our power grid more secure and less congested, and also curbing pollution.

### **Investment Business**



### **Local Partners**

"Liberty Bank has been a partner with the Connecticut Green Bank from the start. Liberty Bank recently provided a financing facility for the Green Bank's capital needs for solar on homes across the state, which is supporting the state's growing green economy.



#### **Chandler Howard, President and CEO**



"The CT Solar Loan program was a game-changer for solar financing and Sungage Financial. Our partnership with the Green Bank in Connecticut helped our company grow and become a national leader in helping families finance solar and realize the important benefits it provides.

Sara Ross, Co-Founder and CEO

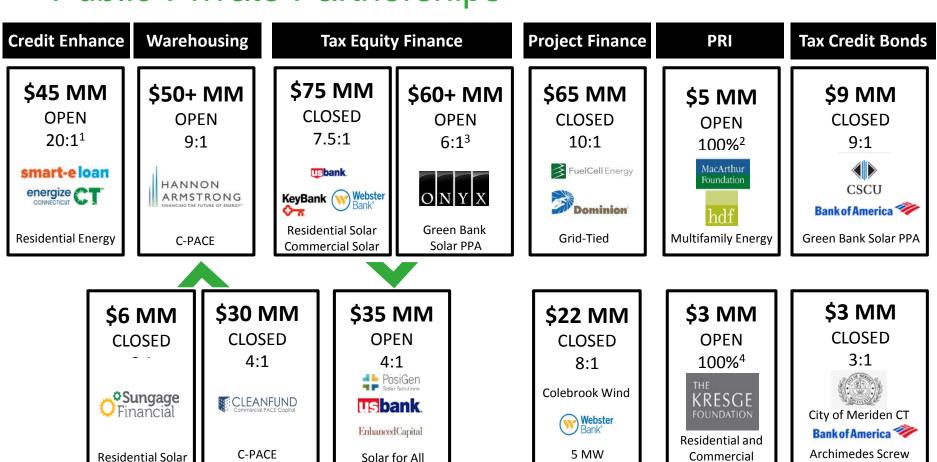
"Our partnership with the Green Bank has helped us to invest in our local communities, while assisting the State of Connecticut in achieving its important energy, environment, and economic goals."



**Larry Holderman, President and CEO** 

# **Investment Business**Public-Private Partnerships





Wind Project

Storage

#### REFERENCES

- 1. LLR yields high leverage and it is 2<sup>nd</sup> loss and thus with no to low defaults, we haven't used to date. IRB's not considered in the leverage ratio.
- 2. Foundation PRI is to HDF, guaranteed by the CGB in the case of MacArthur Foundation.
- 3. Onyx Partnership has no upper limit and CGB currently has authorization to commit up to \$15mm.
- 4. Foundation PRI's are backed by CGB balance sheet

Hydroelectric Project

## Investment Business C-PACE (Example)



Market Segment	Commercial, Industrial, Nonprofit and Multifamily
Product Summary	Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) applies a benefit assessment to a property to finance clean energy improvements with SIR>1
Support Needed	<ul> <li>Capital to finance clean energy improvements</li> <li>Contractors to install clean energy improvements</li> <li>Supportive municipality</li> <li>Supportive mortgage lender</li> </ul>
CT Results	232 projects for \$135.9 MM investment and \$220.5 MM in savings over the life of the projects









### **Investment Business w/ IPC**



### Solar Lease and Energy Efficiency ESA (Example)

Market Segment	Residential Single Family LMI
Product Summary	Solar lease + energy efficiency package (fixed 20-25 years) to reduce energy burden with alternative underwrite/no credit score using community based marketing approach
Support Needed	<ul> <li>Good solar economics including tiered LMI incentive</li> <li>Municipal, community and nonprofit introductions</li> <li>Subordinated debt capital – if available, but not required</li> </ul>
CT Results	1,615 leases for \$44.5 MM investment, 99.9% get EE (HES), 63% ESA, and 63% LMI









## Inclusive Prosperity Capital Sparked by the Connecticut Green Bank



- <u>Foundation of Success</u> mobilized over \$1.3 billion of public and private capital deployed in Connecticut from 2012–2018 (\$360 million in underserved markets)
- **Geographic Expansion** \$810 billion of renewable generation investment potential across the U.S. from 2018-2050 (Real 2017 \$'s);
- Cost Reductions & Scale origination expansion, geographic diversification, and operational efficiencies; and
- <u>Project Deployment & Risk-Adjusted Returns</u> successful capitalization of underserved markets & credits with private capital at appropriate returns.

## Inclusive Prosperity Capital Fund Launch



Launch Date: August 2018



- Assets Under Management at Launch: \$20 million
- Assets Under Management Year 1 Total Target Raise: \$75+
   million
- Key Contributors at Launch: Connecticut Green Bank, DEEP,
   Kresge Foundation, Hewlett Foundation, Calvert Impact Capital
- <u>Fund Leadership</u>: Seven (7) program and investment professionals transferring from the Connecticut Green Bank at launch
- Unique Features: In addition to capital injection, Connecticut Green Bank to provide full operational support of \$10 million<sup>1</sup> over first six (6) years of operation (no "going concern" risk)



## Thank You

#### **Bryan Garcia**

President & CEO

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Tom Deyo
Montgomery County Green
Bank





## Clean Energy Finance: Green Banking Strategies for Local Governments

Presented on
US Environmental Protection Agency Webinar
Oct 1, 2018

Tom Deyo, CEO, Montgomery County Green Bank



### Who We Are

#### Montgomery County Green Bank (MCGB)

- The nation's FIRST County-level green bank, designated in July 2016, chartered by the County in 2015
- Not a Bank, a Fund.
- Independent, 501(c)3 non-profit corporation; 11 member board (2 County members)
- Capital opportunity of \$14 million (County settlement from Pepco-Exelon merger)



## What are we trying to do?

In partnership with private capital, grow the clean energy market **for all** in Montgomery County, Maryland.

#### Cascade of results:

```
More EE / RE¹ Capital in the market =

More EE / RE Projects and Jobs =

Greater Energy Savings =

Better Financial Security =

Less Energy Demand =

Lower Greenhouse Gas Emissions
```



## How Do We Approach Our Work?



Find gaps in the existing market for private sector financing products (e.g., loans) offered to property owners for energy efficiency/renewable energy projects.



Partner with private lenders to co-invest Green Bank capital, reducing their risk in order to attract their capital into the market. Target 5:1 leverage of Montgomery County Green Bank capital. Bring more attractive and affordable products to market.



Achieve market transformation when private lenders become comfortable with investing in these projects and no longer need the green bank.



Meet key goals of leveraging our dollars at 5:1, lowering county's green house gas emission, reaching lower income households and multifamily communities, and generate revenue to sustain operations.



### Can a local green bank work?

#### ☐ Local is a benefit – everything is local:

- Understand and connect to local energy sector issues
- Define products that meet specific gaps
- Build partnerships that bring new resources
- Support local goals: greenhouse gas reduction goals, jobs, business strength, and equity

#### ☐ Being local does not mean being alone - green banks have network

- Knowledge exchange
- Resources
- Peer mentoring

#### □Scale – many different considerations

- Production is important
- Scale of connections on energy efficiency and clean energy
- Scale of Partnerships bring new players into markets
- Scale on voice identify issues and get parties focuses on a response



# Putting the Green Bank Idea Into Practice



## Product Development Cycle

#### Insights

- Not over at launch
- Constant attention

#### 6. Marketing

- Training
- Outreach

## 1. Market Due Diligence

- Utilities
- Contractor
- Lenders
- Customers

#### Insights:

- Identify key terms
- Starts relationships
- Identifies dead ends

## 2. Product Framing

- Quality Control
- Operational Burden
- Lender Package –
   Process, Terms,
   Structure

#### Insights:

- Methods narrowed
- Means assessed
- Marketing focused

#### Insights:

- Takes more time
- Fallout happens
- Excitement fills fallout

#### 5. Closing

- Lender Agreement
- ContractorAgreements

#### Insights:

- Real partners found
- Builds rapport
- Sets up for long-term

## 4. Product Revision/ Testing

- Lender Targets
- Contractor Buy-in

## 3. Product Marketing / Feedback

- Lenders
- Contractors

#### Insights:

- Builds real interest
- Develops partners
- Shows collaboration



## First Product Due Diligence

#### Commercial and Industrial Sector

- County's Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) serves larger investments - \$250,000 and above
- Potomac Electric Power Company's (Pepco's) Small Business Advance
   Program serves smaller businesses with grants and 0% financing.
- Contractors identified gap in financing for medium size businesses between Pepco Small Business Advance C-PACE financing programs.
- Lenders are not proactive in this market and do not desire to underwrite the energy savings.



### First Product:

#### Commercial Loan for Energy Efficiency and Renewables (CLEER)

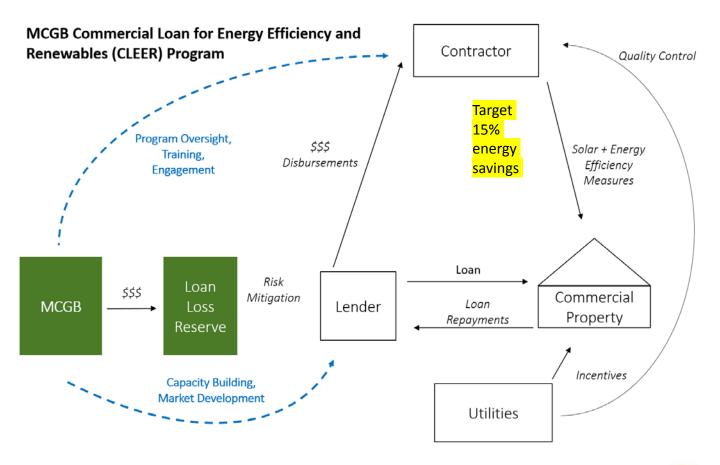
- Commercial buildings and businesses (include nonprofit, multifamily properties)
- Scope of work energy efficiency, Co-Gen, Solar Photovoltaic, Energy Storage, water conservation
- Loan Loss Reserve Structure
- Revere Bank (local) and Ascentium Capital (national) lenders in pilot
- Contractors are on Pepco list for Commercial and Industrial Program
- Loans generally between \$10,000 to \$250,000
- 100% financing for retrofits
- Up to 12 years helps match savings to loan payment
- Not Secured by Property
- Lower rates
- Customer underwritten for credit and not energy savings



### First Product – How It Works

#### Simple structure:

- MCGB stands behind lender for losses
- MCGB authorizes contractors for program
- Lenders make loans on specific energy efficiency and renewable scopes of work
- Borrowers approved on credit; but savings support payments
- MCGB provides oversight





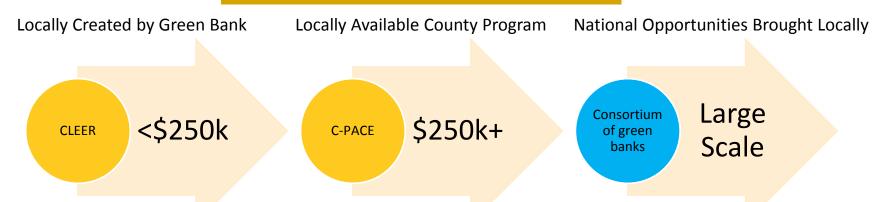
## Keys to Effort

- Outreach / Relationship Building Getting insights of partners early and repeatedly
- Network Providing wisdom, examples, and materials to learn and adapt
- Alignment Finding lenders with an interest and drive to be a part of the effort and understanding this is a pilot that will need to adapt
- Patience Set aggressive timeline and keep it in mind, but be flexible to amend but not lose sight



## Creating a Product Continuum using Own, Government, and National Products

#### Commercial and Industrial Sector





## Financial Products in the Pipeline

#### **Residential Energy Efficiency and Renewables**

- Homeowners throughout County
- Focus on low and moderate income households

#### **Community Solar**

- Supports market and low and moderate income communities
- Various models under review

#### **Affordable Rental**

- Low and moderate income communities
- Technical assistance support being evaluated



## Challenges For Standing up a Green Bank

#### Capital

Key to effort.
Best source
offers few
requirements

#### Infrastructure

Emerging sector with many operational structures. But sharing is helping to create efficiencies

#### Sustainability

Achieving returns that can support operations. Takes time to build revenue streams, especially when taking risk positions at less than risk-based returns. Need operational subsidies for at least 3 years

## Market Assumptions

Presenting as an investor when market looking for subsidy

#### Models

Early in green bank movement offers models for replication but must know models are not long-time tested. BUT, emerging network is a freely sharing one



### Info on Local Green Bank Model

Summary documents of discussion at regional meeting in June 2018 on local green banks:

- 1) The Green Bank Model Accelerating Local Clean Energy Investments
- 2) Getting Your Green Bank off the Ground: Products, Funding and Operational Approaches

**Read the Papers Online** 

## **Thank You**



### Contact

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**Montgomery County Green Bank** 

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## Question and Answer Session



## Today's Speakers



- Emma Zinsmeister, Senior Community Programs Specialist
   U.S. EPA State and Local Energy and Environment Program
- Jeff Schub, Executive Director
   Coalition for Green Capital
- Bryan Garcia, President & Chief Executive Officer
   Connecticut Green Bank
- Tom Deyo, Chief Executive Officer
   Montgomery County Green Bank



## Connect with the State and Local Energy and Environment Program



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