

**EPA Environmental Financial Advisory Board (EFAB)
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Private Capital Mobilization Series
Event: Live Panel Discussion Webinar (first in the series)
Mobilizing Private Capital for NetZero Buildings
July 30, 2024**

Moderator



Susan Leeds, former NYC Clean Energy Efficiency Corporation (NYCEEC)

Susan Leeds provides strategic consulting to state and local governments, non-profits and private businesses in energy efficiency financing and the building decarbonization space. She is the founding CEO emeritus of NYCEEC where she launched, built and managed all aspects of the organization from its inception in 2011 through 2018. Her CEO responsibilities focused on business development, loan originations, communications and development. Susan now specializes in green bank formation and management, and in developing financing solutions to mitigate climate change. Susan's career includes many years in capital markets and in the environmental advocacy and non-profit sectors. She held executive positions in mortgage-backed securities, financial institutions banking and public finance at Deutsche Bank, GE Capital and Prudential. Susan was a senior finance fellow at the Natural Resources Defense Council where she managed NRDC's financial sector advocacy with the goal of directing capital towards energy efficiency and clean energy solutions. Susan received an MBA in finance from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and a BA from the University of Pennsylvania.

Panelists



Stuart Kaplow, Green Building Attorney

Stuart Kaplow is an environmental and sustainability attorney based in Maryland. Kaplow represents a broad breadth of business interests across the country, and increasingly internationally, in a varied real estate and environmental law practice, with focused experience in green building and sustainability. Kaplow was selected by the American Bar Association as one of ten "Legal Rebels" for his work in creating and advancing the emergent body of law that is green building and sustainability law. Lexblog

called him “the Godfather of green building law”. He publishes the www.greenbuildinglawupdate.com blog, a widely read blog for the entire environmental industrial complex (not just for lawyers). Kaplow recently authored a law review article “Can Green Building Law Save the Planet?” published in the *Journal Of Land And Development*.



Esther Toporovsky, Executive Director, Community Sustainability Partners (CSP)

Esther Toporovsky serves as Executive Director of Community Sustainability Partners, a non-profit organization dedicated to sustainable community development. Formally, Esther served as Executive Vice President at The Housing Partnership. Esther created a subsidiary, HP Sustainability, as an arm of Housing Partnership to work directly with developer partners, public agencies, and Banks to help them meet ambitious climate goals in New York. Esther previously served as the Senior Program Director for National Initiatives for Enterprise Green Communities at Enterprise Community Partners. Throughout her tenure with Enterprise, she led green capital and financing initiatives for community development and worked directly with structured finance, lending and asset management to incorporate sustainability, resilience, and solar solutions into affordable housing projects across the country. Esther earned an M.S. in Urban Policy and Management, specializing in Community Development and Real Estate Finance from Milano, the New School University, and received a B.A. and certificate in Environmental Studies from Eugene Lang College and Columbia University.



Michael Freedman-Schnapp, Managing Director, Forsyth Street Advisors

Michael Freedman-Schnapp is a Managing Director at Forsyth Street Advisors, serving mission-driven organizations that create and preserve affordable housing, reinvest in disinvested communities, and promote clean energy. Clients include impact investment, community development, and clean energy finance. He has worked with a wide variety of lending organizations focused on accelerating the deployment of clean energy solutions, with a special focus on low-to-moderate income communities. He helped guide the Connecticut Green Bank’s spin-out of Inclusive Prosperity Capital, the structuring of the New York Green Bank’s Community Decarbonization Fund, and served as financial advisor to

NYCEEC, the country's first local green bank. He has also assisted the cities of Nashville and Baltimore, Habitat for Humanity International, and Grounded Solutions Network in launching major affordable housing finance initiatives. Michael holds a Master of Urban Planning from the NYU Wagner School and a B.A. in Archaeology from the University of Virginia.



Guy Van Syckle, Director, HASI (NYSE: HASI)

Guy Van Syckle is a Director at sustainable infrastructure investor HASI where he helps to fund solar, wind, storage, energy efficiency, transportation, low carbon fuels, and industrial decarbonization projects across the US. Over the past decade, he has helped structure and fund billions of dollars of investments into climate solutions deployed by leading project developers for the benefit of a spectrum of governmental, commercial, industrial, and residential customers. Guy helped develop HASI's environmental impact reporting methodology which provides stakeholders detail on the locational marginal emissions and water impact of all investments per \$1,000 invested. Guy is a Chartered Financial Analyst, an Adjunct Professor at Johns Hopkins, and helps run the Clean Energy Leadership Institute. Guy graduated with Honors with a B.A. in Global Environmental Change and Sustainability from Johns Hopkins University.



Chrissa Pagitsas, Principal, Pagitsas Advisors

Chrissa is a strategic advisor to senior executives and boards on business transformation through ESG, sustainability and green financing. She has more than two decades of experience across consulting and finance focused on sustainability and clean energy. Market transforming initiatives include building the world's largest Green Bonds program from zero to \$51 billion portfolio at Fannie Mae, developing the US EPA ENERGY STAR® 1-100 Score and Certification for multi-family housing, and Fannie Mae's. Chrissa was named a "Global Green Bond Champion" by the Climate Bonds Initiative and received a Leadership Award from the US Green Building Council. She is the author of "Chief Sustainability Officers at Work," which details how 25 CSOs and Heads of ESG at Fortune 500 companies and global brands are moving from commitments to tangible and measurable results.