# Innovations in Solar Financing for Non-Profits and Affordable Housing

CESA Workshop on Deploying Solar in Public and Affordable Housing



Bracken Hendricks CEO, Urban Ingenuity October 17, 2017

# **Ingenuity Solar Platform:** The Team



# NHT-Enterprise.

<u>Urban Ingenuity:</u> Project oversight, Legal, Energy & Financial Underwriting **National Housing Trust:** Lead developer, Debt origination, Strong balance sheet



#### The DC Solar For All Pilot:

- ✓ Committed \$1.5M Grant
- ✓ Generating 1MW free solar
- ✓ Cuts bills 50% in 400+ homes
- ✓ Builds scalable platform
- √ \$50M in national investment

## **Market Opportunity:** Non-Profit Solar

#### Market Barriers: Non-Profit Solar & Affordable Housing

- X No Tax Appetite: Can't monetize solar tax incentives
- x Small Size: Small individual projects often across portfolios
- x Complex Ownership: Many owners & special purpose entities
- X Weak Credit Quality: Unconventional cash flows & credit profiles

#### **Solutions:** Building a Resilient Community Solar Platform

- ✓ Credit Enhancement: Impact PRI with financial & mission returns
- ✓ Aggregation: Package scaled project pools with channel partners.
- ✓ **Standardization:** Streamline ownership, standard documentation
- ✓ Asset Management: Uniform high-quality management of projects
- ✓ Clear Customer Benefit: Transparency, control & new cash flows



# **Pilot Project:** Multifamily Affordable Housing

**Bldg. Type:** Affordable Multifamily Housing

**Owner:** Non-Profit Developer (Committed)

**System size:** 1 MW

**Location:** Washington D.C.

**Site:** Distributed Portfolio (~20 Buildings)

**PPA Term:** 15 Years at \$0.06/kWh (50% savings)

**PRI Scope:** \$1M (10 Year, 3% Yield, DSCR = 2.0)

Capital Investment Structure			
Tax Equity	\$1,200,000		
Cash Equity	\$250,000		
Traditional Debt	\$1,100,000		
PRI Debt (3% / 10 Year)	\$1,000,000		
System Cost	\$3,550,000		





# Community Benefits: The "Impact ROI"



Impact Return on Investment		
Initial Investment	(\$1,000,000)	
Return on Investment (3% yield)	\$1,172,305	
Community Benefits (15 yrs)	\$1,444,946	
Tenant Energy Bill Savings (50%)	\$1,158,446	
Payments to Mission Based Host	\$286,500	
Carbon Emission Reduction (25 yrs)	24,140	
4,700 cars or 25,800 acres forest	Tons CO <sup>2</sup>	

- ✓ Full return of principal with 3% interest
- ✓ Increased housing affordability
- ✓ Enhanced climate resilience
- ✓ Lower NOx, SOx & Particulate



## **PACE for Solar and Resilience: Case Study**

#### **Solving to the Challenge:**

- 4% LIHTC Financing
  - Shrinking Tax Equity
  - Declining Subsidies
  - = Capital Gaps !!!

#### **Opportunity for Innovation:**

- Large solar PV
- Tenant community solar
- Battery storage
- Green building ECMs







# PACE in the Capital Stack: Affordable Rehab

	Uses
Acquisition	\$16,000,000
Hard Costs	\$29,000,000
Soft Costs	\$7,000,000
<b>Total Costs</b>	\$52,000,000

Sources	
LIHTC (4%)	\$22,000,000
Tax-Exempt Mortgage	\$18,000,000
Local Govt. Soft Debt	\$10,000,000
<b>Total Sources</b>	\$50,000,000
Gap	\$2,000,000

#### Options for addressing a \$2M gap...

- **1. Do Nothing:** *Project stalls or dies*
- 2. Owner's Equity: High opportunity costs
- 3. Value Engineering: Lock in high operating costs



4. Tax-Exempt PACE: Increase NOI & Displace equity



#### PACE in the Capital Stack: Increasing NOI

#### **Project Basics**

Gap filled \$2,000,000

+ 350 kW solar \$1,000,000

Total PACE = \$3,000,000

PACE improves project & property value

Average Annual Cash Flow		
Utility Savings	\$110,000	
O&M Savings	\$80,000	
Solar (Energy + RECs)	\$120,000	
Total Savings	\$310,000	
PACE Payments	-\$240,000	
Net Cash Flow	\$70,000	

\$190K in annual savings offsets debt service for \$2M+ in PACE Self financing \$1M more in solar PV further improves cash flow



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Tax-Exempt Mortgage	\$18,000,000	
Local Govt. Soft Debt	\$10,000,000	
PACE	\$3,000,000	
<b>Total Sources</b>	\$53,000,000	

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# **PACE in the Capital Stack:** Displacing Equity

	Self-Funded	PACE
Investment by Property Owner	\$3,000,000	\$0.00
Annual Benefits	\$310,000	\$310,000
Annual PACE Payment	\$0.00	\$(240,000)
Net Benefit Year 1	\$(2,690,000)	\$70,000
Annual Net Benefit Years 2-20	\$310,000	\$70,000
5-year NPV of Cash Flows (@ 6% discount rate)	\$(1,524,000)	\$295,000
10-year NPV of Cash Flows (@ 6% discount rate)	\$(549,000)	\$515,000
5-year IRR	-19%	Infinite
10-year IRR	1%	Infinite

PACE is a valuable structure for multi-family housing!



#### Thank you!

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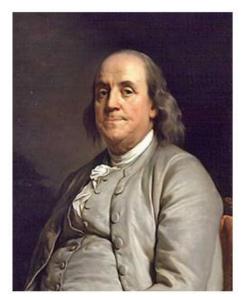
#### PACE: A New Use for an Old Concept





**DC PACE** is the District's only clean energy financing program for building upgrades.

<u>Urban Ingenuity</u> is the DC PACE program administrator, under contract to DOEE

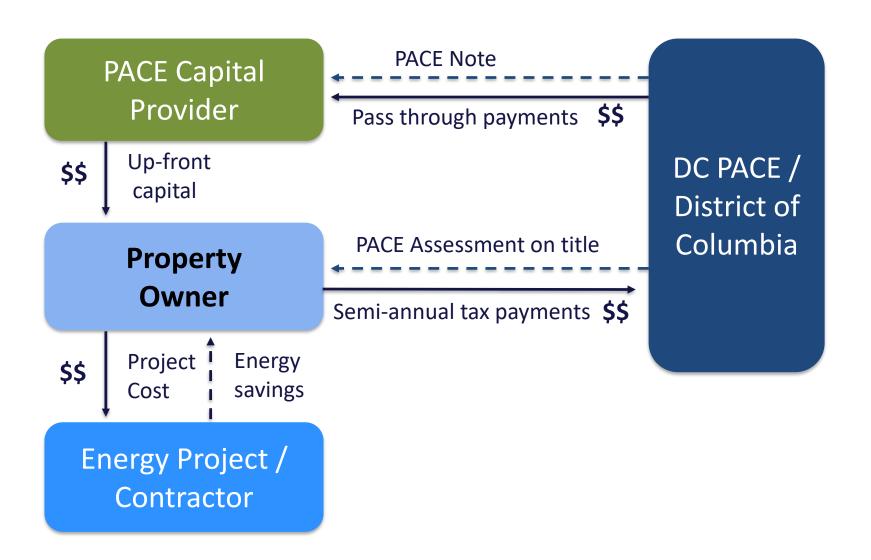


Philadelphia first used this mechanism for an opt-In Fire District in 1736

#### **About Property Assessed Clean Energy**

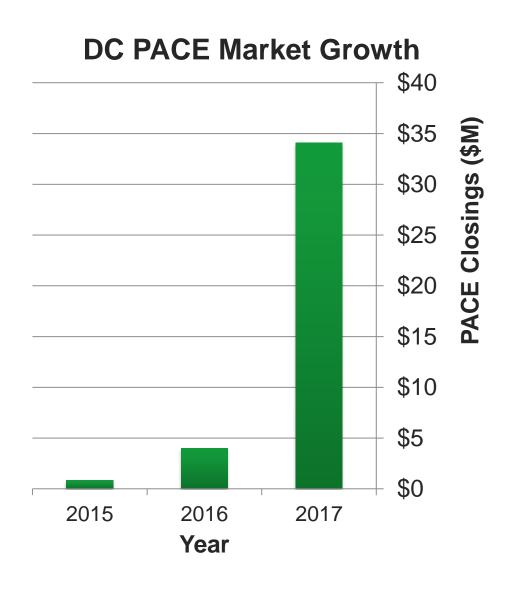
- Zero Dollars Out-of-Pocket: PACE provides property owners with up to 100% financing for energy and water upgrades at long (15 - 20 year) terms
- NOI Positive: Owners realize savings immediately, and use those savings to pay back the cost of the measures through a special assessment that is placed on the property
- Off-Balance Sheet: Extend the capital budget and finance comprehensive projects with potentially off-balance sheet financing PACE is not conventional debt

#### How it works: PACE Transaction Structure





#### DC: Innovations in Energy Finance



# Milestones & Building Blocks:

- First PACE for LIHTC
- First HUD approval of PACE
- First tax-exempt PACE
- ✓ Green Bank
- ✓ Solar for All
- ✓ Housing Bonds & IRBs

## **How It Works:** *The Solar Platform*

