

CleanEnergy
States Alliance

Community Solar + Resilience Hub in Duluth, Minnesota

July 27, 2023

www.cesa.org

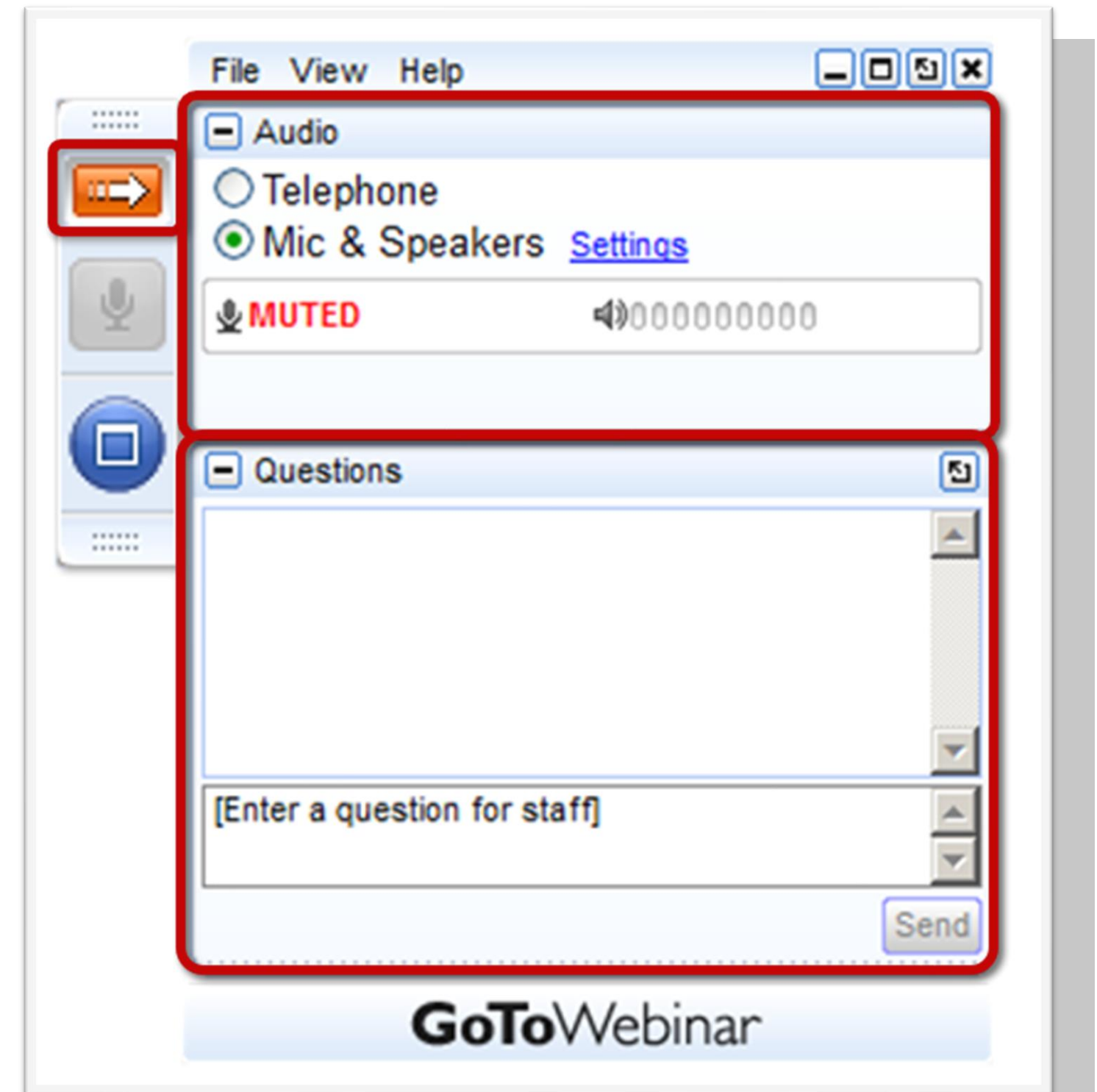


Webinar Logistics

Use the orange arrow to open and close your control panel

Submit questions and comments via the Questions panel

This webinar is being recorded. We will email you a webinar recording within 48 hours. This webinar will be posted on CESA's website at www.cesa.org/webinars





Celebrating 20 Years of State Leadership



The Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) is a national, nonprofit coalition of public agencies and organizations working together to advance clean energy.

CESA members—mostly state agencies—include many of the most innovative, successful, and influential public funders of clean energy initiatives in the country.

CleanEnergy States Alliance

www.cesa.org



GOVERNOR'S
Energy Office



Maryland
Energy
Administration



NYSERDA



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation



Washington State
Department of
Commerce



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



COLORADO
Energy Office



INCLUSIVE
PROSPERITY CAPITAL

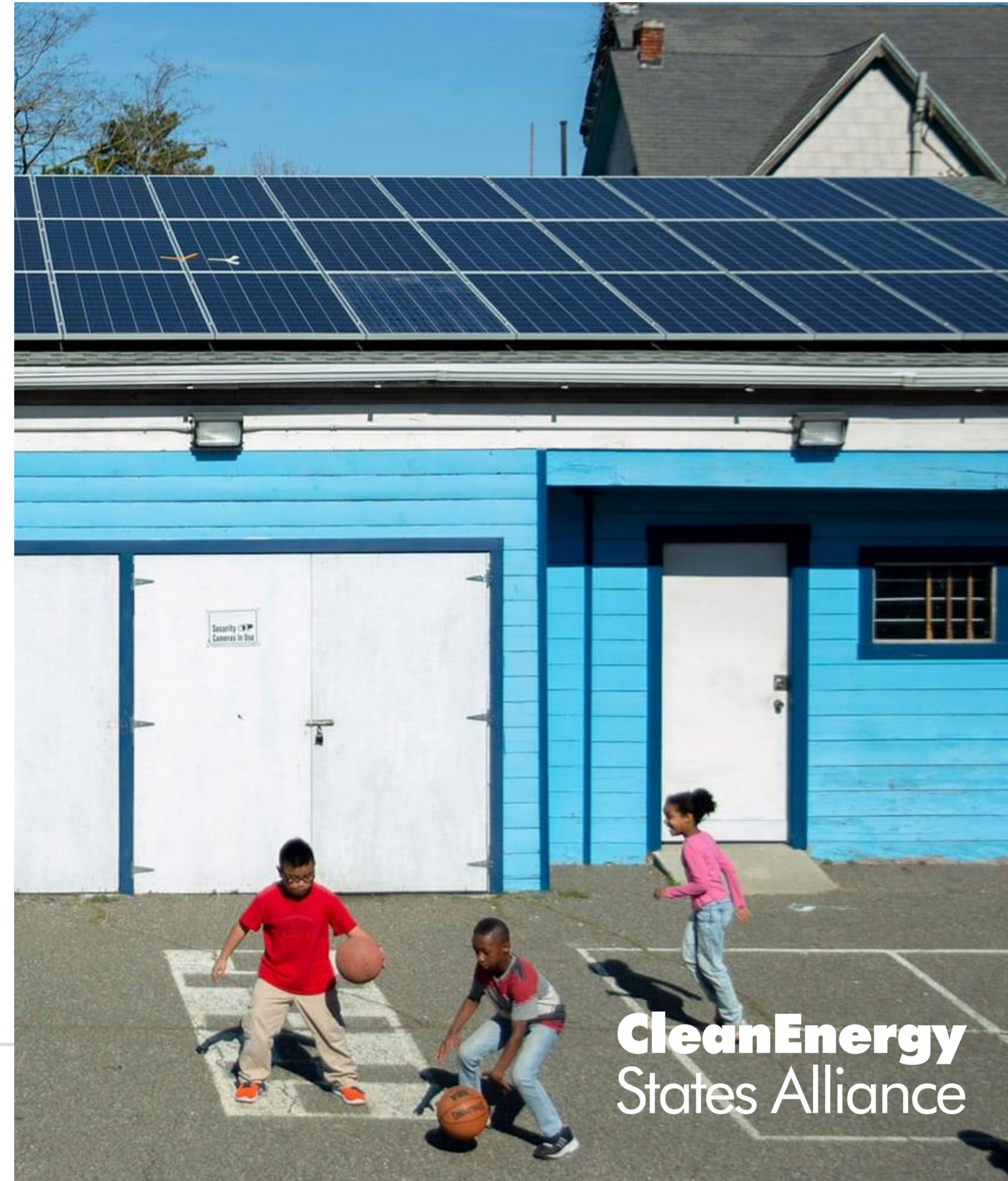


Solar with Justice: Connecting States and Communities

Identifying models for how state energy agencies and community-based organizations can collaborate more effectively to expand access to solar.



www.cesa.org/projects/solar-with-justice

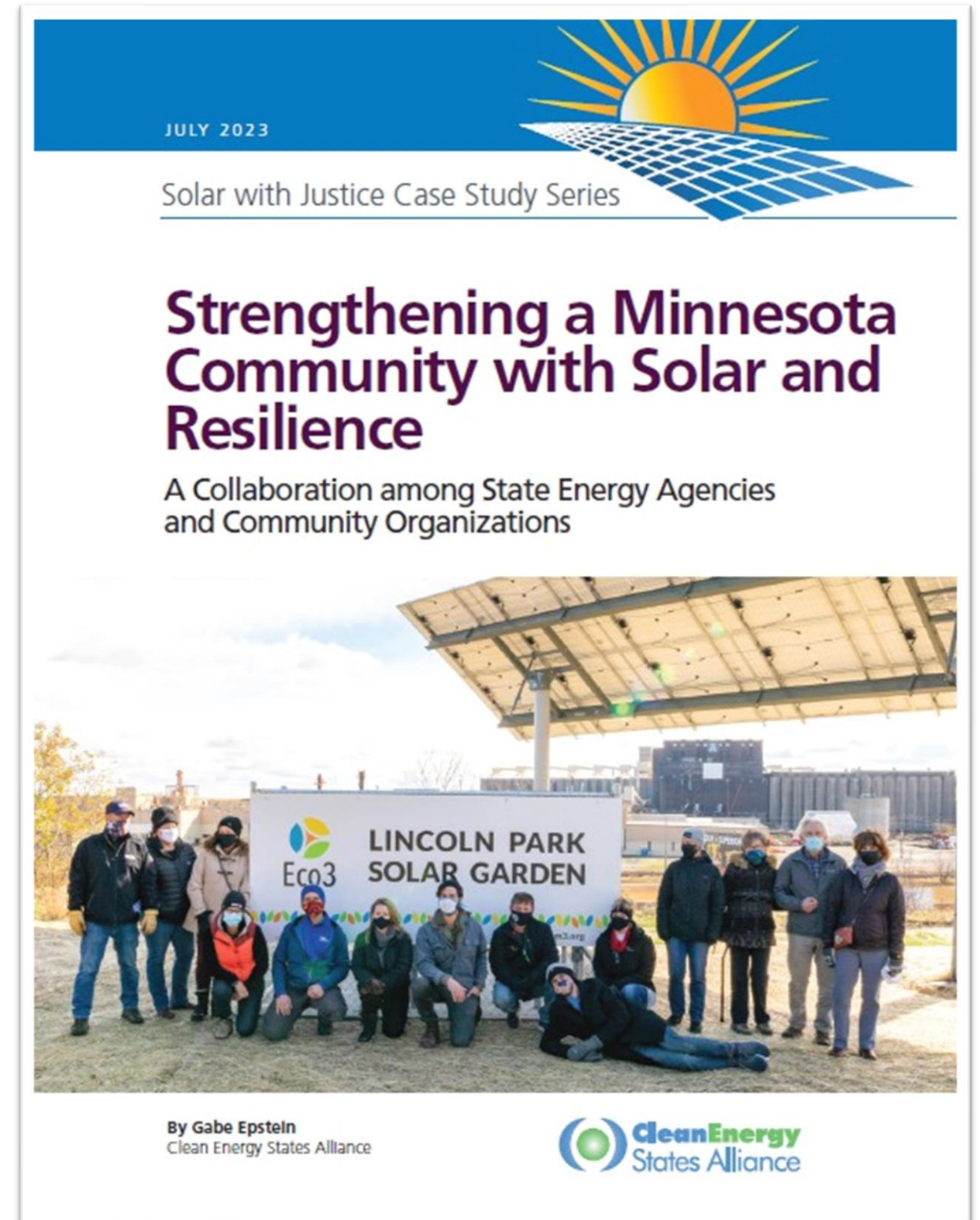


CleanEnergy
States Alliance

Strengthening a Minnesota Community with Solar and Resilience

July 2023

By Gabe Epstein, Clean Energy States Alliance



Webinar Speakers



Gabe Epstein
Project Associate
Clean Energy States Alliance



Jodi Slick
Founder & CEO
Ecolibrium3





gabe@cleanegroup.org



www.cesa.org



Upcoming Webinar

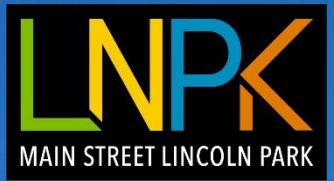
Can Virtual Power Plants Replace Peaker Plants? A Conversation with CEG and Brattle Group (8/3)

Read more and register at www.cesa.org/webinars



Eco3

Jodi Slick, Founder and CEO
Jodi@ecolibrium3.org



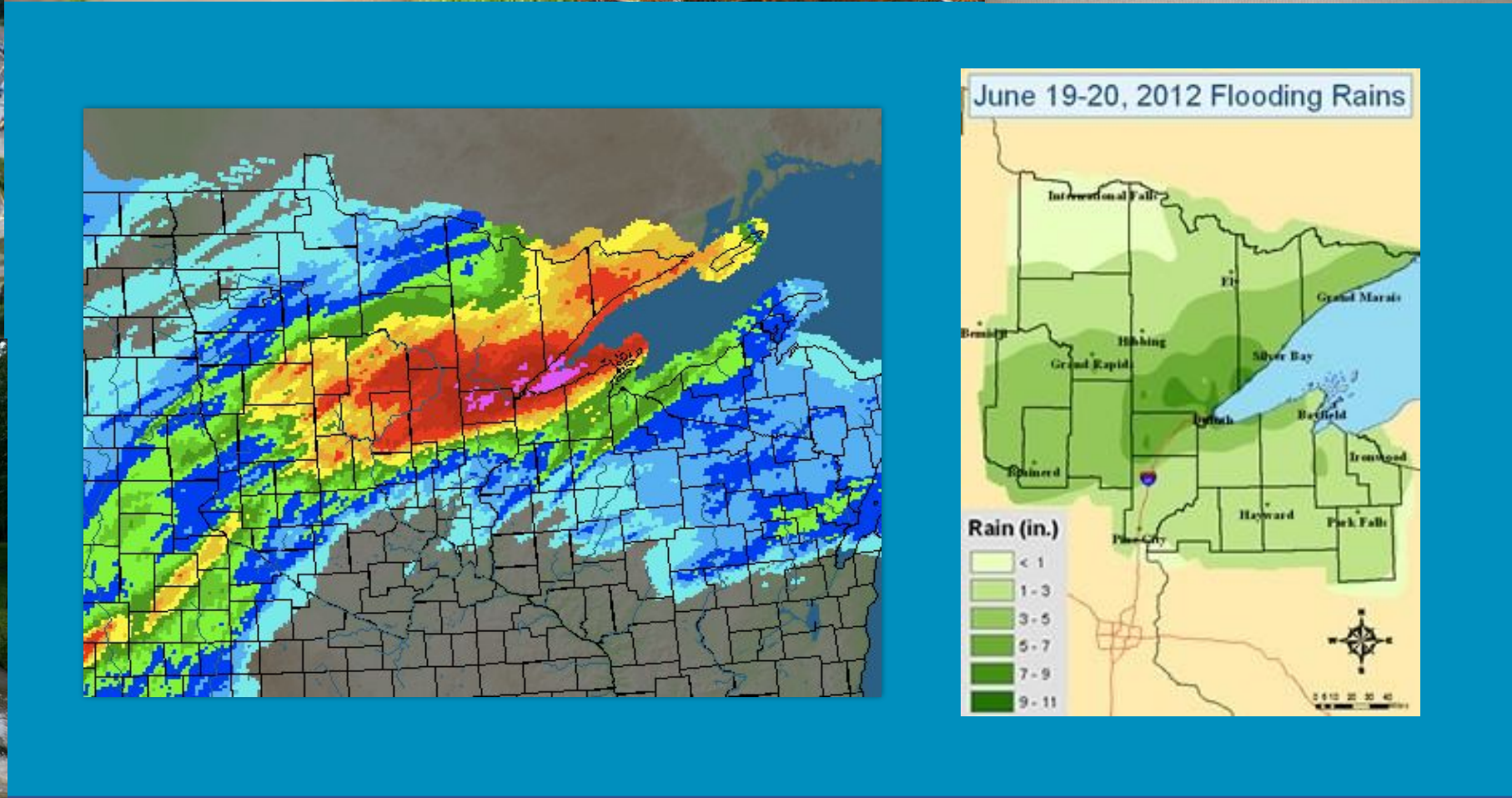
Eco3 ENERGY

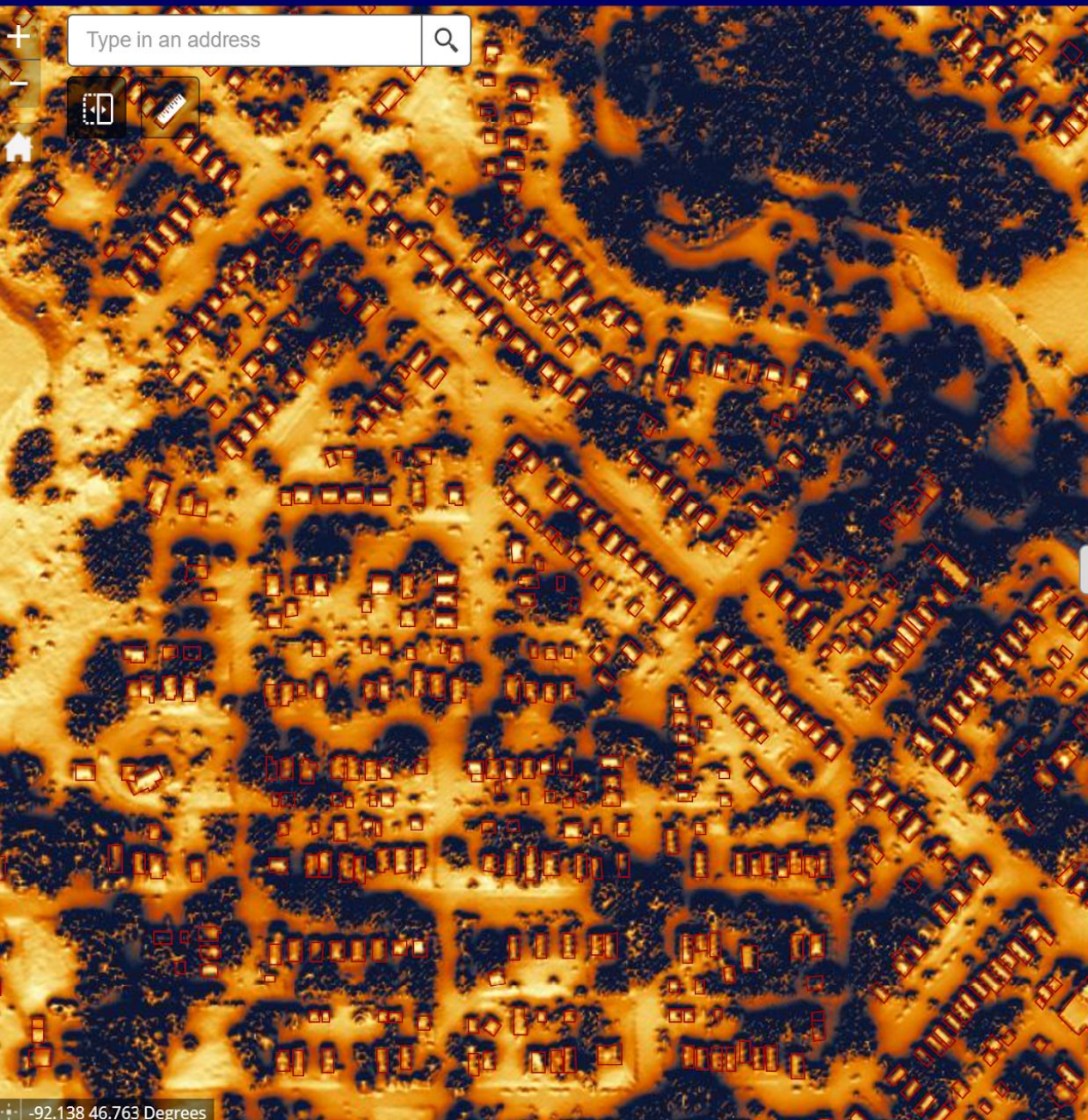




Eco3 ENERGY









Eco3 ENERGY







OUR STORY

Clean energy produced by Eco3's Lincoln Park Solar Garden benefits Duluth residents experiencing energy poverty and financial hardship.

Developed by Ecolibrium3, a Lincoln Park-based nonprofit, this project demonstrates community solutions at the intersection of energy, equity, and economic vitality.

Power generated supports Eco3's Community Energy Fund and transitional housing for veterans.



www.ecolibrium3.org
218 | 336 - 1038

OUR PARTNERS



This project was funded in part by Minnesota Power.



THE LEFT
COAST FUND



LSC
DULUTH



Kwik Trip

Pachel Foundation

Sheet Metal Solutions

St. Luke's

Ursa Minor Brewing

Young & Associates Insurance

Bent Paddle Brewing Co.
Bernick's of Duluth
Cartier Agency, Inc.
Castle Danger Brewing
Clean Energy Resource Teams
Community Action Duluth
Duluth Climate and Energy Network
Duluth Grill Family of Restaurants
Duluth Pottery
Grandma's Saloon and Grill

Hotel Pikku
Johnson Insurance Consultants
Love Creamery
Mielke Electric
North Shore Bank
Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Duluth - Climate Action Team
U.S. Bank
Wagner Zaun Architecture
The Witraks



AmeriCorps



Positions Available
Now!
Full-time & Summer





[About Us](#) ▾

[What We're Doing](#) ▾

[How We Can Help You](#) ▾

[PPE Store](#)

[Contact Us](#)



[DONATE](#)

A wide-angle photograph of the Duluth cityscape, showing various buildings and a waterfront with a rocky shore in the foreground. The text "Duluth Citizens' Climate Action Plan" is overlaid in white on the image.

Duluth Citizens' Climate Action Plan

[Home](#)

[About](#)

[Take Action](#) ▾

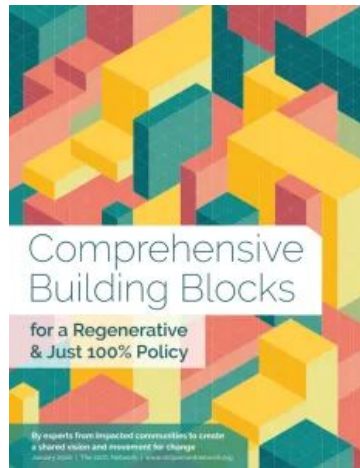
[Community Initiatives](#)

[Share](#)

[Collective Impact](#)

[Glossary](#)

Process



Interviews with 20 local experts- Dozens of meetings

Legacy House



Eco3 VISTA

This November,
Ecolibrium3
challenges you to
#LiveLikeAVISTA.



Lincoln Park

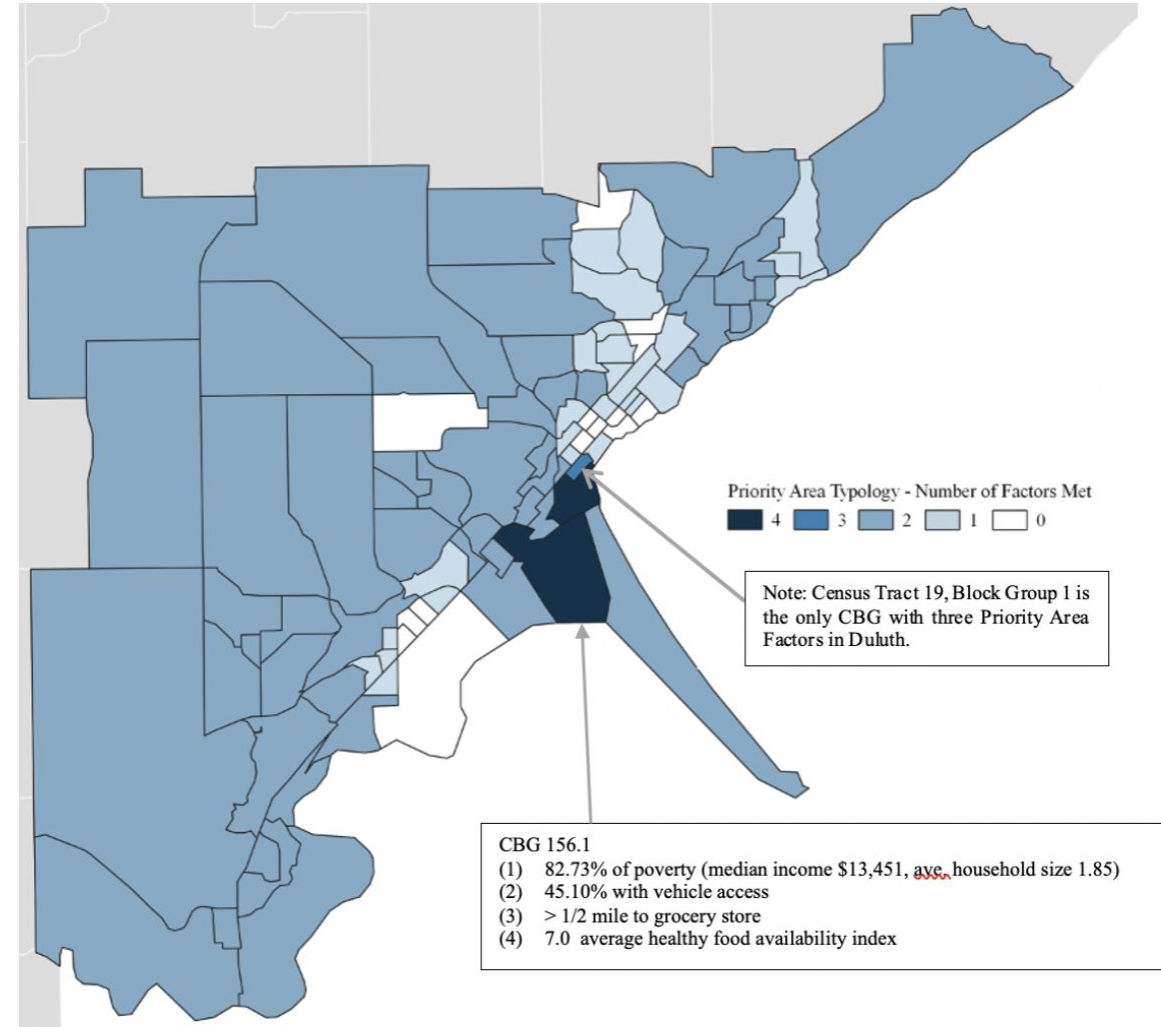
Environmental justice in a frontline community

- Frontline communities are those experiencing the most immediate and worst impacts of climate change
- Frontline community groups are those with a primary mission to represent and serve these people, improving living situations by addressing the root causes of oppression and injustice, economic disadvantage, and environmental harm.



Lincoln Park 156

- ~2,740 people
- \$30,446 Median Household Income (vs. \$52,463 in Duluth)
- 27% of 18-64 year-olds have a disability (vs. 11% in Duluth)
- Lowest 1/2% of at-birth life expectancy in all of Minnesota
- >10 year less life expectancy than in other census tracts in Duluth



LNPK 156 - Built Environment

- 71% residents report lack of affordable housing (vs. 53% in region)
- 20% residents report barriers to keeping housing (vs. 7% in region)
- >300 homes with lead water service lines

Source: Bridge to Health Survey



LNPK 156 - Food and Nutrition

- 41% report barrier to getting food (vs. 22% in region)
- 57% report cost is a barrier
- 39% shop convenience or gas station 1+ times per week
- 26% have 5+ servings of fruit and vegetables yesterday
- 69% overweight (vs. 2030 Health Priority Goal of 36%)
- High Priority Food Area (<185% poverty, <45% vehicle access, >1/2 mile to grocery store, very low access to food stores with healthy food)
- Lincoln Park has no grocery store

Sources: Bridge to Health Survey, American Community Survey 2019 5-year estimate



LNPK 156 - Social Connectedness

- 55% of residents report inadequate internet access for expense or lack of skills (higher than region)
- 20% often or always feel isolation or loneliness (vs. 11% in region)
- 41% feel NO sense of belonging or social connectedness
- 42% depression (vs. 27% region)
- 31% would seek mental health care if available
- 13% only sometimes or hardly ever have transportation to see relatives or friends (vs. 4% in region)

Source: Bridge to Health Survey





What is a resilience hub?

According to the Urban Sustainability Directors Network:

“Resilience Hubs are community-serving facilities augmented to:

1. Support residents, and 2. Coordinate resource distribution and services before, during, or after a natural hazard event.

They leverage established, trusted, and community-managed facilities that are used year-round as neighborhood centers for community-building.

Designed well, Resilience Hubs can equitably enhance community resilience while reducing GHG emissions and improving local quality of life.

Moreover, Resilience Hubs provide an opportunity to build local community power and leadership.”

Lincoln Park Resilience Hub

Former Lincoln Park Community Center

11,200 sf 2-story community center attached via skywalks to two public housing buildings (14-floors each) and a dining hub.



Lincoln Park Resilience Hub

2400 sf dining pod, 1000 sf serving kitchen, 500 sf hall/janitorial/bathrooms



Lincoln Park Resilience Hub

Construction for the warming shelter



Lincoln Park Resilience Hub

- Expanded food, health, digital and resource access for low-to-moderate income community residents in Lincoln Park
- Develop shared-spaces resource center with multiple agencies to increase access to existing programs and resources
- Reimagine the space to incorporate programs/resources missing in Lincoln Park
- Develop complementary activities that optimize the use of the facility year-round
- Provide community solutions that demonstrate sustainability and build community resilience during times of disaster



Lincoln Park Resilience Hub Vision

- Winter warming shelter, summer cooling shelter
- BIPOC-led organizational space
- Computer lab for digital access
- Financial, tax, housing, job navigation
- Energy efficiency and service referrals
- Summer youth programming
- Small footprint grocery store
- Food processing and small food-based entrepreneur development
- Micro-mobility hub
- Power and access resilience in case of disaster or grid outage
- Kitchen/dining space for disaster relief and response

Just some of our Hub partners:



BIRDSEYE VIEW



UNIVERSAL DESIGN
Single experience without adaptation



INCLUSIVE DESIGN
Multiple solutions for equitable outcome

THE WORKPLACE NEEDS **FOUR ESSENTIAL SPACE TYPES** TO SUPPORT DIFFERENT KINDS OF WORK:

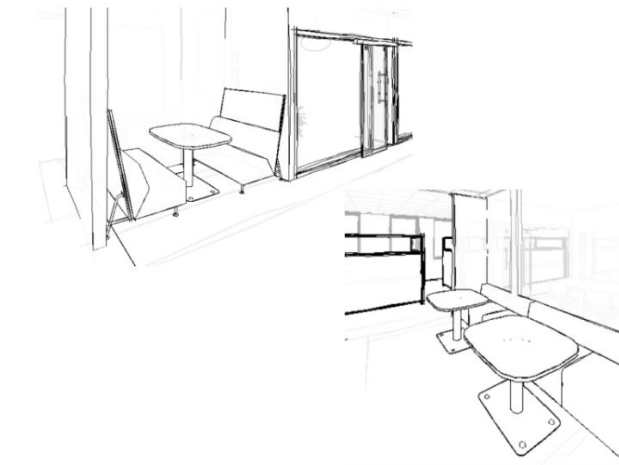
- **PERSONAL SPACES:** A RANGE OF SPACES BALANCING THE NEEDS OF "ME" AND "WE" GIVES PEOPLE CONTROL OVER THEIR PRIVACY AND COMFORT.
- **COLLABORATION SPACES:** FLEXIBLE SETTINGS, MOBILE TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT IN-PERSON AND DISTRIBUTED TEAMS OF ALL SIZES.
- **SOCIAL SPACES:** AN INTENTIONAL FLEXIBLE MIX OF SHARED AND INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCES FOSTER A SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND BELONGING.
- **LEARNING SPACES:** HIGH-PERFORMING, ADAPTABLE SPACES DELIVER INTEGRATED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR IN-PERSON AND DISTRIBUTED GROUPS.

Simple Layouts with Orderly Variation

BIOPHILIC FEATURES



OPEN FLEX SPACE

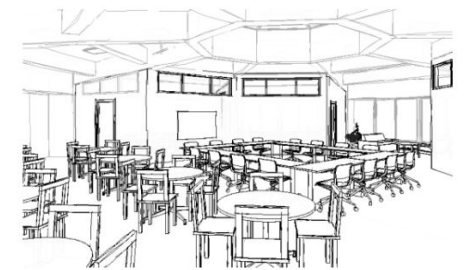
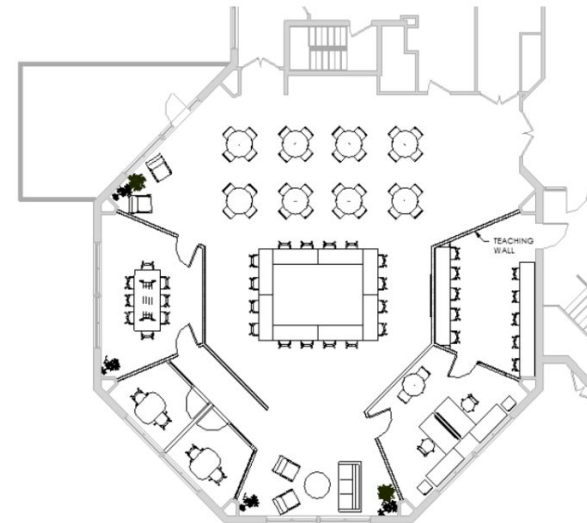


FEATURED DESIGN ELEMENTS:

- SPACE TO SIT SHOULDER TO SHOULDER
- MULTIPLE SEATING OPTIONS
- SOFT CORNERS FOR EASE OF ACCESS
- NEARBY OPTIONS FOR FACE-TO-FACE INTERACTIONS



HUB FLOOR PLAN



Lincoln Park Resilience Hub

In process:

- **CDBG:** Accessible entrance (half story lift and ADA power doors)
- **DEED:** Hub reconstruction and grocery store buildout
- **USDA:** Initial grocery store inventory, neighborhood outreach

Completed:

- **Clean Energy Group** and **CERTs:** feasibility study for resilient power system

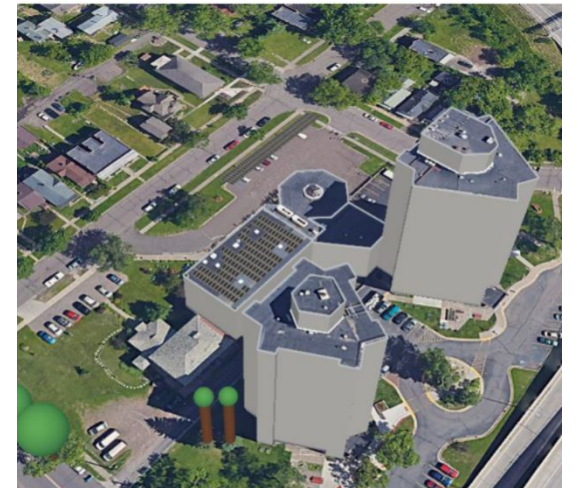
Resilient Power Feasibility Analysis

3rd St.
MN 55806

ent Power
bility Analysis

inary Results

Microgrid Solutions



Results

Summary Results

- **Solar Only** delivers utility savings by offsetting 17% of electricity needs with renewable energy but does not provide any resilience.
- **Solar & Battery** provides significant resilience to the facility during the summer months when the facility will be acting as a Cooling Center.

	Solar Only	Solar & Battery
Solar	57 kW	57 kW
Battery	--	125 kW / 440 kWh
Generator	--	--
Financial		
Capital Cost	\$165,984	\$574,275
Y1 Utility Savings & Incentives	\$4,818	\$5,437
Sustainability		
Renewable Generation (kWh)	52,798	52,798
Usage offset by renewables	17%	17%
Carbon Offset (metric tons)	37	37
Resilience		
Resilient Load Support (summer)	--	26 hours minimum 58 hours typical
Threshold Value of Resilience	--	\$19,400

Battery



The battery is selected to provide at least 26 hours of backup power during the summer months.

Solar

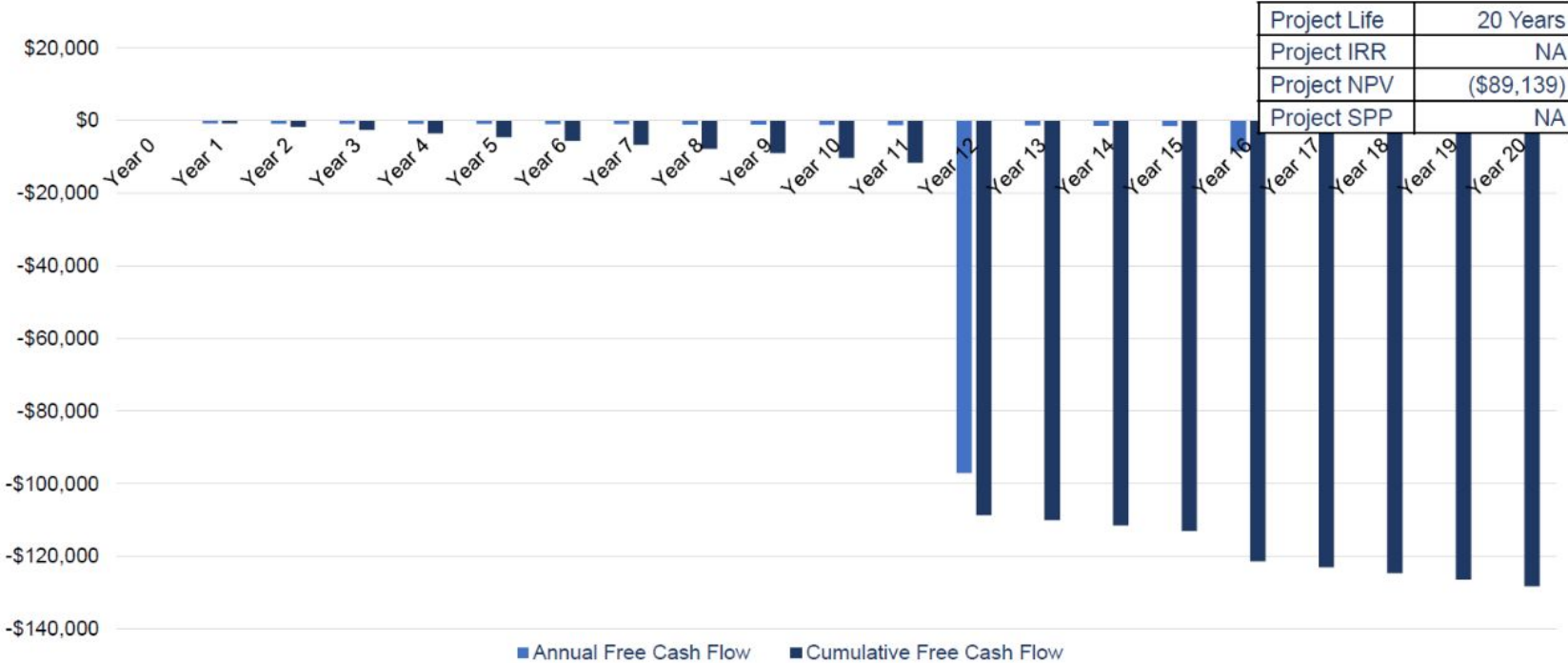


Solar panels supplement the battery's stored energy and offset electricity needs by 17%.

Cash flow forecast

Cash Flow Forecast – Solar & Battery (Grant-Funded, Host Owned)

Grant-Funded Project has a negative NPV to the host principally due to the requirement to replace inverters and modules to keep the system operating properly.



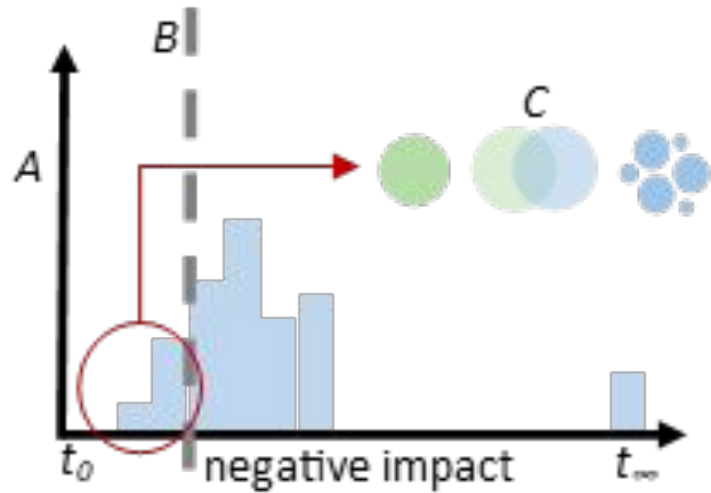
Project Life	20 Years
Project IRR	NA
Project NPV	(\$89,139)
Project SPP	NA

Next steps

- Usage monitor study - eGauge that looks at all the circuits
- Replicate this work in the old commercial buildings on Main Street
- Develop commercial group buy for solar



RACER and Geothermal



renewables accelerating community energy resilience



LNPK 156 Geothermal Coalition:

Designing and Deploying Clean Energy in a Justice40 Cold Climate Community

Please support our work by donating at
www.ecolibrium3.org

