## TOWN OF MOUNTAIN VILLAGE GREEN TEAM COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021, 2:00 PM TO BE HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM AGENDA

(see zoom login information below)

(see zoom login information below)									
Item	Time	Min	Presenter	Туре					
1.	2:00		Berry/Prohaska		Call to Order				
2.	2:00	5	Johansson	Action	Approval of the December 8, 2020 Regular Green Team Committee Meeting Minutes				
3.	2:05	15	Berry/Prohaska	Action	Finalize Quarterly Report (4th Quarter): to be presented to Town Council at the 1.21.21 meeting				
4.	2:20	10	Prohaska	Informational	Solar Program Update				
5.	2:30	10	Dohnal	Informational	Waste Diversion Grant Opportunity				
6.	2:40	10	Green Team	Informational	Bruin Waste 6 Month Review Due February 2021 (need report by January Meeting)				
7.	2:50	10	Greenspan/Meredith	Informational	Clean Up Day Subcommittee Update				
8.	3:00	10	Johansson	Informational	Voluntary Single-Use Plastics Reduction Incentive Subcommittee / Planet Over Plastics Update				
9.	3:10	10	Berry/Greenspan	Informational	Composting Subcommittee Update				
10.	3:20	5	Berry/Prohaska	Informational	Items for Consideration:  A. Snowmelt options for Chondola walkways B. San Miguel Watershed Coalition Update C. Beaver Issue D. Finn Kjome to speak about Mountain Village water E. Adopt a Highway F. Weed Management G. Forest Health- Infestation, Blown Down Management H. 2021 January – March: 1st Quarter Green Team Quarterly Report. Present in APRIL I. 2021 April – June: 2nd Quarter Green Team Quarterly Report. Present in JULY J. 2021 July – September: 3rd Quarter Green Team Quarterly Report.  Present in OCT K. 2021 October – December: 4th Quarter Green Team Quarterly Report.  Present in JAN				
11.	3:25	5	Berry/Prohaska	Informational	Other Business  • Live Like a Local Campaign (Greenspan)				
12.	3:30		Berry/Prohaska		Adjourn				

### **Zoom Information:**

Topic: Green Team Committee Meeting

Time: Jan 12, 2021 02:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/92263698785?pwd=MVU5Skc2K2M5RUpZY2IWci9NeVpUdz09

Meeting ID: 922 6369 8785

Passcode: 360304 One tap mobile

+13462487799,,92263698785#,,,,\*360304# US (Houston)

+16699006833,,92263698785#,,,,\*360304# US (San Jose)

### Dial by your location

- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

Meeting ID: 922 6369 8785

Passcode: 360304

Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/aiw00qyqW

# **Co-op Information for Partners**

# PARTNERING WITH SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS TO CREATE A SOLAR CO-OP IN YOUR AREA

Solar United Neighbors and community partners work together to form a solar co-op. Anyone can be a partner, whether it's a municipality, non-profit, a group of neighbors, or some homeowners. Solar United Neighbors provides the technical and administrative support and the community partner promotes the co-op and recruits participants.

## **General Roles and Responsibilities**

SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS	COMMUNITY PARTNER
Handles all technical and administrative support for co-op	Recruits participants for the co-op
Creates co-op website and administrates sign up process. Responds to technical inquiries	Work with Solar United Neighbors to develop and implement a media campaign to recruit co-op participants
Presents at info sessions	Finds and reserves space for info meeting
Facilitates RFP process, installer selection,and installer management	Serves as the 'public face' of the co-op and talks with local media when applicable
Provides relevant group update and communications during all stages, conduct final assessment and data collection	Helps direct interest towards future programs or advocacy

**CELEBRATE A SUCCESSFUL CO-OP!** 



### JOIN US!

www.SolarUnitedNeighbors.org

## Agenda Item 4

# Partner Roles During Each Co-op Phase

Solar co-ops generally require 8-10 months to complete and are divided into four phases. During each phase, the roles and responsibilities of the community partner vary, they but focus on reserving spaces for info sessions and events, recruiting co-op participants, and building public interest in the co-op.

### PHASE 1: OUTREACH & PROMOTION OF CO-OP

The community partner works with Solar United Neighbors to create and execute an outreach strategy to drive prospective participants to the co-op website and information sessions. The goal is at least 30 participants signing up for the co-op. Community partners will also identify appropriate media and community venues that will help drive sign-ups and spread the word about the co-op.

# PHASE 2: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND BID SELECTION

Once the co-op has at least 30 participants, Solar United Neighbors issues a Request for Proposals (RFP) to area installers for them to bid on the project. Solar United Neighbors will convene a selection committee made up of co-op participants. The committee will select the group's installer. After the co-op selects its installer, the community partner will assist (as appropriate) in creating a media strategy to announce the installer selection and drive further sign ups to grow the group.

### **PHASE 3: ADDITIONAL RECRUITMENT**

Once the co-op's installer is chosen, they will visit each participant's home and provide them with an individualized proposal for a solar system based on the group pricing.

While this is taking place, Solar United Neighbors and the community partner will continue to recruit additional co-op participants to join the group. A successful co-op will have, at minimum, 100 sign ups when it closes.

# PHASE 4: ASSESSMENT, CELEBRATION AND ONGOING SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT.

Once the sign-up deadline for the co-op passes, Solar United Neighbors will continue to work with co-op participants to ensure they have a positive experience as they sign contracts and have solar systems installed.

The community partner will help plan and implement a celebration party for co-op participants, local elected officials, & any other groups interested in celebrating successful co-ops.

# **Solar United Neighbors Co-ops**

Our co-ops organize 50 to 100 neighbors in a group to go solar together. People love the community approach. Our experts support you through each stage of the solar process. Co-op members leverage bulk-purchasing power to get discounted pricing and a quality installation, while still signing individual contracts that ensure the right system for their home.

Impact of more than 200 co-ops launched nationwide

100,000+

Solar supporters nationwide

5,000

Homes went solar

\$100 Million
Invested directly in solar

35

Megawatts installed

1,000+

Jobs created

Some of our current and former co-op partners in Colorado

















CRES
Colorado Renewable
Energy Society























**Contact the Colorado Program** 

**Bryce Carter,** Colorado Program Director 720-295-3804 bcarter@solarunitedneighbors.org



# Want to go solar?

# JOIN THE DENVER SOLAR CO-OP



Learn what going solar could mean for you.



The co-op is FREE to join, with NO OBLIGATION to purchase.



Qualifying residents can save 10%+ on energy bills at no cost with the Renewable Denver Community Solar Program!

Program launching in 2021.



2021 is the <u>last chance</u> to take advantage of the tax credit!





SolarUnitedNeighbors.org/DenverSun
Se Habla Español









# Why Go Solar?



Save money on your energy bill and the cost of going solar.



Get unbiased, expert help throughout the process.



Reduce your impact while helping Denver achieve its sustainability and energy goals.



We're a vendor-neutral non-profit that helps thousands of people go solar each year.



SolarUnitedNeighbors.org/DenverSun

# **Special Thanks to our Partners**













**Alpine Bank** 













### Hello!

The <u>Denver Solar Co-op</u> is now open for free member sign-ups!

Join us for our formal <u>online launch</u> on Monday, October 5th at 6 p.m. to hear from local speakers and to learn more about solar technology, the co-op process, and available financing options. We also have an <u>informational flyer</u> (<u>Spanish version</u>) available for your reference.

Help us get the word out about this great opportunity by <u>posting this flyer in your neighborhood</u> or forwarding this email to your networks!

### Opportunity for Denver Homes and Businesses to Go Solar

With our bright sunshine, Denver has excellent solar resources! Going solar is more affordable than ever, being a great way to save money on your energy bills, reduce air pollution, and help Denver's climate goals.

The Denver Solar Co-op is made up of residents and business owners who want to enjoy a streamlined process of going solar and save money by going together as a group. The solar co-op is free to join with no obligation to install; and will include battery and EV charging options for its members! 2021 is the last year to claim a 22% federal solar tax credit, now is the last chance to take advantage of it!

If you do not own your home, don't have a well-suited location or don't want solar on your property, can take advantage of the Renewable Denver Community Solar Program. Starting in 2021, this program will support up to 1,000 households in which participating, income-qualified residents will save 10 percent or more on their monthly electric bills.

### Learn more and/or sign up at: solarunitedneighbors.org/denver

**WHY JOIN A SOLAR CO-OP?** Imagine walking into a solar company's office with 50 or 100 of your neighbors and saying, "We all want to get solar. What kind of deal can you give us?" That's a solar co-op!

- You're provided info to help you understand solar. Our vendor-neutral solar
  experts are here to help you understand how solar works and make the best
  decision for your energy needs.
- You have a direct line to ask specific questions. You can call or email us anytime you need help. We'll be here now and long after you install solar.
- Members solicit and review proposals from solar companies. Solar United Neighbors, a not-for-profit organization, requests bids on your behalf and then a

- committee of your fellow co-op members meet to assess the pros and cons and select the best installer for the group.
- **Community.** You'll join the growing solar movement. You'll have a built-in network of support and inspiration from others who, like you, are taking a stand for energy freedom and advancing the clean energy economy.

A bigger impact! Going solar creates jobs and puts energy production and its benefits back in the hands of the people, while contributing to cleaner air and water for everyone. Solar energy will be essential in helping achieve <a href="Denver's 100% renewable">Denver's 100% renewable</a> energy goals.

Special thanks to our local partners!





















If your organization is interested in partnering to help spread the word, let us know by emailing us at <a href="mailto:coteam@solarunitedneighbors.org">coteam@solarunitedneighbors.org</a>.





# 2019 Fort Collins Solar Co-op Impact

Results as of December 5th, 2019

Supporting outreach and engagement

**Events** 



for Solar Information Sessions and other outreach

**Bids** 

**Partners** 



27.5

Provided by solar installers for the Fort Collins Co-op



**Percentage Savings** 



**255** 

For base price offered by co-op vs. \$3.45 state average

Leads



Participants who signed-in to an event



**159** 

**Members** 

Individuals who signed up to receive a solar proposal

**Contracts** 



48

Signed by individuals with the solar installer



**Jobs** 

Created to help serve the solar co-op



**Kilowatts** 



990,000

# **Dollars**

Spent on solar installs by solar co-op members



# Annual Equivalent Impact in Terms of CO2e Avoided Emissions\*:









# Want to Go Solar?

SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS

**DENVER SOLAR CO-OP** 



Sign-up today or join us for a solar information webinar www.solarunitedneighbors.org/denver



Learn what going solar means for you



Free, vendor-neutral and member-led group buy process with no obligation to install



Qualifying residents can save 10%+ on energy bills at no cost with Renewable Denver Community Solar Program! Program launching in 2021.



















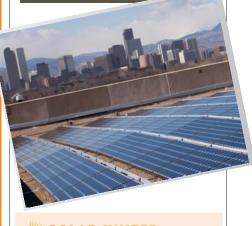




GET UNBIASED, EXPERT HELP THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS



WE'RE A NON-PROFIT
THAT HELPS
THOUSANDS OF
PEOPLE GO SOLAR
EACH YEAR



SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS OF COLORADO





# ¿Te interesa la Energía Solar?

ÚNETE A LA **SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS** 

**GRUPO DE COMPRA COLECTIVA DE DENVER** 



Regístrese hoy o únase a nosotros para nuestra sesión informativa www.solarunitedneighbors.org/denver



Descubra lo que significa para usted la energía solar



Unirse es gratis, sin obligación de instalar. El proceso de selección de proveedor es independiente y dirigido por miembros.



¡Residentes calificados pueden ahorrar 10% o más en las facturas de energía sin costo con el Programa Solar Renovable de la Comunidad de Denver! El programa se lanzará en 2021.















OBTENGA AYUDA EXPERTA, IMPARCIAL A TRAVÉS DEL PROCESO





SOLAR UNITED



















# Want to help your neighborhood Go Solar?

Become a solar ambassador by helping grow solar adoption with the

# **DENVER SOLAR CO-OP**



# Send an email to your network

**Opportunity for Denver Homes and Businesses to Go Solar** 

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# Learn more and/or sign up at: solarunitedneighbors.org/denver

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- You're provided info to help you understand solar. Our *vendor-neutral* solar experts are here to help you understand how solar works and make the best decision for your energy needs.
- You have a direct line to ask specific questions. You can call or email us anytime you need help. We'll be here now and long after you install solar.
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- **Community.** You'll join the growing solar movement. You'll have a built-in network of support and inspiration from others who, like you, are taking a stand for energy freedom and advancing the clean energy economy.
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# Want to help your neighborhood Go Solar?

Become a solar ambassador by helping

grow solar adoption with the

**DENVER SOLAR CO-OP** 



# Post on Social Media (Facebook, NextDoor, etc.)

Learn what going solar means for you with the Denver Solar Co-op! A solar co-op makes it easy to go solar and save as a group. The solar co-op process is run by Solar United Neighbors, a vendor-neutral not-for-profit organization providing expertise and guidance. I joined for free and am excited how clear and easy the process has been! You can learn more and sign-up at <a href="https://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/denver">www.solarunitedneighbors.org/denver</a>



# Place a Yard Sign

One of the best ways to help spread the word of the solar co-op is to put a sign in your yard (or with permission in someone else's) to let your neighbors know about the opportunity! Please contact Bryce at Solar United Neighbors (bcarter@solarunitedneighbors.org) to request one.



# **Distribute Flyers**

Download or pick up flyers to post in business windows, on bulletin boards, or leave in public lobbies to help spread the word about the solar co-op. Make a personal connection and leave one with a note for a neighbor! To request printed flyers, please contact Bryce at bcarter@solarunitedneighbors.org.

The Denver Solar Co-op is a program facilitated by Solar United Neighbors, a vendorneutral not-for-profit helping neighbors go solar, together.

Learn more and sign-up to become a member for free at

www.solarunitedneighbors.org/Denver

Questions? Email us at coteam@solarunitedneighbors.org







# The 2020 Denver Solar Co-op is launching!

You're invited to join the steering committee

## **SOLAR FOR ALL**

The City and County of Denver is launching its second year of collaboration with Solar United Neighbors, a vendor-neutral, nonprofit organization focused on helping people go solar, come together, and fight for their energy rights. We're providing a streamlined process for city residents to adopt solar on their rooftops or through community solar subscriptions, with focused support for low-to-moderate income qualifying families. We will be launching the next Denver Solar Co-op on October 5<sup>th</sup> of this year and seek community partnerships to help develop an inclusive program.



### **HELPING PEOPLE GO SOLAR**

Anyone in Denver can become a member to learn what going solar means for them, its free and with no commitment. Resources in English and Spanish will be available to members to learn about solar technology, the solar co-op process, and what financing options are available to them. We'll also provide ongoing, unbiased, expert support to answer questions and guide members through the process.



**For on-site installations**, a member-led selection committee will decide on one solar installer to service qualifying members through a competitive bidding process. Going solar together takes advantage of bulk purchasing power and a streamlined process, letting members save time and money.

Those who rent, lack a suitable installation site, or are income qualified can take advantage of the *Renewable Denver Community Solar* program and support solar adoption across the city, or shop around for other community solar offerings. Learn more at <a href="denvergov.org/Solar">denvergov.org/Solar</a>

## **GROWING IMPACT**

Solar United Neighbors of Colorado helped over 100 families go solar last year, supporting nearly \$2 million of community investment, offsetting over 19,000 tons of lifetime carbon emissions, and helping keep energy dollars local. We're proudly creating jobs, reducing pollution, and building economic resilience within our communities.



## **OUR ASK OF YOU**

We are seeking out community leaders, particularly those who are multilingual and can speak English, to make sure the reach of this program is as inclusive as possible. Our priority will be to support outreach in our most vulnerable and frontline communities to ensure they will benefit the most from this opportunity. Help us invite leading voices to be part of an ongoing dialogue or to be on our local steering committee as we begin to strategize around an equitable and inclusive program, get the word out to local constituencies, and support the movement of ensuring solar access for all in our community. To get involved or for more information, visit solarunitedneighbors.org/denver or contact Bryce Carter at <a href="mailto:bcarter@solarunitedneighbors.org">bcarter@solarunitedneighbors.org</a> or 720-295-3804.







# ¡Lanzamiento de la cooperativa solar Denver 2020!

Le invitamos a que se una a la junta directiva

# **¡ENERGÍA SOLAR PARA TODOS!**

La ciudad y el condado de Denver lanzarán su segundo año de colaboración con Solar United Neighbors, una organización neutral para proveedores y sin fines de lucro, enfocada en ayudar a las personas en la lucha por acceso a energía solar. Simplificamos el proceso de instalación de paneles solares en su tejado, facilitando la adquisición de paneles a través de la creación de cooperativas comunitarias, con apoyo económico enfocado en familias de bajos y moderados recursos. Lanzaremos la próxima cooperativa solar de Denver el día 5 de octubre de este año, y buscaremos asociaciones comunitarias para que nos ayuden a desarrollar un programa más inclusivo.



# **AYUDAMOS A LAS PERSONAS A ADQUIRIR ENERGÍA SOLAR**

Cualquier persona en Denver que desee aprender más sobre energía solar, puede hacerse miembro de una cooperativa de energía solar, de forma gratuita y sin compromiso. La información estará disponible en inglés y en español, para que los miembros aprendan sobre tecnología solar, el proceso de cooperativa solar y qué opciones de financiamientos están disponibles para ellos. También proporcionaremos apoyo experto, continuo e imparcial, para responder preguntas y guiar a los miembros a través del proceso de adquisición de energía solar.



Para las instalaciones in situ, un comité de selección dirigido por miembros de la cooperativa, escogerá un instalador de paneles solares a través de un proceso de licitación competitivo, para dar servicio a los miembros cualificados. La compra de paneles solares en grupo le brinda un proceso simplificado, al igual que la oportunidad de ahorrar tiempo y dinero, comprando al por mayor..

Las personas que alquilan, carecen de un área de instalación adecuada pero cualifican, basado en sus ingresos, pueden aprovechar el programa Renewable Denver Community Solar, y apoyar la adopción de energía solar en toda la ciudad. También pueden procurar otras ofertas de energía solar comunitaria. Para más información visite la página de denvergov.org/solar.

### **IMPACTO CRECIENTE**

El año pasado, Solar United Neighbors of Colorado ayudó a más de 100 familias a obtener paneles de energía solar, apoyando casi \$2 millones dólares de inversión comunitaria, compensando más de 19,000 toneladas de emisiones de carbono de por vida, y ayudando a mantener los fondos para energía solar en comunidades locales. Nos sentimos orgullosos por la generación de empleos, la reducción de la contaminación y la creación de resiliencia económica en nuestras comunidades.



# LO QUE ESPERAMOS DE USTED

Procuramos líderes comunitarios, particularmente aquellos que son multilingües y pueden hablar inglés, para asegurarnos de que este programa tenga la mayor inclusividad posible. Nuestra prioridad será llegar a las comunidades más vulnerables y de primera línea, para garantizar que se beneficien al máximo de esta oportunidad. Ayúdenos a invitar al diálogo a los líderes comunitarios para que formen parte de la conversación o de nuestro comité directivo local, a medida que creamos estrategias en torno a un programa más equitativo e inclusivo. Haga correr la voz en los distritos locales y apoye este movimiento, para garantizar el acceso a energía solar a todos los miembros en nuestra comunidad. Para participar u obtener más información, por favor visite solarunitedneighbors.org/denver o comuníquese con Bryce Carter llamando al teléfono (720)295-3804 o escribiendo a bcarter@solarunitedneighbors.org.

# JOIN SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS' DENVER SOLAR CO-OP

We're a vendor-neutral non-profit organization. Our experts help you through each step of the process of going solar to ensure you get the right equipment for your home, a quality installation and a strong warranty. The Denver Solar Co-op will leverage the power of bulk purchasing to help you save money.

# GOING SOLAR WITH A SOLAR CO-OP

MONTH 1 THRU 2

MONTH 3

MONTH 4 THRU 8



about the solar co-op

Attend an informaion session visit our website

2 SIGN UP online to participate in the solar co-op

There is a sign-up deadline usually in month 5 or 6

3 GROW THE SOLAR CO-OP tell your friends and

4 SELECT

an installer once the solar co-op has 30 participants

### **Solar United Neighbors:**

- Issues a competitive RFP on behalf of the solar co-op – open to all installers
- Review bids, call references and check licensing, equipment and warranties

### **Solar co-op participants:**

• Come together to review bids, select a single installer

### SIGN UP DEADLINE

Last chance to join the solar

5 SCHEDULE

Installer site visit, receive customized proposal based on solar co-op pricing

- 6 SIGN A CONTRACT with the installer
- 7 INSTALL solar system
- 8 PARTY!

Meet your fellow solar neighbors and celebrate your successes





neighbors!





















# Financing considerations

- Solar is a long-term investment and allows you to hedge against rising electrical prices.
- Systems are sized based on the amount of available sunny space on your roof, your electricity consumption, and your budget.
- Costs are per Watt, as panels come in different sizes (typically 300W – 380W).
- Prices are for a complete, turn-key systems that include equipment and installation.

# THE RENEWABLE DENVER COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM

 Those who don't own their home, don't have a well-suited location or don't want solar on their property may take advantage of Denver's upcoming community solar program. Starting in 2021, this program will support up to 1,000 households. Income-qualified residents will save 10 percent or more on their electric bills. Sign-up here: https://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/ denver-community-solar



## SAMPLE CASH PURCHASE: Xcel Energy – General Residential Plan

EXAMPLE PRICING ONLY. ACTUAL SYSTEM SIZE WILL VARY.	4kW	8kW
Average CO solar pricing (\$3.00/Watt)	\$12,000	\$24,000
22% federal income tax credit	-\$2,640	-\$5,280
Net Cost	\$9,360	\$18,720
Estimated year 1 electricity savings	\$585	\$1,169
Estimated year 10 savings (cumulative)	\$6,254	\$12,508
Estimated lifetime savings (25 years)	\$17,553	\$35,106
Net Profit	\$8,193	\$16,386

<sup>\*</sup>See box on bottom left for savings assumptions.

### **SAMPLE LOANS:**

These are sample prices, actual cost will depend on system size, interest rate, credit score, and other factors. These prices do not include incentives besides 22% tax credit (effective January 1, 2021).

Home equity line of credit loan, interest rate 4%, 22% down (then take tax credit).

	4kW SYSTE	M -\$9,360	8kW SYSTEM - \$18,720			
	10-YEAR TERM	15-YEARTERM	10-YEAR TERM	15 -YEARTERM		
Monthly loan payment	\$95	\$69	\$190	\$138		
Monthly electric savings**	\$49	\$49	\$97	\$97		
Net monthly payment	\$46	\$20	\$92	\$41		
Net Profit (after 25 years)	\$6,200	\$5,100	\$12,400	\$10,200		

<sup>\* 2%</sup> electricity price increase per year, 9.99 cents/kWh year 1 electricity rate, -.5% panel degradation per year, 1,463kWh of yearly production per 1kW of solar, does not include solar renewable energy credits or additional incentives (besides 22% federal tax credit, which is effective January 1, 2021).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Reflects year one average savings – savings will grow each year as electricity costs increase







# Colorado Springs Solar Co-op Community Introduction Meeting October 13th, 2020

**Bryce Carter**Colorado Program Director

# Today's Discussion

- Introduction to Solar United Neighbors
- Solar Co-op process
- Community benefits of a solar co-op
- Collaboration opportunities
- Questions / Discussion



# About Us

- Local movement started in 2007, nonprofit founded in 2011
- Leading solar education and outreach organization
- Nearly 250 solar co-ops with 5,000+ installations amounting in over \$100 million in investment
- Community of 150,000 people across the country who are building a clean, equitable energy system with rooftop solar at the cornerstone.





# VIDEO: How does a Solar Co-op Work?



MONTH 1 THRU 2 MONTH 3 MONTH 4 THRU 8

1 LEARN about the co-op

Attend an info session, visit our website

2 SIGN UP online to participate in the co-op

There is a sign-up deadline usually in month 5 or 6

3 GROW THE CO-OP tell your friends and neighbors!

4 SELECT
an installer once co-op reaches 30 members

### **Solar United Neighbors:**

- Issues a competitive RFP on behalf of the co-op – open to all installers!
- Review bids, call references and check licensing, equipment and warranties

### Co-op members:

 come together to review bids, select a single installer



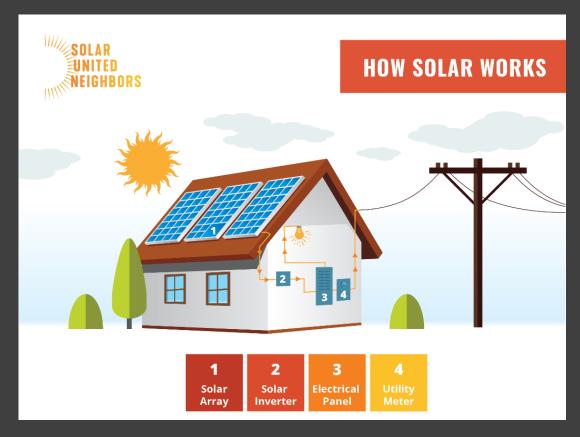
- 5 SCHEDULE
  Installer site visit, receive
  customized proposal based
  on co-op pricing
- 6 SIGN A CONTRACT with the installer
- 7 INSTALL solar system
- 8 PARTY!

Meet your fellow solar neighbors and celebrate your successes

- Find out what going solar means for you
- Scale helps lower prices and streamlines process
- Free to participate / no obligation to install
- Community-driven
- Educates & builds confidence

# Solar Co-op Model





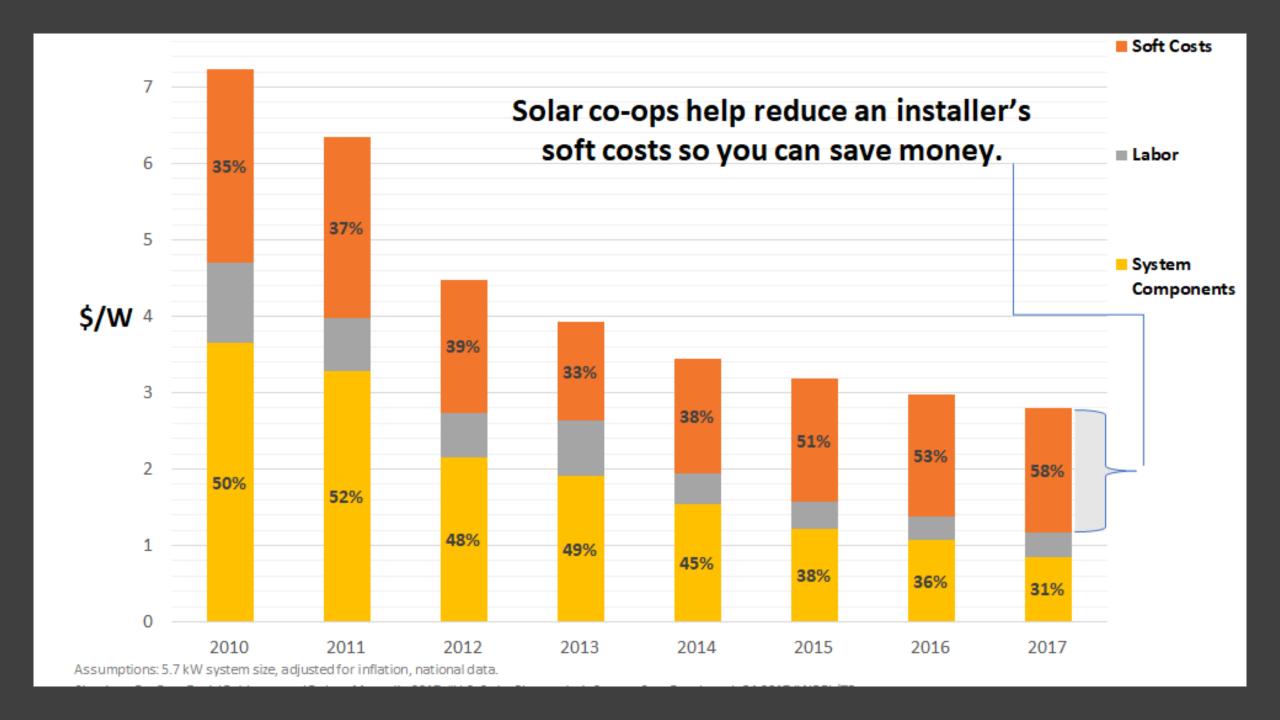
# Solar Information Session / Webinar

Watch our Mesa County Solar Co-op Webinar solarunitedneighbors.org/MesaCounty



SELECTION COMMITTEE: a thorough review of bids





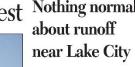
# **Example Pricing Provided to Members**

EXAMPLE PRICING ONLY. ACTUAL SYSTEM SIZE WILL VARY.	4kW	8kW
Regional solar pricing average (\$3.00/Watt)	\$12,000	\$24,000
26% Federal tax credit	-\$3,120	-\$6,240
Net Cost	\$8,880	\$17,760
Estimated year 1 electricity savings	\$638	\$1,276
Estimated year 10 savings (cumulative)	\$6,824	\$13,648
Estimated lifetime savings (25 years)	\$19,152	\$38,304
Net Profit*	\$10,272	\$20,544



ALSO INSIDE WHAT'S NEW IN THE CULINARY WORLD OF GABY FOOD

Solar co-op tests interest About runoff About runoff



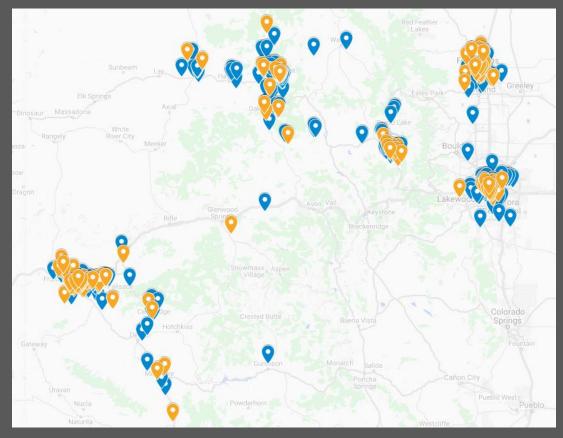
Avalanche debris, heavy snowpack worry residents in rural high country







# Colorado Program's impact since launching in 2019



Geomapped members – yellow are those who went under contract.



161

people gone solar with us

1.14 MW

installed capacity

\$2.8 M

invested in local solar projects

18

solar jobs created





4,500+

supporters in 2020

611+

Actions taken by members in 2020

# **Anticipated Community Benefits**

# **A Community Investment**

- 100-200 members can lead to 30-50+ installations in the region
- Upward of \$1 million local investment of solar, and millions of savings over 25+ year lifetime

# **Emissions Impact**

241 to 401 metric tons CO2 equivalent per year

Like taking 86.7 passenger vehicles off the road for one year

# Resiliency

- Solar, storage, and EV infrastructure helps keep the lights stay on, buildings heated, and vehicles mobile even in the case of major supply interruptions
- Solar provides economic security and bills can get paid

# Colorado Solar Co-op Next Steps

# **Join the Steering Committee**

Community organizations and individuals are welcome to join the Steering Committee to plan our outreach strategy when we launch in Spring 2021

# **Identify and Invite Additional Partners**

A diverse community network to support outreach is vital to the success of the program

# **Explore Additional Opportunities**

Funding sources to support low-to-moderate income families

# **Launch in Spring 2021**

Publicly launch program, leveraging earned media and network

# Thank you for having us!



# **Bryce Carter**

Colorado Program Director Solar United Neighbors 720-295-3804

bcarter@solarunitedneighbors.org





# Denver Solar Co-op #2 Work Plan

Solar United Neighbors, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is proposing to launch its second Denver Solar Co-op after the completion of the first Denver Solar Co-op. This second co-op will be completed in partnership with the City and County of Denver to continue catalyzing solar adoption throughout our community in line with Denver's renewable energy goals.

### **About Solar Co-ops**

A solar co-op is formed when a group of neighbors enters the process of going solar. Typically, the group selects a single contractor to install systems on all the participating homes. Each participant owns their own system and signs their own contract with the installer. By going solar as a group, each participant saves on the cost of her system and gets support from the group throughout the process. The installer chosen by the group is able to order equipment in bulk and reduce travel and marketing costs, allowing them to pass significant savings on to the participants.

Solar United Neighbors' approach is different than traditional Solarize programs. We focus on participant engagement as opposed to recruitment. We work very closely with the group, educating each participant about solar. We involve them in community outreach, the installer selection process, and the financing process. This gives people a much greater sense of ownership and increases their knowledge and comfort with the process of going solar. We also try to connect participants to opportunities for advocacy or community service after they go solar and help them become part of local renewable energy groups.

Although this labor-intensive process can lead to a smaller group size (though not always), a much higher percentage of our participants go solar (30%) than Solarize programs typically see (5-10%). Additionally, we continue to engage and support our co-op participants after the co-op is over – they are invited to volunteer, join our free listserv, newsletter, and social media groups, and can become a member. As a result, past co-op participants are highly informed and actively engaged in growing renewable energy in their community.

A typical solar co-op cost \$20,000 to implement, providing on-the-ground staff and support from our team of experts. As of 2020, we are also exploring the launch of a referral program for Community Solar Garden subscriptions and seeking additional funding and support for low-to-moderate income solar adoption.

### **The Solar Co-op Process and Deliverables**

### Phase I: Planning and Launch of Education and Outreach to Recruit Participants

The first phase of the solar co-op process is outreach to potential co-op participants, with the goal of turning people out to an informational seminar and community meeting. This outreach involves hanging fliers, pitching local media, advertising via neighborhood listservs and emails, Facebook invitations, and telling neighbors about the meeting. To make this effort as successful as possible, we also identify and cultivate local partners early in Phase I. We often partner with local

governments, schools, churches, nonprofit organizations, and local businesses who support solar power and who have strong connections with the community. Partners help us identify dates and locations for info sessions in the community and help with outreach through their networks.

At info sessions, the Solar United Neighbors of Colorado team will explain how the co-op process works, provide a detailed but consumer-friendly overview of residential solar PV, and answer questions. We cover the technology itself, financing options, policy considerations, the installation process, and other topics (battery storage, net metering, time of use rates) as appropriate for local conditions. In Denver, we anticipate spending some explaining the Time of Day electricity rate structure and the ways homeowners should expect net-metering credits to affect their bills. We will also provide Spanish-translation services in coordination with the city where needed.

After this initial educational meeting, people who are interested in moving forward with the co-op will sign up on the co-op's webpage. Solar United Neighbors' technical staff then completes an initial screening of each participant's roof (or property) via a combination of Google Earth and Bing Maps. We also work with homeowners to ensure we have the most up-to-date information about their property (e.g., a nearby tree has come down) to make our assessment. We perform this screen for several reasons: It ensures that we do not waste the time of homeowners whose property is not a good fit for solar, it ensures that the installer is able to work as efficiently as possible, and it protects homeowners from unscrupulous solar installers who might be tempted to sell them a system for an unsuitable location. We report the findings of our initial assessment to each homeowner and the installer, once selected.

### Phase I Deliverables:

- 1. Phase I Deliverables:
  - **1.1.** Develop informational materials
    - **1.1.1.** Produce a one-page flyer/information sheet for the Denver Solar Co-op
    - **1.1.2.** Develop a table estimating installation cost and savings based on local rates and incentives
    - **1.1.3.** Develop answers to Frequently Asked Questions covering policy, regulation, incentives, and financing options available to Denver residents.
    - **1.1.4.** Develop a web page for the co-op and an online sign-up portal for participants.
    - **1.1.5.** Develop these materials in Spanish as well
  - **1.2.** Identify, cultivate, and provide ongoing coordination for diverse community partnerships to assist with community outreach about the solar co-op
  - **1.3.** Coordinate with partner organizations to find dates and locations for 2-3 info sessions.
  - **1.4.** Coordinate with partner organizations to set a clear timeline for program implementation.
  - **1.5.** Coordinate with partner organizations to conduct outreach to the community, including through press and media, events, social media, email listservs/networks, and word-of-mouth.

### Phase II: Selecting an Installer

Once at least 20 participants have signed up and passed the roof screening, we issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) from area solar installers. We will reach out to installers through the Colorado Solar Energy Industry Association and the national Solar Energy Industry Association. We also have a portal on our website where any installation company can sign up to receive RFP announcements. The RFP will ask installers to provide details of their company, equipment, and installation process. They will be asked to provide a single base price that they will offer to the entire group of co-op participants. and detail the "adders" or "upcharges" participants may choose, e.g. for more complex installations or more expensive equipment.

Once we receive bids from installers, we convene a Selection Committee made up of solar co-op participants interested in choosing an installer for the group. We compile a detailed spreadsheet that summarizes and compares each element of each bids received. This helps non-experts to make an informed choice in what can otherwise be a complicated decision. The Selection Committee reviews the bids and the "bid review spreadsheet" and selects an installer to complete all of the projects for the group. Some large co-ops may opt to select more than one installer. Although Solar United Neighbors facilitates the process and answers technical questions, the Selection Committee itself decides which installer to select.

### 2. Phase II Deliverables:

- **2.1.** Continue community outreach activities and outreach coordination with partner organizations.
- **2.2.** Host one or more in-person info sessions to educate the community and co-op participants about going solar and the co-op process. [Launch event]
- **2.3.** Recruit at least 20 co-op participants with suitable roofs/properties for solar by the end of this quarter.
- **2.4.** Provide regular updates to participants to keep everyone engaged and to encourage them to recruit friends and neighbors.
- **2.5.** Conduct initial satellite roof screenings for all new participants.
- **2.6.** Develop a clear, detailed Request for Proposals (RFP) that reflects the needs, values, and preferences of the co-op participants.
- **2.7.** Distribute the RFP to area solar installers through our network, the Solar Energy Industry Association network, and other local channels.
- **2.8.** Collect and review all RFP responses, including by performing due diligence and checking installer references.
- **2.9.** Compile a bid review spreadsheet that summarizes the bids received into an easy-to-understand format for co-op participants.
- **2.10.** Convene a Selection Committee and facilitate the bid selection process.

### Phase III: Recruiting Additional Participants and Signing Contracts with the Installer

Once an installer has been selected, we continue to recruit co-op participants for at least one month. During that time, the chosen installer also meets with each participant. They provide an individualized proposal that lists the size and cost of a solar system for each house, with the cost reflecting the pricing put forward in their bid. If participants decide to move forward with the project, they sign an individual contract with the installer to have the system installed.

Solar United Neighbors also helps co-op participants identify and access incentives and financing programs. Our staff is well-versed in incentives and financing options for residential solar, including rebates and tax credits, loans that can be used for solar installations, third-party ownership models (where available), and property assessed clean energy programs (where available). Some of these financing options eliminate the upfront cost of a solar installation, broadening access to working and middle-class families. In Denver, we expect all residential systems facilitated through the co-op to be purchased and owned by the homeowner.

In addition to providing direct support to co-op participants, we exhaustively track the installation process and remain engaged in troubleshooting and education throughout the process. Issues arise almost daily related to miscommunication with installers, equipment, permits, interconnection, scheduling, roofing impacts, contracts, insurance, renewable energy credits, and financing.

We collaborate with installers using Salesforce CRM, which allows us to efficiently coordinate visits and track the progress of installations performed for the co-op. We help installers streamline and digitize scheduling, contract signing, and customer relationship management processes—drastically increasing installer's capacity. This allows the Selection Committee to pick the best installer for the job, regardless of their size.

### 3. Phase III Deliverables:

- **3.1.** Continue community outreach activities and outreach coordination with partner organizations, ensuring we maximize interest before the sign-up deadline.
- **3.2.** Recruit at least 100 solar co-op participants by the end of this quarter.
- **3.3.** Host one or more in-person info sessions to educate the community and co-op participants about going solar and the co-op process.
- **3.4.** Continue to provide regular updates to participants.
- 3.5. Continue to provide satellite roof screenings for new participants.
- **3.6.** Facilitate weekly calls with installers to get progress updates, discuss problems or concerns, and identify common participant questions to address in our weekly email update.
- **3.7.** Support people from proposal to signed contract by following up regularly, answering questions, and trouble-shooting.
- **3.8.** Reach out to participants who have not scheduled site visits.

### Phase IV: Post Installation Follow Up

Once the system is installed, we continue to engage with participants. We bring them into our existing state networks and connect them to ongoing policy advocacy efforts, including legislation and regulatory cases.

### 4. Phase IV Deliverables:

- **4.1.** Assist at least 45 solar co-op participants through the contracting process by the end of this quarter.
- **4.2.** Troubleshoot any issues that arise post-installation with participants, especially interconnection and billing issues.
- **4.3.** Conduct spot inspections on a few installations to support quality control.
- **4.4.** Coordinate with partner organizations to host a party to celebrate the community's new solar installations. Invite all co-op participants, the installer's team, and local media.
- **4.5.** Connect participants with other local partners and a growing network of solar supporters.



## **Proposed Timeline**

		Phase I: Planning & Launch				Phase II: Phase III: Recruitment & Contracts		Phase IV: Support Through Installs				
	Q1 2020	Q1 2020 Q2 2020			Q3 2020		Q4 2020			Q1 2021		
Deliverables	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February
1.1 Informational Materials		Х	Х	Х								
1.2 Cultivate Partnerships	Х	Х	Х									
1.3 Info Session Planning			Х	Х								
1.4 Finalize Timeline w/ Partners				Х								
1.5 Initial Community Outreach			Х	Х								
2.1 Continued Community Outreach				Х	Х	Х	Х					
2.2 Information Session 1 (Launch)				Х								
2.3 Obtain 20 members					Х							
2.4, 3.4 Regular updates for members					X	Х	Χ	X	X	Χ		
2.5, 3.5 Conduct roof reviews					Х	Х	Х					
2.6 Develop RFP				X								
2.7 Release RFP					X							
2.8 Review all RFPs					Х							
2.9 Create RFP Bid Review Packet					Х							
2.10 Hold Selection Committee					X							
3.1 Final Outreach							X					
3.2 Recruit 100 Members							X					
3.3 Host Additional Info Sessions					X	X	X					
3.6 Installer Check-in Calls					X	X	X	Χ	X	X	X	X
3.7, 4.1, 4.2 Direct Member Support					X	Х	X	Χ	X	X	X	X
3.8, 4.1, 4.2 Direct Member Outreach					X	X	X	Χ	X	Х		
4.3 Spot Inspections												
4.4 Co-op Celebration										Χ		
4.5 Connect with Solar Community					X	X	X	X	X	X	Χ	X



# Colorado Solar Co-op Program Fact Sheet

**Updated February 2020** 

Solar United Neighbors is a vendor-neutral, **501(c)3 nonprofit** fostering a community of people building a new energy system with rooftop solar at the cornerstone through helping people go solar, join together, and fight for their energy rights.

The Colorado Program is focused on facilitating our **solar co-op process** to make it easy for home and business owners to adopt solar with substantial savings, pursuing the vision of **solar for all** including making it available for low-income and marginalized communities, and **supporting municipalities** looking to achieve their respective climate and energy goals with the ongoing energy transition while streamlining processes for solar adoption.

Since launching on year ago, Solar United Neighbors of Colorado has:

- Launched 4 solar co-ops in Fort Collins, the Yampa Valley, Denver, and Mesa County
- Secured over 675.5 kilowatts of solar capacity
- Helped invest \$1.58 million dollars on solar installations
- Created 10.8 jobs
- Estimated annual greenhouse gas impact of taking 148 passenger vehicles off the road per year<sup>1</sup>
- Supported conversations on economic transition in Yampa Valley including providing job training pilot and a rural electric co-op listening tour
- Successfully lobbied for removal of an excise tax for solar in Steamboat Springs with a unanimous decision, and defended the value of solar on proposed changes by Fort Collins Utilities
- Celebrated 5 Coloradan solar-powered breweries with our national Brews from the Sun competition

A solar co-op is a process in which home and business owners can become members of to evaluate what going solar means for them for free and with no obligation to install.

Once we reach around 30 members, a competitive request for proposal process is launched for solar installers to bid on. Those members form a Selection Committee who, through a facilitated process, thoroughly review bids provided by installers and select one to serve the co-op. Each co-op has between 100-200 members and can catalyze \$850,000 of investment, while keeping energy dollars in the local economy for decades to come.

Each Solar Co-op requires an overhead cost of \$20,000 from the community and local partners to ensure the success and longevity of our programmatic work with the co-op as we launch.

The Colorado Program is excited to launch new co-ops across Colorado in 2020 to help provide solar education, adoption, and ongoing collaboration with community partners. We will foster growing conversations to explore the largest challenges and opportunities for solar while facilitating our solar co-op process. On June 6th, 2020, we will host our inaugural Colorado Solar Congress, a state-wide gathering of solar owners, experts, activists, and members of the public to discuss a variety of solar topics and issues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on an annual average of 4 hours of solar production per day, estimated through the EPA Equivalencies Calculator



The Yampa Valley Selection Committee reviewing bids from solar installers at the Hayden Granary.



Solar United Neighbors is welcomed as the newest member of the Craig Chamber of Commerce.



Colorado Program Director Bryce Carter provides an educational solar information session to an at-capacity crowd for the Fort Collins Solar co-op.



Members of the Denver Solar Co-op celebrate its launch in July.



Celebrating the National Brews from the Sun competition at Denver Beer Company.



Tom and Chris Southard from the Fort Collins Solar Co-op celebrate their new solar system, "We're so happy to have done this, and the coop made it SO much easier...!"



Solar United Neighbors met with partners to discuss launching the Mesa County Solar Co-op, which garnered enough excitement to be front page news.



A selected co-op solar installer speaks with a reporter about the installation process.

**Subject:** Colorado Waste Diversion Grant: Building Opportunities to Maximize Waste Diversion and Create Jobs in Colorado - Request for Applications Published



# **Colorado Waste Diversion Grant:** Building Opportunities to Maximize Waste Diversion and Create Jobs in Colorado

### Request for Applications #32875

The purpose of the Request for Applications (RFA) is to fund implementation projects that lead to new opportunities to increase waste diversion as well as to create jobs. Projects may focus on waste reduction, recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion, repurposing, or reuse for a wide variety of materials.

A total of \$2 million is available to fund multiple projects. Funding is made possible through the Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity (RREO) Fund (C.R.S. §25-16.5-106.5 Chapter 270 Article 19. 7).

Please note that no pre-application conference will be convened. Instead, three rounds of written questions will be accepted and answers will be published online - the Q&A schedule follows.

#### Round One:

Deadline to submit written questions - January 15, 2021, 3 p.m. Answers published - January 22, 2021, 5 p.m.

### Round Two:

Deadline line to submit written questions - January 29, 2021, 3 p.m. Answers published - February 5, 2021, 5 p.m.

#### Round Three:

Deadline to submit written questions - February 12, 2020, 3 p.m. Answers published - February 19, 2021, 5 p.m.

All questions concerning RFA #32875 must be submitted in writing to the following email address: <a href="mailto:cdphe.ppp2@state.co.us">cdphe.ppp2@state.co.us</a>. Please follow instructions provided in the RFA.

Please visit the program <u>website</u> to access the RFA, grant application, templates, and other information.

\*\*\*Applications are due no later than 3:00 p.m., March 1, 2021\*\*\*

You are receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in learning about funding opportunities available through the Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity grant program. If you wish to be removed from this email distribution list, please reply back to this email with "REMOVE" in the subject line.

Agenda Item 8

### **Planet Over Plastics Update**

### 1. <u>Upstream Consulting Firm Partnership</u>

- Team decided to focus Upstream partnership on creating pilot programs, creating a solid framework, and transitioning businesses to reusables.
- Upstream emphasized importance of starting small and finding success to replicate.
- Team decided to wait for now on legislative counsel and support.
- Upstream revised proposal and presented to the team.
- Upstream will update final proposal to reflect concerns discussed
  - a) Timeline: Spring- finalize proposal, organize, and do groundwork
    Summer- roll-out to businesses and pilot programs
    Fall and Winter- assess
  - b) Ensuring we respect business and are gentle and conscious of time and energy
  - c) Creating a plan for longevity and continuation beyond Upstream support
  - d) Upstream will provide all the action steps and materials and we will be the "boots on the ground"
- Inga submitted request for funding to be approved by Town.

### 2. Other Business

- Ideas for volunteer recruitment
- Bigger picture of waste management and post-waste still a huge issue
- Public and business outreach about PFAS and other forever chemicals found in paper and compostable to-go containers.
- Transition for Inga next Fall