

SOLAR FOR SOCIAL GOOD

Goals

We are a Community Partner-led initiative to build at least 1 MW of community-owned solar in Peekskill, NY that provides maximum benefits to disadvantaged community members, creates an innovative fund to support food sovereignty and other community-selected initiatives, & becomes a model for replication in the Hudson Valley to build a local, sustainable source of funding to address social inequities within communities.

Project team

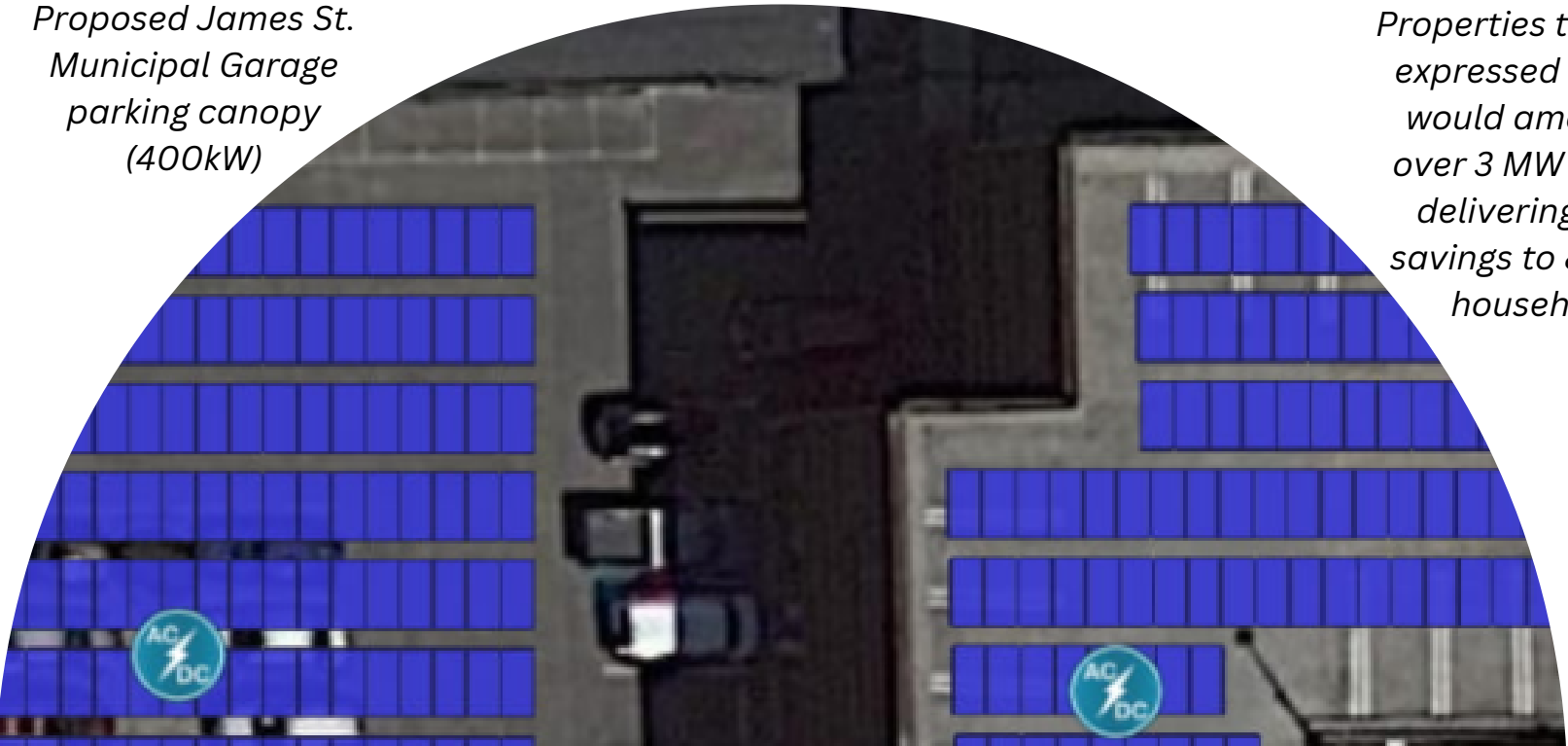


The ECP is a non-profit organization that works at the local intersection of renewable energy, participatory democracy, food sovereignty, and ecological repair. We are training a new generation of diverse farmers to steward land and grow food for free distribution to food insecure community members at solar-funded public food gardens.

Working Power co-develops clean energy projects with frontline organizations that center climate justice and generate community wealth. We have overseen, advised, & invested \$150M in equitable clean energy projects, including over 9 MWs of community solar.

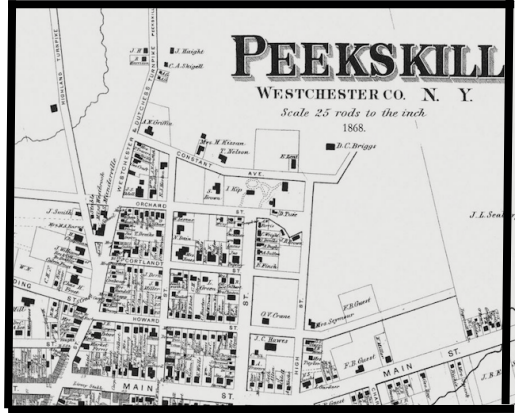


Proposed James St. Municipal Garage parking canopy (400kW)



Properties that have expressed interest would amount to over 3 MW of solar delivering \$2.35 savings to 800 LMI households

The City of Peekskill is a designated Environmental Justice Community, with minority-majority, disadvantaged residents bearing the environmental consequences from the Indian Point Energy Center, the Wheelabrator Westchester garbage incinerator (the largest polluter in the county), and the natural gas Algonquin Pipeline within a 2 mile radius.



Maximum social benefits



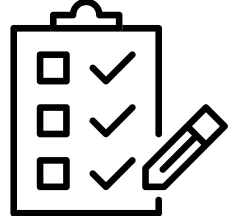
The beating heart of this community-owned project is to maximize direct benefits to disadvantaged residents through: targeted offtaker subscriptions to LMI households through community organizing, at least a 15% electricity bill savings, workforce development and employment opportunities, and reduced food insecurity through the expansion of a network of public food gardens and funding for other community-selected initiatives that increase community well-being.

Community partnerships



The ECP is partnering with Peekskill-NAACP and the Peekskill Area Pastors Association to be joint-owning Community Partners of the solar project, not only because we have a history of working together, but because they are trusted membership-based organizations that directly represent LMI households.

Community engagement



We have already generated 3 MW of meaningful solar site leads and potential public partnerships through presentations to the City of Peekskill Common Council & Manager, Peekskill Housing Authority, Peekskill City School District, Peekskill Business Improvement District, Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce & the Peekskill NAACP membership.

Solar powered food equity

Based on 3 years of experience, a 1 MW project would pay a living wage to a community farmer to grow and distribute approximately 300 shares of produce (providing 1,200 meal servings), free farm-based educational programs for 150 youth, and create 2 youth farmer jobs across a growing season.



Enjoying free, fresh produce at the Peekskill public food garden