The Survey Instrument

Long Island Solar Roadmap

We want to hear from you!

The purpose of this survey is to understand the attitudes and opinions of long island residents regarding local, mid- to large- scale solar development.

The long island solar roadmap is a collaborative, multi-organizational effort to understand opportunities and barriers for solar energy development on Long Island.

About electricity form solar energy: Solar technology enables the production of electricity from the energy provided by the sun. Installations of mid- to large-scale projects require as little as 0.7 acres of space (the equivalent of approximately half a football field). Systems can be ground-mounted, installed on large rooftops, or built over parking lots and carports.

This survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Your participation is voluntary and your responses are confidential.

* 1. How would you describe your current level of knowledge about solar energy?

- ◯ I have very little knowledge about solar energy
- ◯ I have a little knowledge about solar energy
- ◯ I am knowledgeable about solar energy
- ◯ I am very knowledgeable about solar energy

* 2. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Using renewable energy can meaningfully address climate change	○	○	○	○	○
It is the responsibility of all Americans to take action to address climate change	○	○	○	○	○
Solar energy technology is needed to meaningfully address climate change	○	○	○	○	○

* 3. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
I think solar electricity is a good investment for local businesses	○	○	○	○	○
I would be more likely to support a local business if I knew they've invested in solar electricity	○	○	○	○	○
Solar electricity can meaningfully contribute to energy production for my community	○	○	○	○	○
Solar electricity is most appropriate for commercial and business scale settings	○	○	○	○	○

* 4. The following questions are about what you value when it comes to thinking about mid- to large-scale solar development on Long Island. Generally speaking, do you support solar energy development in your community?

○ Yes

○ No

* 5. When it comes to planning for solar energy development projects in your community, please rate the following factors in terms of their importance to you:

	Not at all Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
Reputation of solar developer	○	○	○	○	○
Reputation of my utility company	○	○	○	○	○
Low cost of installation	○	○	○	○	○
Reduction in my electric bill	○	○	○	○	○
Positive impact on the Environment	○	○	○	○	○
Leaving a positive legacy for future generations	○	○	○	○	○
Positive attitudes towards solar among my peers	○	○	○	○	○
Reduced dependence on imported fossil fuels	○	○	○	○	○

---

* 6. What kinds of installation options would you support and how would you support change based on visibility from roads or homes in your community?

	Do not support	Less likely to support if they are visible	Would support whether or not they are visible	More likely to support if they are visible
Ground mounted solar panels	○	○	○	○
Ground mounted solar panels on previously degraded lands such as landfills	○	○	○	○
Ground mounted solar panels in areas that were previously cleared for development purposes	○	○	○	○
Solar panels mounted on commercial or industrial rooftops	○	○	○	○
Solar panels shading parking lots and parking garages	○	○	○	○

Long Island Solar Roadmap

Solar development

Financing solar development can involve different financial models, including:
* Private developers or property owners can fund the project, own the system, and receive the return on investment.

* Local governments can also invest in a solar energy project with public funds and the return on investment can become part of the municipality's public funds.

* A "community solar" development project allows members of the community to invest in solar electricity production that is built locally.

OK

---

* 7. **If solar development were to occur in your community, what kind of financial model would you prefer? Please indicate your level of support:**

	Do not support	Less likely to support	More likely to support	Most likely to support
Public financing, using public funds for projects on public buildings in your community	○	○	○	○
Privately funded projects built by local companies, with the electricity generated purchased by the utility	○	○	○	○
Privately funded projects built by national or international companies, with the electricity generated purchased by the utility	○	○	○	○
Privately funded projects developed as community solar systems, where individual utility customers like yourself can elect to purchase the electricity generated	○	○	○	○
Publicly funded projects developed as community solar systems, where individual utility customers like yourself can elect to purchase the electricity generated	○	○	○	○
Privately funded projects on private property, with the electricity generated going primarily to the property owner.	○	○	○	○

---

* 8. Solar development projects involve a series of choices. For the choices below, please indicate which of the following you would be LESS or MORE likely to support or if your support would change if the project required tree removal.

If solar development were to occur in your community, would these factors change your support for the project?

	Less likely to support	More likely to support	Would not support if ANY tree removal is required
The project is privately funded	○	○	○
The project is publicly funded	○	○	○
The project is developed with mixed-use in mind, for example, carport parking that also has a rooftop solar system	○	○	○
The project is sited so that it provides a supplemental income for farmers on Long Island	○	○	○
The project is designed to provide lower electricity rates to low income households in my community	○	○	○
The project provides jobs and other forms of economic development in my community	○	○	○
The project is designed to provide lower electricity rates to schools in my community	○	○	○
The project provides lower electricity rates for me personally	○	○	○
The project provides a way for me to personally access electricity from solar	○	○	○
The project creates an increased tax base for my community	○	○	○
The project reduces greenhouse gas emissions, which contributes to mitigating climate change	○	○	○
The project is developed INSTEAD of putting light industrial development on that site	○	○	○
The project is developed INSTEAD of putting a commercial building or strip mall on that site	○	○	○
The project is developed INSTEAD of putting a new housing development on that site	○	○	○
The project is developed INSTEAD of developing new fossil fuel based electricity resources	○	○	○

* 9. When it to comes to solar development on Long Island, which of the following would you identify as benefits/reasons you would support? *(Please select ALL that apply)*

- [ ] I believe solar has positive health impacts for me and/or my family
- [ ] I believe solar has appealing or neutral aesthetic/visual impacts
- [ ] I believe solar has larger scale (regional to global) environmental benefits
- [ ] I believe solar has local environmental benefits
- [ ] I believe solar will decrease my electricity rates
- [ ] I believe solar will provide the economic benefit of jobs in my community
- [ ] I believe solar will provide economic benefits to me as a utility ratepayer
- [ ] None of the above

---

* 10. When it comes to solar development on Long Island, which of the following would you identify as the reasons you would not support?
(Please select ALL that apply)

- [ ] I do not like the aesthetic/visual impacts of solar
- [ ] I am concerned that solar has negative and unacceptable environmental impacts
- [ ] I am concerned that solar will have a negative economic impact on me or my community
- [ ] I am concerned that solar is not a good economic investment
- [ ] I am concerned that the economic benefits of solar are unfairly distributed
- [ ] I am concerned that solar development will increase my electricity rates
- [ ] I am concerned that solar has negative and unacceptable health impacts
- [ ] None of the above

---

* 11. Is there anything else you'd like us to know regarding your perspectives on solar energy development in your community?
(Please specify in the box below)

Demographic information
Please complete the following questions to provide some demographic data about yourself. Please remember that this information is completely voluntary and confidential.

---

* 12. Where is your primary place of residence on Long Island?

- ◯ City of Glen Cove
- ◯ City of Long Beach
- ◯ Town of Hempstead
- ◯ Town of North Hempstead
- ◯ Town of Oyster Bay
- ◯ Town of Babylon
- ◯ Town of Brookhaven
- ◯ Town of East Hampton
- ◯ Town of Huntington
- ◯ Town of Islip
- ◯ Town of Riverhead
- ◯ Town of Shelter Island
- ◯ Town of Smithtown
- ◯ Town of Southampton
- ◯ Town of Southold

---

* 13. What is your age?

- ◯ 18-29
- ◯ 30-39
- ◯ 40-49
- ◯ 50-59
- ◯ 60-69
- ◯ 70 or older
- ◯ Prefer not to answer

---

* 14. What is your gender?

- ◯ Male
- ◯ Female
- ◯ Other
- ◯ Prefer not to answer

---

* 15. What is your education level?

- ◯ No high school diploma or GED
- ◯ High school diploma or GED
- ◯ Associates Degree
- ◯ Bachelors Degree
- ◯ Masters Degree
- ◯ Doctoral Degree
- ◯ Prefer not to answer

---

* 16. What is your total annual household income range?

- ◯ $0 to $50,000
- ◯ $50,001 to $100,000
- ◯ $100,001 to $200,000
- ◯ $200,001 to $300,000
- ◯ $300,001 to $400,000
- ◯ $400,001 to $500,000
- ◯ Above $500,000
- ◯ Prefer not to answer

---

* 17. What best describes your race (choose all that apply)?

- ☐ White
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

---

* 18. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Prefer not to answer

---

* 19. What is your political affiliation?

- ◯ Democrat
- ◯ Republican
- ◯ Other
- ◯ Prefer not to answer

THANK YOU for taking the time to complete this survey!

OK

PREV DONE
