

# Maximize Multifamily Property Value with Energy Improvement Projects

*Webinar* Thursday, February 7, 2019

### Questions



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### Definitions



### <u>"Multifamily"</u>

- 5+ units
- Income eligible and market rate
- Private and non-profit owners
- Public housing authorities
- Senior / assisted living communities
- Condominiums
- Co-operatives

### <u>"Affordable"</u>

- >60% of property's units must offer rents affordable to tenants earning <80% of area media income (AMI)
- Affordable rents assume <30% of household income is spent on housing costs
- Affordable rent figures include all utility costs
- For condos and co-ops, total housing costs are considered, rather than rents
  - Mortgage
  - Insurance
  - Taxes
  - Utilities
  - Association Fees

# Eligible energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements

- Heating and cooling systems
- Hot water systems
- Building envelope
- Lighting and appliances
- Water efficiency
- Renewable energy systems (solar PV, solar thermal and others)
- Conversion from oil or electric to gas
- Qualified health and safety measures









### **Pre-Development Challenges**



- Does my property have an opportunity to make energy and \$saving improvements?
- How much energy / \$ do I have the potential to save?
- What project scope provides me with an optimal return on investment?
- In the absence of sufficient reserves, how can I afford to pay to do all of this work?

# **Green Bank Solutions Approach**

- De-risk the assessment process
- Decrease the upfront cost of:
  - Assessments
  - Audits
  - Green Design Work
  - → Improve Cash Flow
- Provide standardized and customized pathways for different levels of familiarity and sophistication with the energy design process

### **Pre-Development Loan Programs**



#### CONNEC. **GREEN BANK**

#### **Pre-Development Financing**



#### **Navigator Loan**

- Client managed contractor(s)
- Customized technical services



### Sherpa Loan

- Designated service provider
- Standardized process & fee schedule



# **Pre-development Loan Programs** - Details



### **Navigator Loan Program**

Type Rate

**Pre-development** Affordable properties 1.99%; Market-rate properties 3.99% Client pays 25%; program loans 75% Loan Process Owners select their own energy professionals



### Sherpa Loan Program

Туре	Pre-development
Rate	Affordable properties 1.99%;
	Market-rate properties 3.99%
Loan Process	Client pays 25%; program loans 75%
	Funds technical assistance by New Ecology, Inc.



To fund *energy-related* assessments, audits, and design. Passive House  $\rightarrow$  ability to fund more \$\$\$

# Project Implementation Challenges



- Insufficient reserves to implement
- Qualifying loan rates too high
- Lender restrictions on additional [secured] debt
- Need to remediate health and safety issues prior to project
- Need for "finish line" / mezzanine debt

# **Green Bank Solutions Approach**

- Unsecured and off-balance sheet term financing products
- Credit enhanced term financing interest rates
- Improvements (& financing) repaid out of energy savings
- Dedicated low interest health & safety financing available
- Term financing available as mezzanine debt for new construction

# **Energy Project Financing**



#### **Project Financing**



#### LIME

- Low Inc. Multifamily Energy
- Affordable
- Unsecured

#### Solar

- Solar projects only
- Commercial solar lease

#### **C-PACE**

- Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy

Secured

### **Catalyst Financing**

 Health & Safety Remediation financing



### Project financing terms



LIME	Type Rate Loan term Criteria	Affordable multifamily projects 6.00-6.75% 5-20 years 1.3x or greater project energy service coverage ratio	
Solar	Type Rate Loan term	Solar-only project Fixed or escalating price of power 20 years	
C-PACE	Type Rate	Market-rate projects 5.75-7.25%	and the same the same
	Loan term Criteria	5-25 years 1.0x or greater savings to investment ratio	

# **Basic Project Flow**



Pre-Dev	<ul> <li>Pre-Development Loan Closes</li> <li>Energy Audit / Savings Assessment</li> <li>Project Scope / Cost Finalized</li> <li>Utility Incentives Committed</li> </ul>
Term Financing	<ul> <li>Third Party Savings Review (if necessary)</li> <li>Term Financing Program Selected</li> <li>Project Underwriting</li> <li>Loan Terms Established</li> </ul>
Installation	<ul> <li>Term Financing Closes</li> <li>Installation Period Commences</li> <li>Project Completed</li> <li>Monitoring / Verification</li> </ul>

# Case Study: Value Added (Before)



<b>Building Description:</b>	Financing Terms:	
120 Units	• Loan Amount:	\$250,000
	• Term Length:	12 months installation (interest only)
10 Buildings		9 years permanent, fully amortizing
2 Stories	• Interest Rate:	6.00%
100,000 SF residential	<ul> <li>Proj. Savings:</li> </ul>	\$70,000
100,000 SI Tesidential	• Annual Payment:	\$36,012
	<ul> <li>Proj. DSCR:</li> </ul>	1.94X

Project Scope:

- Replacement of 10 inefficient oil-fired boilers with 95% efficient gas boilers
- Replacement of indirect, oil-fired hot water heaters with efficient gas models

SOURCES		USES	
Utility Company Rebates	\$ 43,937	Boiler and HWH Replacements	\$ 338,872
C4C Loan	\$ 250,000	Removal of Existing Oil Tanks	\$ 31,400
Borrower Reserves	\$ 125,818	Demoltion of Steel Boilers	\$ 7,500
		General Contractor	\$ 28,333
		C4C Fees and Closing Costs	\$ 4,650
		C4C Debt Service Reserve	\$ 9,000
Total	\$ 419,755	Total	\$ 419,755

# Case Study: Value Added (After)



#### Financial Projections:

- \$70,000 increase to project NOI in Year 1
- Free cash flows of \$34,000 in Year 1; \$300,000 over 9-year term

#### Actual Savings:

- \$75,000 in energy savings in Year 1 post-conversion
- \$7,500 in maintenance savings from average of last two years pre-conversion
- \$82,500 total project NOI increase
- \$46,388 in free cash flow to property, net of debt service

### Sale of Property:

- The property was sold two years after the conversion.
- The income-based valuation of the property used for the sale used a capitalization rate of 5.7%.
- The value that the oil-to-gas conversion contributed to the increased value of the property was \$2,500 / 5.7% = \$1.45 million.

# Case Study: Takeaways



#### Takeaways:

- This loan served as the pilot for what would become the Low-Income Multifamily Energy (LIME) loan, offered by C4C in conjunction with Connecticut Green Bank.
- This product is an unsecured loan, which uses projected savings as the payback mechanism for debt service on the term financing, with a minimum DSCR of 1.30X.
- In addition to projected energy savings, we can also incorporate any tangible operations/maintenance projections into our calculations. (Eliminated maintenance, reduced insurance premiums, etc.)
- For this project, a debt and equity investment of less than \$400,000 for an oil-to-gas conversion resulted in first-year positive cash flows of more than \$45,000 net of debt payments and a subsequent realized profit at the time of sale of over \$1 million.
- In general, an investment in energy efficiency for your property can generate shortterm net revenues and a long-term property valuation increase.





# Belfonti Companies: Multifamily Energy Efficiency Projects

Over past 5 years Belfonti Companies has completed nearly \$6 million of energy efficiency projects for its multifamily portfolio

#### Types of Completed Projects

- Oil to HE Gas conversion
- Electric heat pumps
- LED Lighting
- Insulation
- Energy Star appliances
- Low flush toilets
- Windows & Sliders

**Funding Sources** 

- Reserves / Capital Contributions by owners
- Utility incentives
- Energy Loans: C4C / CHFA





# Case Study: Heritage Commons

<b>Building Description:</b>
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92,500 SF residential

Financing Terms:

- Loan Amount: \$960,000
- Term Length: 20 years
- Interest Rate: 5.5%
- Proj. DSCR: 1.36X

#### Project Scope:

89 Units

4 Stories

Boiler replacements (oil to gas), heat pump replacements, rooftop unit replacements, variable frequency drives, and lighting upgrades.

Line Item		Before (2014-15)		After (2017-18)		Savings	
Electric	\$	145,773	\$	128,138	\$	17,635	
Natural Gas	\$	6,155	\$	23,338	\$	(17,183)	
Oil	\$	57,822	\$	-	\$	57,822	
Contracted Maintenance (Energy)	\$	46,146	\$	23,842	\$	22,304	
In-House Maintenance (Energy)	\$	33,435	\$	17,274	\$	16,160	
Total	\$	289,331	\$	<b>192,59</b> 3	\$	96,738	

### **Contact Us:**

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