How Connecticut Became the #1 Mainland State for Solar on Schools

January 27, 2026

CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK®

Welcome & Agenda

Introduction

Mission, Vision, & Impact

Solar MAP+

Public Renewables Project Report

Q&A

Mission & Vision

Connecticut Green Bank is the nation's first state level green bank. Established in 2011 as a quasi-public agency, the Green Bank uses limited public dollars to attract private capital investment and offers green solutions that help people, businesses and all of Connecticut thrive.

Our mission is to confront climate change by increasing and accelerating investment into Connecticut's green economy to create more resilient, healthier, and equitable communities.

PLANET PROTECTED
BY THE LOVE OF HUMANITY

Our vision

Our Goals

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Leverage limited public resources to scale-up and mobilize private capital investment in the green economy of Connecticut.

Pursue investment strategies that advance market transformation in green investing while supporting the organization's financial sustainability goals.

Strengthen Connecticut's communities, especially vulnerable communities, by making the benefits of the green economy inclusive and accessible to all individuals, families, and businesses.

The Green Bank Model

1 Attract Private Investment by Leveraging Public Funding

Public Funding
Ratepayer dollars, taxpayer dollars

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Private Investment
Individuals, credit unions, banks, bond buyers

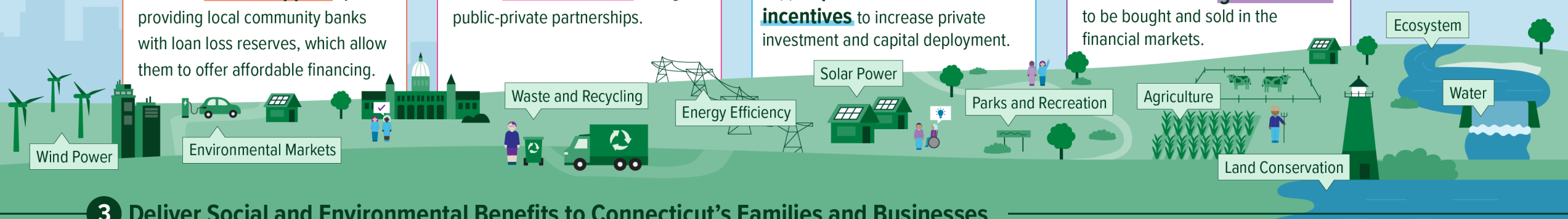
2 Apply Innovative Financial Tools to Deploy Investment Towards Our Programs

Generate **credit support** by providing local community banks with loan loss reserves, which allow them to offer affordable financing.

Initiate **co-investment** through public-private partnerships.

Support **performance- based incentives** to increase private investment and capital deployment.

Convert assets into **green bonds** to be bought and sold in the financial markets.



3 Deliver Social and Environmental Benefits to Connecticut's Families and Businesses

- Economic Development
- Ecosystem
- Energy
- Environmental Protection
- Equity

Our programs are designed for:

- Homes
- Contractors
- Buildings
- Communities

Our Solutions

The Green Bank is helping Connecticut flourish by offering green solutions for homes and buildings, and by creating innovative ways to invest in the green economy.

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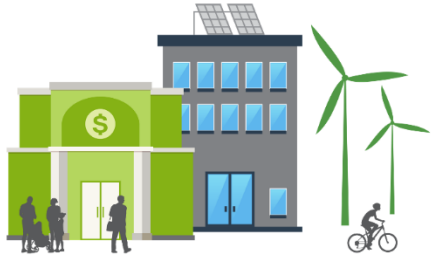
HOME SOLUTIONS

CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK
BUILDING SOLUTIONS

CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK
INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS



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COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS

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CONTRACTOR SOLUTIONS

energy storage SOLUTIONS

green solutions for buildings

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BUILDING SOLUTIONS

solarMAP+

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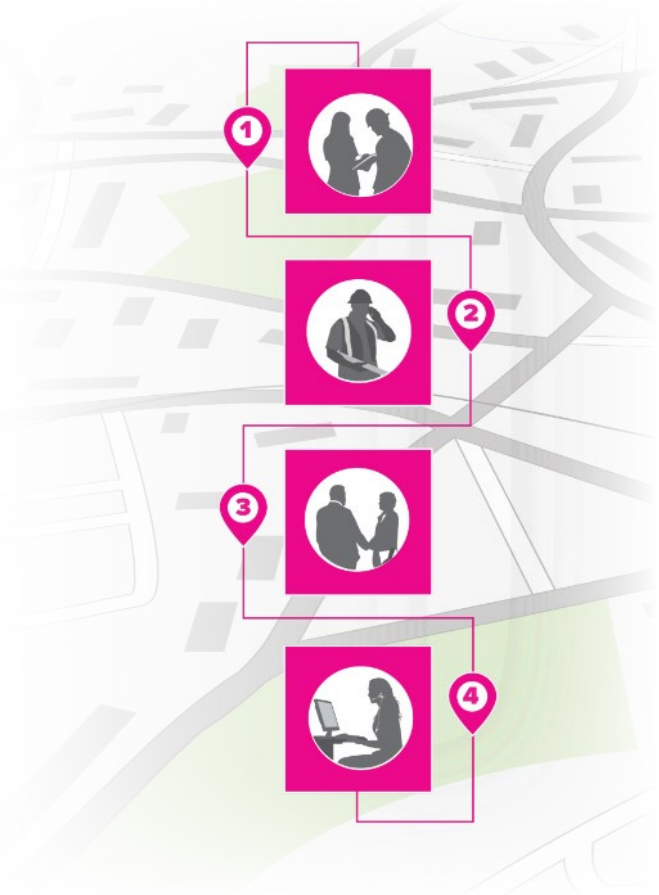
BUILDING SOLUTIONS

Less work. More benefits.
Now even easier for towns and cities.

- No-cost technical support and project development support for solar and storage projects for
  - State Agencies
  - Municipalities + Schools
  - Affordable Multifamily
- Benefit from Green Bank's flexible financing
- 60+ Municipal and State Agency projects developed to date
- Expansion into Affordable Housing to bring benefits to tenants



solarMAP+

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BUILDING SOLUTIONS

Site Analysis. The Solar MAP+ team works with stakeholders to perform an analysis of all eligible locations to **identify opportunities** for solar and storage projects.

Project Development. The Solar MAP+ team conducts **site visits and develops system designs** for each project to determine lease or loan economics.

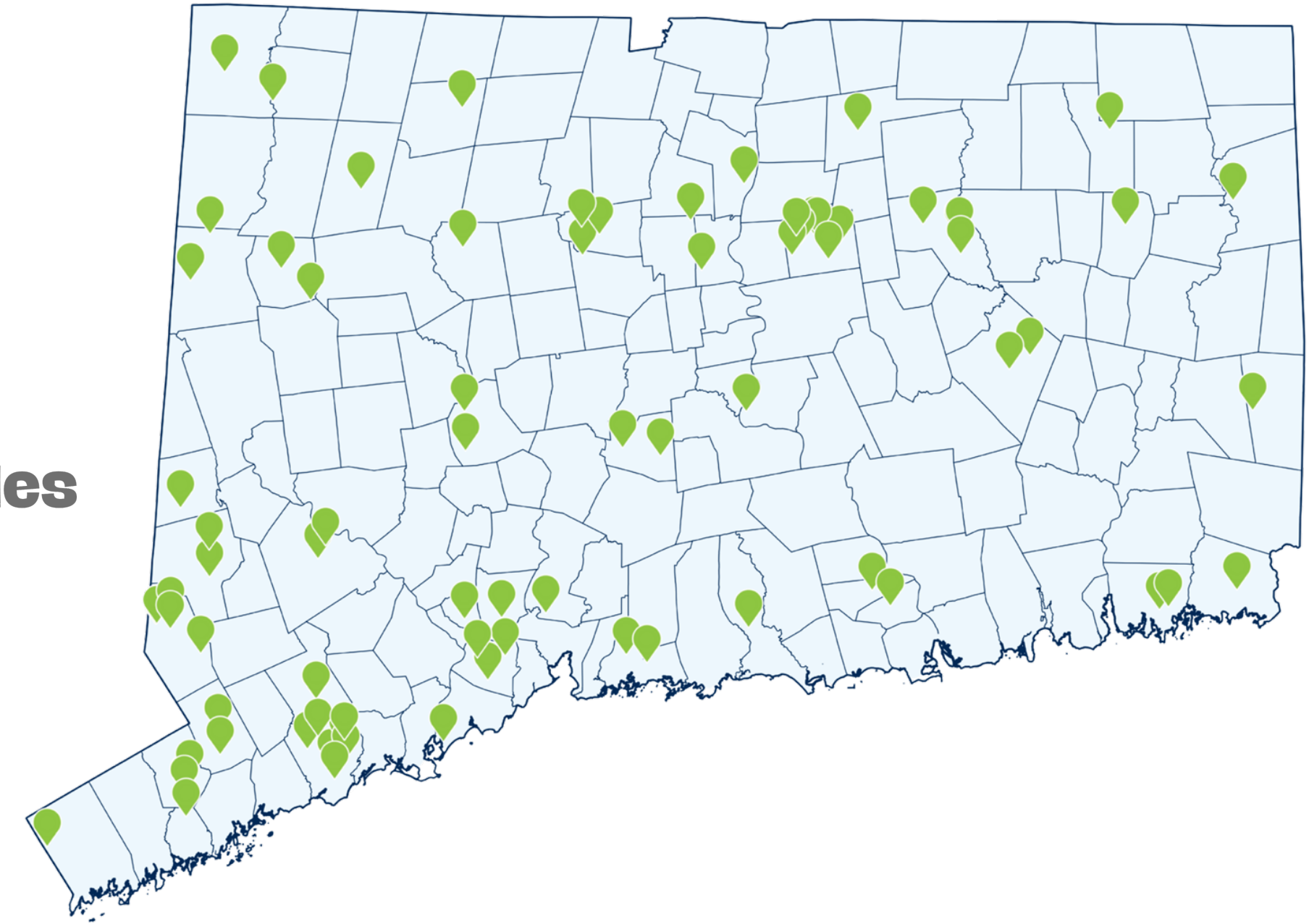
Execute. The Solar MAP+ team will present **project specs and pricing to execute a project agreement.**

Competitive Partner. The Solar MAP+ team will **solicit proposals** from qualified contractors and select the best proposal, **bundling participating projects together** to achieve economies of scale. Once a contractor is selected, the development and construction phases will then commence.

FIGURE 1

K-12 Solar Projects Developed by the Connecticut Green Bank (2014- 2025)

Public Renewables Project



The Problem:
Market Gaps in Clean Energy Deployment

Cumulative increase in solar, 2022-2023, **nationwide**:

23%

Cumulative increase in solar, 2022-2023, **at K-12 schools**:

4%

Why is clean energy stalling where it matters most?

The Solution:
Adding Public Renewable Energy Developers

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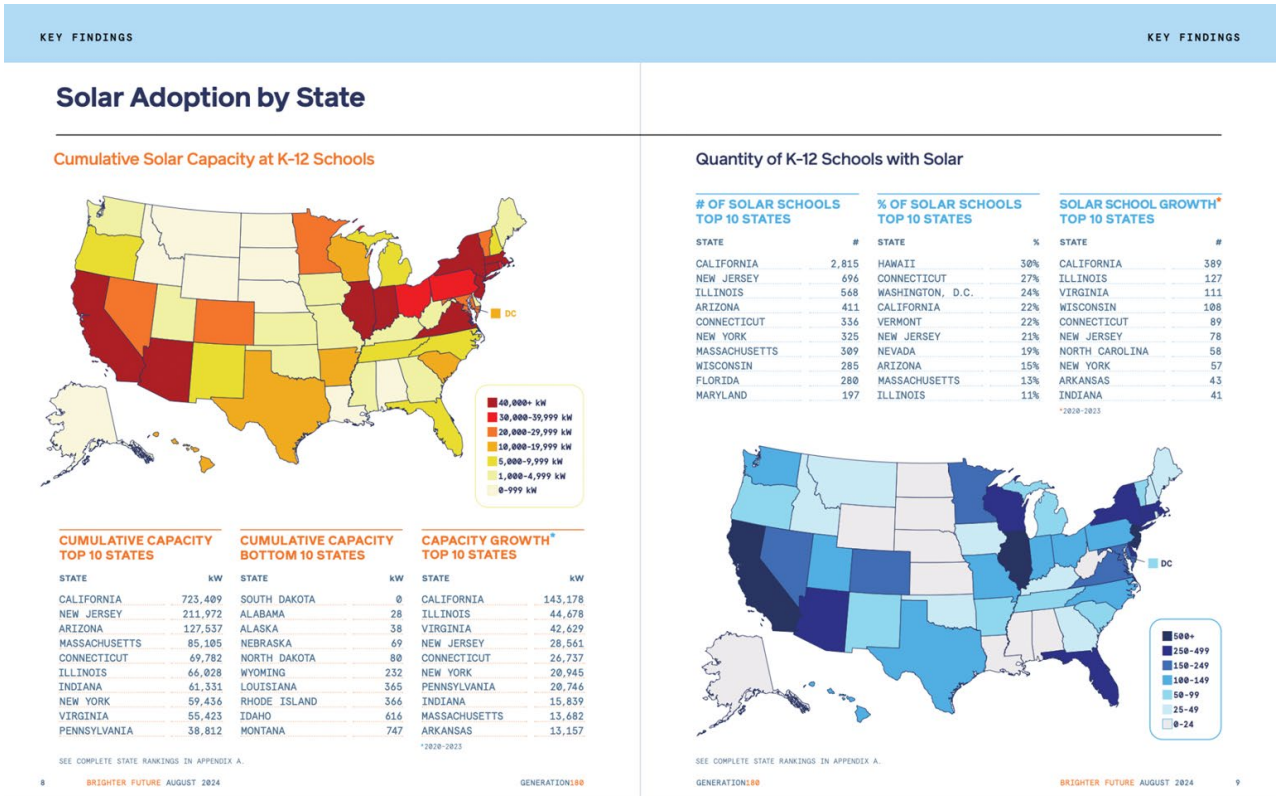
solarMAP TOWNS AND CITIES

The Gold Standard Model for Public Renewable Energy Development:

- Connecticut Green Bank's Solar Marketplace Assistance Program Plus (Solar MAP+)
- A "public developer" model for renewable energy deployment

Nationwide K-12 Solar Data Pointed Us Toward Connecticut

How did Connecticut become the #1 state for solar schools in the mainland US?



KEY FINDINGS

Solar Adoption by State

Cumulative Solar Capacity at K-12 Schools

CUMULATIVE CAPACITY TOP 10 STATES

STATE	kW
CALIFORNIA	723,409
NEW JERSEY	211,972
ARIZONA	127,537
MASSACHUSETTS	85,105
CONNECTICUT	69,782
ILLINOIS	66,028
INDIANA	61,331
NEW YORK	59,436
VIRGINIA	55,423
PENNSYLVANIA	38,812

CUMULATIVE CAPACITY BOTTOM 10 STATES

STATE	kW
SOUTH DAKOTA	0
ALABAMA	28
ALASKA	38
NEBRASKA	69
NORTH DAKOTA	80
WYOMING	232
LOUISIANA	365
RHODE ISLAND	366
IDAHO	616
MONTANA	747

CAPACITY GROWTH* TOP 10 STATES

STATE	kW
CALIFORNIA	143,178
ILLINOIS	44,678
VIRGINIA	42,629
NEW JERSEY	28,561
CONNECTICUT	26,737
NEW YORK	20,945
PENNSYLVANIA	20,746
INDIANA	15,839
MASSACHUSETTS	13,682
ARKANSAS	13,157

*2020-2023

SEE COMPLETE STATE RANKINGS IN APPENDIX A.

8 BRIGHTER FUTURE AUGUST 2024 GENERATION180

KEY FINDINGS

Quantity of K-12 Schools with Solar

 # OF SOLAR SCHOOLS TOP 10 STATES

STATE	#
CALIFORNIA	2,815
NEW JERSEY	696
ILLINOIS	568
ARIZONA	411
CONNECTICUT	336
NEW YORK	325
MASSACHUSETTS	309
WISCONSIN	285
FLORIDA	280
MARYLAND	197

% OF SOLAR SCHOOLS TOP 10 STATES

STATE	%
HAWAII	30%
CONNECTICUT	27%
WASHINGTON, D.C.	24%
CALIFORNIA	22%
VERMONT	22%
NEW JERSEY	21%
NEVADA	19%
ARIZONA	15%
MASSACHUSETTS	13%
ILLINOIS	11%

SOLAR SCHOOL GROWTH* TOP 10 STATES

STATE	#
CALIFORNIA	389
ILLINOIS	127
VIRGINIA	111
WISCONSIN	108
CONNECTICUT	89
NEW JERSEY	78
NORTH CAROLINA	58
NEW YORK	57
ARKANSAS	43
INDIANA	41

*2020-2023

SEE COMPLETE STATE RANKINGS IN APPENDIX A.

GENERATION180 BRIGHTER FUTURE AUGUST 2024 9

Generation180

Our Findings:

- **27%** of Connecticut's K-12 solar has been publicly developed, since 2015.
- **50–75%** of those projects were built in low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC) in recent years.

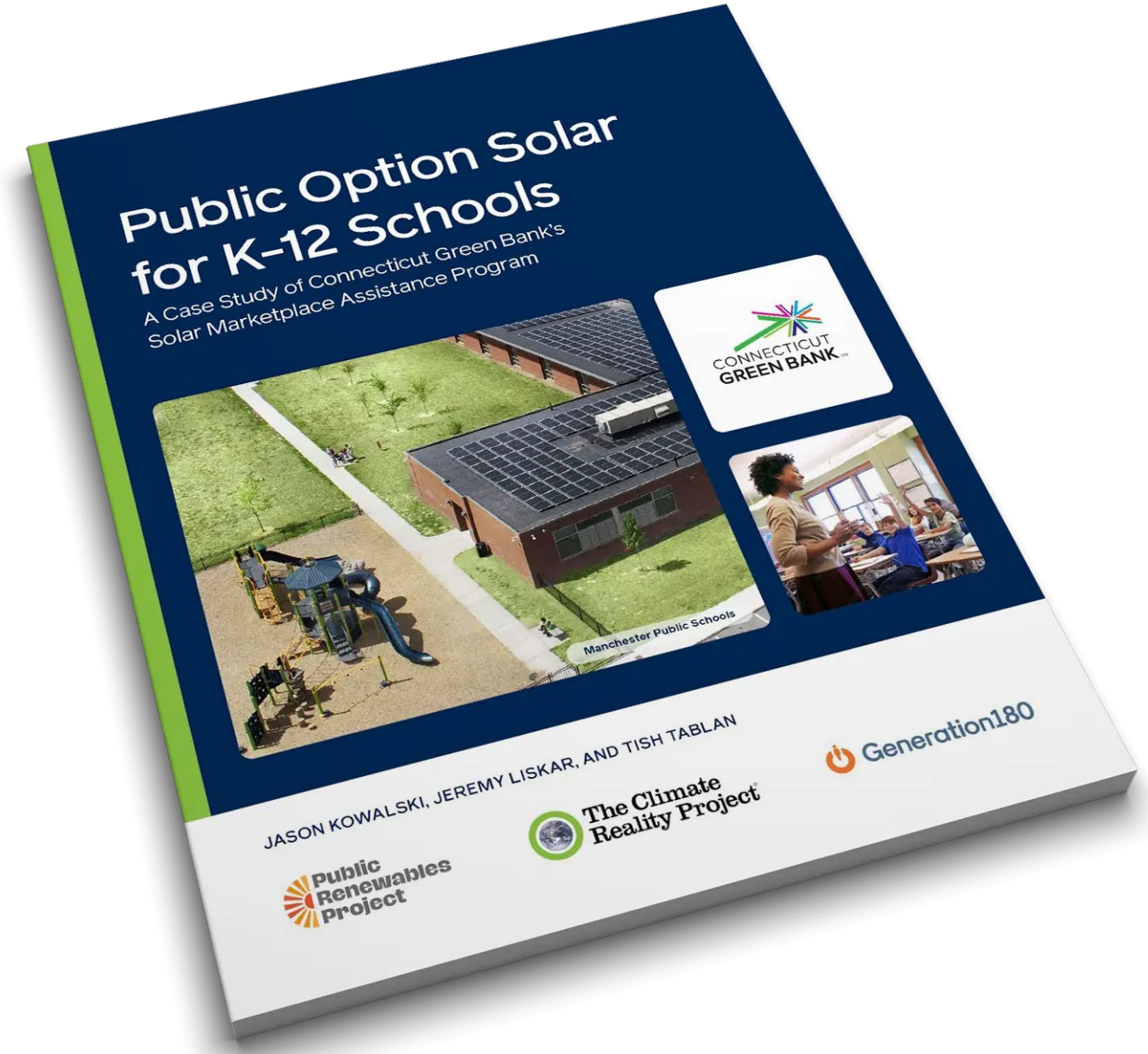
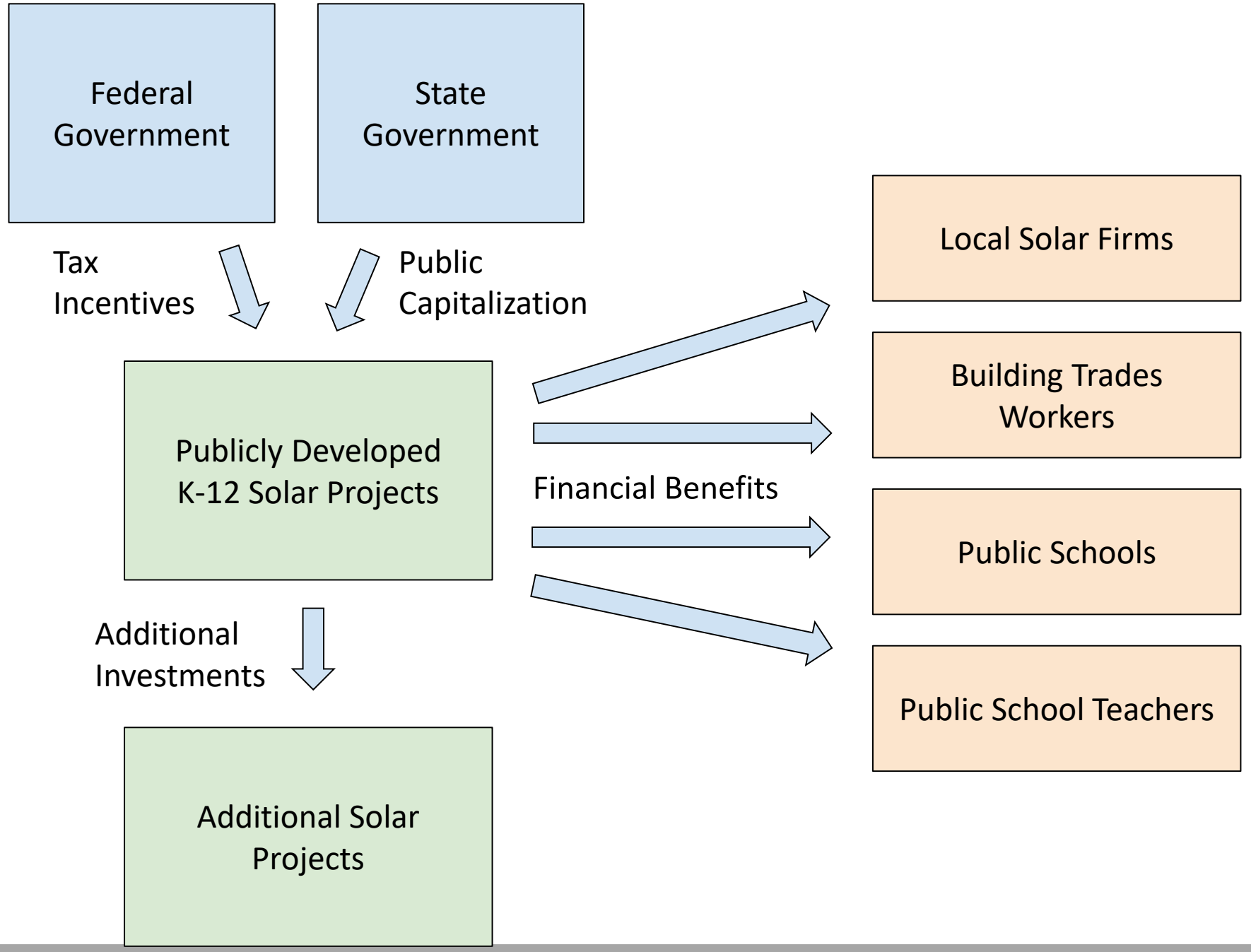


FIGURE 2

The Connecticut Green Bank's Share of Cumulative K-12 Solar Capacity 2015-2023

FIGURE 3

Who Benefits from Publicly Developed K-12 Solar?



K-12 Solar, Benefits and Barriers

Benefits:

- Financial Benefits for Schools
- Educational Benefits
- Community Visibility
- Large Flat Roofs
- Grid Benefits
- Rapid Planned Decarbonization Potential

Barriers:

- Access to Flexible Project-Scale Capital
- Upfront Procurement Process Costs
- Staff Bandwidth
- Lower Profits for Developers
- Distrust of For-Profit Outsourcing
- Policy Restrictions (net metering, interconnection, PPA restrictions)

Step in the Solar Development Process	Responsible Party Across Solar Ownership Models		
	Direct Ownership	Private Developer PPA with Procurement Best Practices	Connecticut Green Bank Solar MAP
Deciding to pursue solar	School District	School District	School District
Pre-RFP feasibility study	School District	School District*	Public Developer
Competitive RFP process for PPA provider or solar Installer	School District	School District*	Public Developer
Contract negotiation for PPA provider or solar installer	School District	School District	Public Developer
Project finance (equity, debt, etc.)	School District	Private Developer	Public Developer
Bridge loan for IRS tax credit	School District	Private Developer	Public Developer
Filing for IRS tax credit/direct pay	School District	Private Developer	Public Developer
Oversight of solar installation contracts and maintenance	School District	Private Developer	Public Developer

Thank you!

Learn more at:

www.publicrenewables.org

Program Spotlight: Town of Manchester

- 7 solar PV systems (over 2 MW) financed with the Green Bank Solar PPA
- Participated in Round 1 of Solar MAP along with 3 other towns
- Solar power provided an average 33% discount to utility power
- Average annual savings of $15,000 per building and a total savings over the term of $2.1 million
- Seven roof mounted solar PV systems on the municipal Water & Sewer Building and six Board of Education buildings

Program Spotlight: Portland's Brownstone School

- 67 kW solar PV systems financed with the Green Bank Solar PPA
- Participated in Round 1 of Solar MAP along with 3 other towns
- Solar power provided a **59% discount** to the cost of utility power
- Over $10,000 annual energy savings and a total savings over the term of $206,000

Questions & Answers

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Thank you for attending!

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