

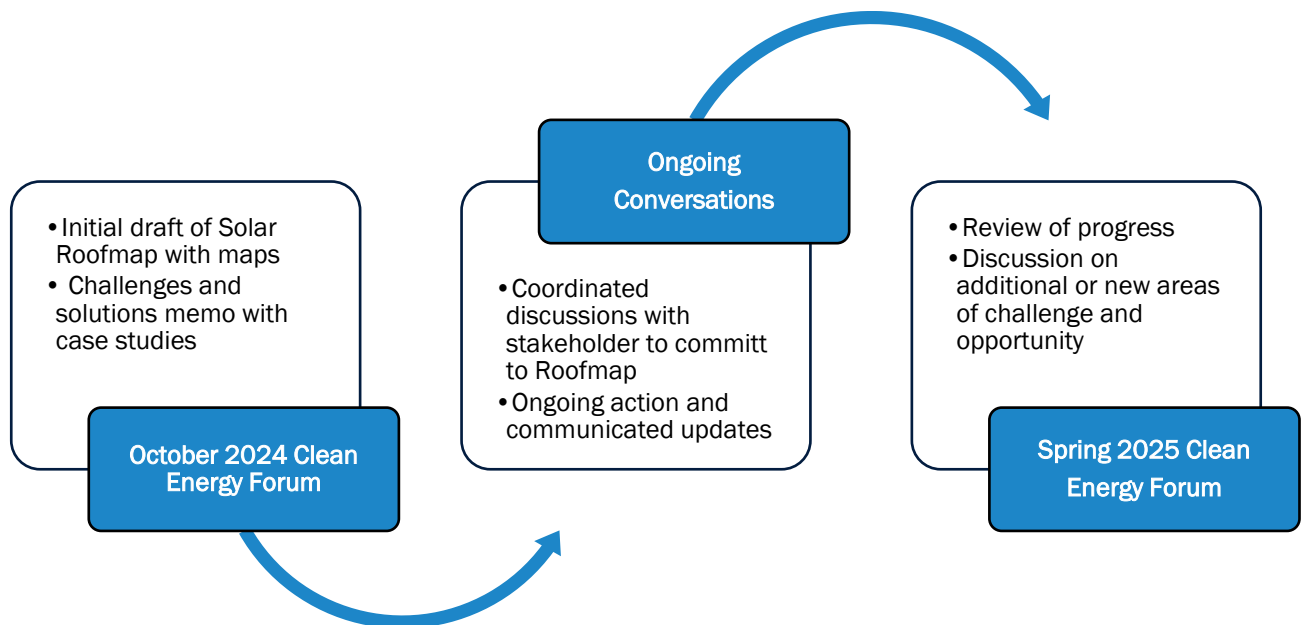
CLEAN ENERGY FORUM

Solar “Roofmap” Action Framework

Mason Energy, a George Mason University Initiative, along with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) and other local and regional partners, are convening stakeholders with the intention of mapping out a clear path to COG goal of 250,000 solar rooftops in the region by 2030 and take advantage of the unprecedented amount of funding and financing available to support accelerated deployment of non-utility scale solar. Goals for the forum include:

- Hearing from industry leaders about what works and has worked and what more is needed to accelerate regional solar deployment.
- Identifying and building on solutions to capitalize on opportunities and overcome challenges.
- Highlighting local and regional examples of successful projects and sharing specific step-by-step information about how those projects succeeded.

To operationalize this intention COG, in collaboration with Mason Energy will be working to gather stakeholder input to create an actionable Solar Roofmap (i.e., a framework for action to accelerate solar deployment) for the region and create buy-in and interest for action using the process outlined below.



Two key deliverables from the October 2024 Clean Energy Forum will be a memo that captures the challenges and what works and what does not work, including an overview of case studies with key relevant information, and the start of a Solar Roofmap that will map out workstreams and actions to address key challenges that need to be overcome to accelerate solar deployment in the region.

ACTION FRAMEWORK

To facilitate development of the Roofmap, COG conducted a pre-event survey to understand barriers, challenges and opportunities related to the topics of project economics and funding, permitting, and interconnection. The results of this survey were used to inform the start of a framework that will be the anchor of the Solar Roofmap and a core focus of discussion in the October Forum afternoon working sessions.

Project Type	Project Economics and Funding	Permitting	Interconnection
Single Family Residential	<p>Reducing total project costs and improving returns including tariffs and ongoing expenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	<p>Need for improved zoning regulations and requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	<p>Supply chain shortages for interconnection equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When
Multifamily Residential	<p>Understanding and capturing the best financing terms and products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	<p>Lack of familiarity with permitting requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	<p>Slow pace of net metering installation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When
Municipal	<p>Understanding what incentives are available and addressing changing values over time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	<p>Need for educating code officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	<p>Lack of visibility into interconnection queue, requirements, and costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When
Commercial	<p>Understanding of how to take full advantage of tax credits and/or direct pay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	<p>Permitting time delays/lack of streamlined processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	<p>Requirements for 'dark fiber' at installations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When
Nonprofits	<p>Consolidation of solar vendors reducing competition for projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	<p>Unexpected or high interconnection costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Solution [what] • Short-term action(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ○ Who ○ When 	

Other topics that were flagged in the pre-forum survey include: supply chain challenges, adequate workforce and training and education approaches, siting and prioritization of sites, new build requirements for solar, market development activities, community engagement and education, integrating resiliency and improved building conditions into solar projects, potential changes in tariffs and value of solar power production, community choice aggregation. These will be covered in ongoing discussions and the spring forum.