Solar Powering Sunnyside

Participant Instructions

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The fictional Town of Sunnyside is a diverse small town, with a wide variety of land uses. While it does not currently have any solar energy systems within its borders, many community members have expressed interest in pursuing opportunities to produce solar power locally. As a result, the town’s new comprehensive plan includes the following goal to achieve by 2030: Embrace local solar power production to support economic development and community resilience.

Now, Sunnyside is starting the process of identifying what types of solar development it would like to encourage through local land-use policies. As a first step, the town leaders have convened a community forum to help set a solar power production goal and develop a preferred solar development scenario.

Round 1

Set a Goal
As a group, discuss and set a solar power production goal for Sunnyside.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunnyside’s Annual Electricity Consumption</th>
<th>55,000,000 kWh</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low Goal (5%)</td>
<td>2,950,000 kWh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium Goal (10%)</td>
<td>5,900,000 kWh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Goal (15%)</td>
<td>8,850,000 kWh</td>
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Get into Character
Draw a character from the deck of “Character” cards. Review your character’s interests and concerns. Keep these in mind when discussing land uses and placing game pieces on the game board!

Place Game Pieces on the Board
As a group, draw “Land-Use Types” cards, discuss the solar development opportunities and challenges associated with each land use, and place game pieces on the board to achieve the solar power production goal that you have set. Explore how different configurations of game pieces on the game board can be used to meet your solar power production goal.
Round 2

Balance Community Priorities
As a group, draw “Balancing Community Priorities” cards to see how potentially competing goals related to tree preservation, historic preservation, and urban redevelopment affect your solar development scenario.

Adopt Zoning
As a group, roll the die and apply the corresponding “Adopting Zoning” card to see how Sunnyside’s approach to zoning affects your solar development scenario.

Consider Financial Realities
As a group, draw “Considering Financial Realities” cards to see how cost can also affect the prevalence and locations of different types of solar installations.