

Equitable Decarbonization and a Just Energy Transition for Low-Income Households

Barriers and Solutions



Inspiring communities to replicate and scale up solutions to effectively address equity and environmental justice

Monday, November 14
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm



Nice to meet you!

Genaro Bugarin Jr. Director of Energy Innovation



- Grew up in Mexico
- Engineer by training
- Business degree as a transition
- 12 years with TEC
 - I have found my passion!
- Community involvement includes CPA Community Advisory Committee and Boyle Heights STEM Magnet HS
- Alumn



The Energy Coalition (TEC)



Our “Why”

Our mission is to empower communities to leap into the future of clean energy.

We envision a future in which communities **produce** clean energy that is **affordable** and **accessible** for everyone.



How We Do It

A customizable suite of service options:

-  Program Design & Project Implementation
-  Education & Workforce Development
-  Marketing & Outreach
-  Policy & Planning

Source of today's perspectives and experience



The Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC)



Accelerating the Deployment of Advanced Energy Communities

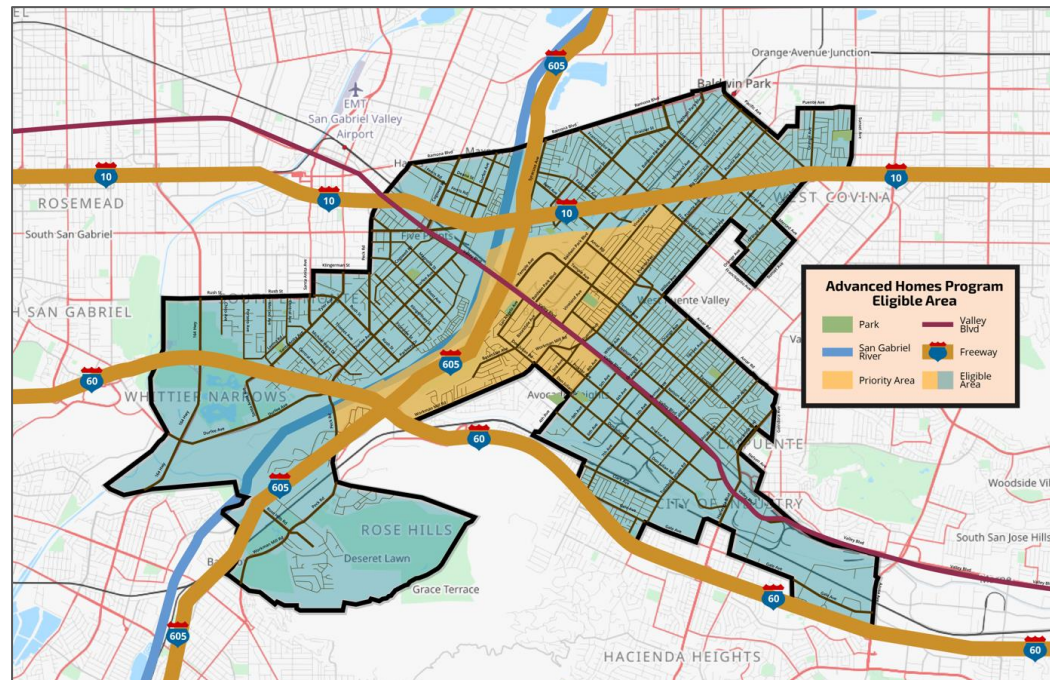


Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program



Serving the Bassett, Avocado Heights, and Surrounding Communities

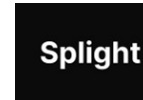
- Targeted at low-income
- All disadvantaged tracts
- 84% Hispanic, annual median household income of \$60,000



Implementation Partners



NOT including Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Community Advisory Committee (CAC)



Air Quality

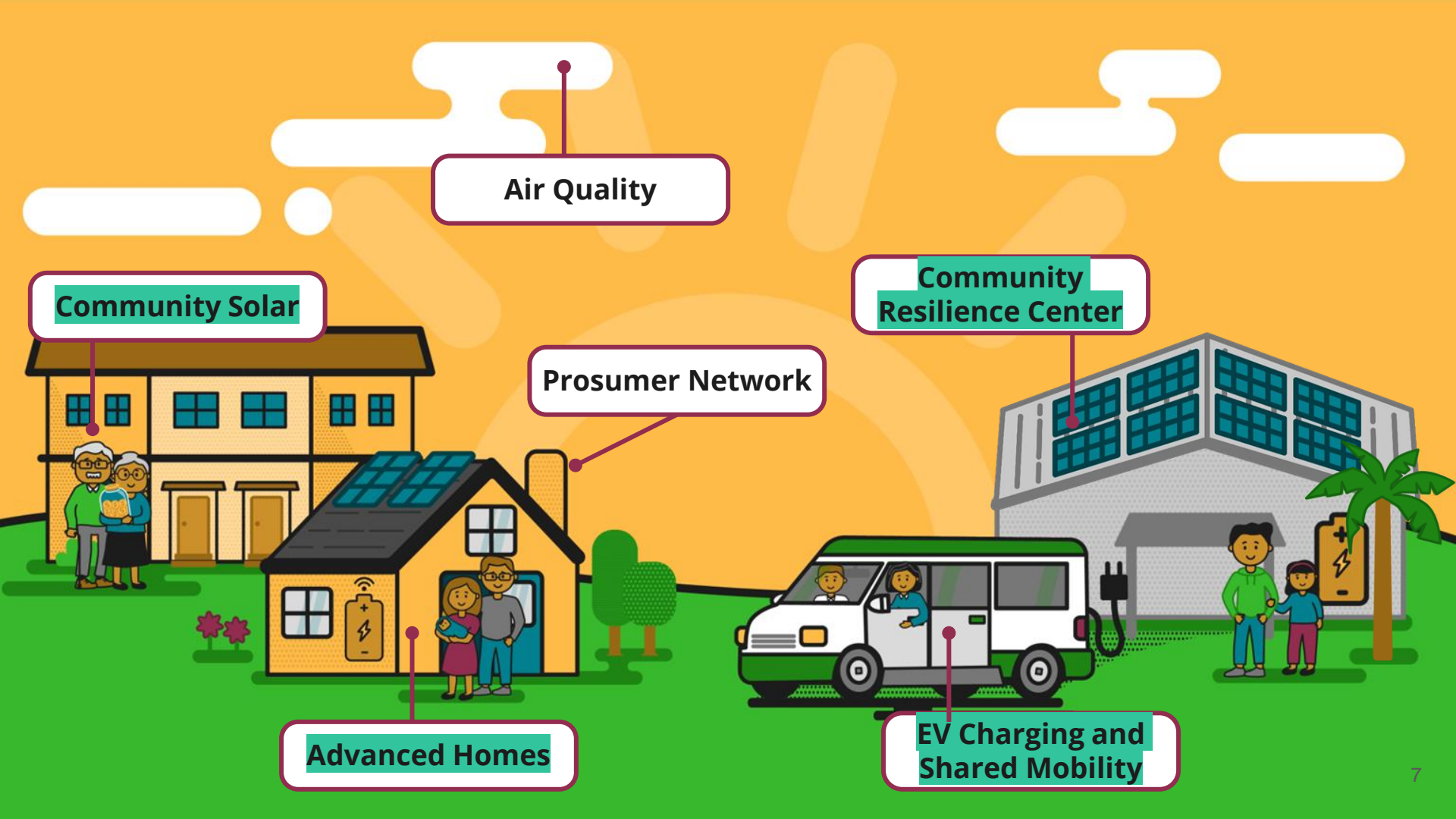
Community Solar

Community Resilience Center

Prosumer Network

Advanced Homes

EV Charging and Shared Mobility



Overall Community Outreach

Authentic (+ sustained) Engagement

- Partnerships with community-based organizations and public agencies - schools, local government.
 - Engage as **early** as possible, and **throughout** the project, not just at the start.
- Provide **wraparound** services that address health, safety, social, and economic concerns.
- **Diverse** strategies: Presentations, Workshops, Demos, Pop-ups, Direct Mailers, Canvassing, and Banners (in-language)

74
Outreach
activities
completed

533
Residents
assessed for
eligibility



Overall Community Engagement

Barriers and Solutions

Distrust of Energy Companies and/or Data Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Build relationships with community members through education and outreach● Have answers to community members' concerns● Emphasize the no cost aspect<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Home Improvement Salesperson● Clearly communicate benefits and participant expectations up front
Lack of Understanding and Opportunities about/for Clean Energy Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Provide accessible family-friendly and youth-focused education● Provide outreach and materials in multiple languages
History of Environmental Inequities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Use a framework of environmental justice and equity● Communicate the long-term vision, distinguishing the project as a solution
Geographic Fluidity of Unincorporated LA County	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Proactively use brand name in all communications● Clearly define eligibility early on

Community Solar



Outcome

- 400+ Power Share enrollments
 - Total of 1216 meaningful interactions
- Expected to serve 340 Power Share customers
 - CPA will subscribe residents at the start of 2024

Insight

- Include funding and TA for community to participate

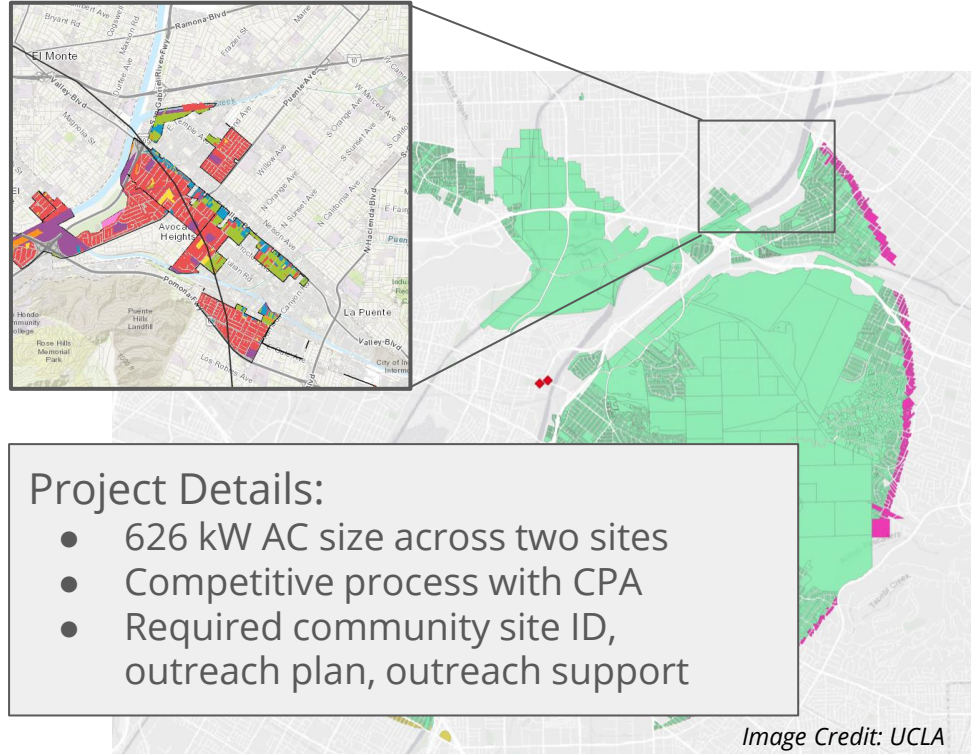


Image Credit: UCLA



Advanced Homes

1. **Increase coordination** of utility Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) Program and other Income-Qualified Programs
 - BAAEC working with 38 of 533 households engaged
2. Expand **rebate cost eligibility** to required home improvements
 - BAAEC solar required 60% roof replacements, 74% panel upgrades
3. Provide low-income households with **upfront rebates**
 - BAAEC SGIP rebate using dedicated bridge financing
4. Increase **communication standards** and interoperability
 - DR-Ready not so much. Early days. Only two manufacturers able to control water heater
5. Households will have **different motivations**
 - Not always environmentally or cost savings driven

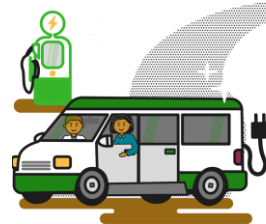


Advanced Homes

- Solar PV
- Battery Storage
- EE / Weatherization
- Heat Pump Water Heater
- Induction Stove
- Home Energy Assessment



EV Chargers & Shared Mobility



- Develop business models for **turnkey** EV Charger installation
 - BAAEC found it difficult to find a installation partner that met site host needs
 - Key challenges
 - Unable to carry the cost of waiting for the utility rebate
 - Determined the site host represented financial risk
- Develop more awareness and **community buy-in** for zero-emissions shared mobility programs
 - BAAEC unsuccessful with vanpool
 - BAAEC unsuccessful with microtransit



Community Resilience Center



10 Technical Potential

2 Preliminary Analysis

1 site selected

Identified through CAC and community engagement

Narrowed through criteria:

- Operating facility
- Technical potential
- Within BAAEC project area

- Provide for a **participatory process** in site selection
- **Map stakeholders** for buy-in

LA County Parks + Bassett USD sites

Presented to school board

Community survey

LA County Parks & Rec



Conclusion

Our BAAEC experience shows that Driving Transformation requires



1. Community partnerships
 - a. Engage early and throughout the program, provide adequate resources, give ownership and allow community decision making
2. Community-wide and cross-sector projects and strategies
 - a. Clean energy, green infrastructure, health and wellbeing, workforce development etc
 - b. Community engagement needs to be more wholistic services support
3. Committed implementation partners with aligned business models
 - a. Lead with equity and/or be flexible to support investing in people; long-term investment in communities



Thank you!

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