

Project: Highway Garage Solar Project

State program: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Climate Smart Communities Grant Program

Project site: Town Highway Garage

Project goal

Use the Highway Garage roof to generate renewable electricity for an essential municipal facility. The project is intended to offset a portion of the garage's electricity use, reduce greenhouse-gas emissions from Town operations, and lessen the effect of future energy-cost increases on the municipal budget.

Objectives

- Confirm the most cost-effective system size for roof-mounted configuration and/or solar canopy in the town parking lot.
- Generate renewable electricity for use at the Highway Garage.
- Reduce municipal electricity purchases and associated greenhouse-gas emissions.
- Improve energy-cost predictability over the useful life of the system.
- Advance the Town's Climate Smart Communities and municipal sustainability work.

What the grant would support

Final engineering, structural and electrical review, system sizing, and production analysis; roof-mounted photovoltaic panels, racking, inverters, electrical equipment, and related improvements; utility interconnection, permitting, installation, testing, commissioning, monitoring, inspection, project administration, and grant closeout.

Proposed budget

Total project: About \$200,000 | State request: \$100,000 | Town share: \$100,000

The current Town share is proposed as a General Fund cash contribution. Final cost, system size, and production estimates will be confirmed through engineering and the State grant process.

Public benefit

- Lower electricity purchases for an essential municipal facility.
- More predictable long-term operating costs and reduced exposure to energy-price increases.
- Reduced greenhouse-gas emissions from Town government operations.
- Productive use of an existing municipal roof rather than a separate development site.
- A practical implementation of the Town's climate and clean-energy commitments.

Partners, status, and Board action

The project is being developed by the Climate Smart Committee and MVEDD. Solar Liberty has provided preliminary input; final design, production, cost, and procurement decisions remain subject to professional and municipal review. Board authorization would permit application submission and proposed General Fund match; it would not select a contractor or approve a final solar design.