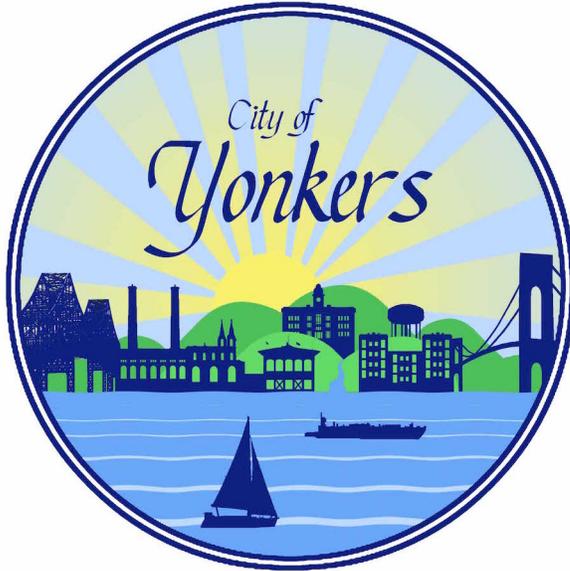


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**YONKERS COUNCIL ADOPTS ENERGIZE NY PROGRAM
HELPING BUSINESSES REDUCE ENERGY COSTS**



YONKERS, NY – The Yonkers City Council met this week and unanimously passed a law authored by City Council President Liam McLaughlin which would establish a clean energy financing program in Yonkers. Yonkers would be the first big city in the state to take advantage of the Property Assessed Clean Energy, or PACE program, that has been authorized by the State.

“I’m proud that the Yonkers City Council has voted unanimously to enable Energize NY Finance for

clean energy projects in the City,” Council President McLaughlin said. “We want to see energy efficiency and renewable energy projects completed in Yonkers because it will save our business owners money that is currently being wasted on energy and will create the jobs that our community needs.”

According to McLaughlin, the program, known as Energize NY, would help commercial property owners directly address rising operating costs by providing critical support, tools, and long-term financing to implement clean-energy upgrades for their buildings through an assessment levied on their property tax bill. The City must now enter into a municipal agreement with the Energy Improvement Corporation, or EIC, a New York State Local Development Corporation (LDC) established to take advantage of the 2010 state law that enabled PACE financing.

“We are very excited that Yonkers has taken this important step to becoming a member of Energize NY and offering clean energy options to its residents,” said Mark Thielking, Executive Director of Energize NY. “We look forward to working with Yonkers to realize the many benefits of reducing energy waste in local buildings – decreased spending on energy, enhanced profitability for local businesses, increased local economic activity and job creation, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants associated with energy consumption,” explained Thielking.

Projects eligible for financing include solar PV (electric) arrays, high-efficiency lighting, upgrades to HVAC systems, air sealing, and insulation to reduce electricity and primary fuel load through an existing New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) or utility program.

The EIC recently signed a letter of intent with the Bank of America (BoA) to provide \$75,000,000 in ready capital to finance hundreds of projects across New York State.

Access to private-sector capital has the support of the NY Green Bank, a state-sponsored investment fund dedicated to overcoming obstacles in clean-energy financing markets, which guarantees the clean energy financing loans at no risk to the municipality. The loans are then repaid through the property assessment.

At the same meeting, the City Council also voted on another piece of environment legislation sponsored by Council President McLaughlin which would prohibit the use of hydrofracking waste as a de-icing agent on city streets and requiring the Commissioner of Public Works to promulgate application and spreader rates for the use of eco-friendly deicing agents such as brine or beet juice, which are just as effective, whenever they are available and cost-effective.