# **Community-Based Energy Planning Financing and Business Structures**



# **Organizational Challenges**

- Constrained capital budgets
- Not the core business of the owner/developer
- Dynamic customer needs
- Non-rated customers





# Financing Structure Challenges

- Bridge capital from feasibility to financing
- Use of public funds for private use
- At-risk capital with expected returns
- Off-balance sheet transactions





# **Case Studies**



# District Energy Corporation Advancing District Energy in Lincoln, NE

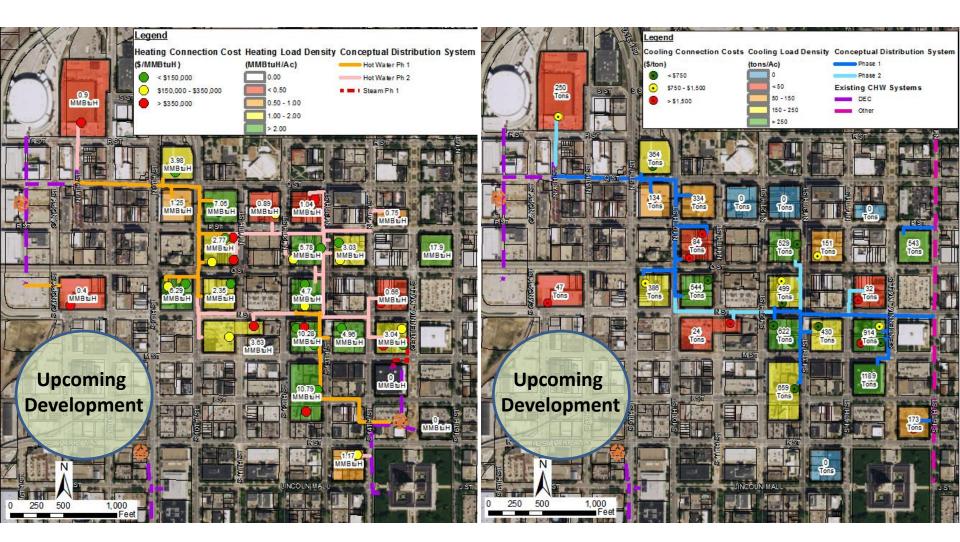






# **DEC Growth Opportunities**







# **DEC Organizational Constraints**



- Restrictions allow service only to governmental entities
- System ownership
- Written consent required to serve private customers
- Existing tax exempt bonds restricting private use to 10% of output





### **Factors To Consider**



- Changing governing documents
- Tax-exempt vs. taxable financing
- Maintaining a high bond rating
- Risk appetite for current stakeholders
- Demand charge impact for current customers







- Scenario 1 Agreement with a public (governmental) entity (new or existing)
- Scenario 2 DEC as a "traditional" utility with taxexempt debt
- Scenario 3 DEC as a "traditional" utility with taxable debt
- Scenario 4 Retain current structure (within 10% private use limit)





### Scenario 1 – Agreement with a public entity

**Description:** Public entity is the purchaser of excess DEC capacity. Customers (public/private) receive service based on the public entity's utility rate schedule

### Advantages

- Maintains DEC tax exempt financing capability
- Take or pay contract for DEC
- Public entity holds credit risk

- Interface with an additional governing body
- Loss of direct control over customer outreach and growth strategies





### Scenario 2 – DEC as a Traditional Utility, Tax-Exempt Debt

**Description:** DEC adds utility service to private customers by restructuring governing documents, rate setting, and financing methods

### Advantages

- Continued ability to issue tax-exempt debt
- No long-term take or pay contracts utilized

- Customers have other heating and cooling options
- Small customer base
- Bond rating could be affected by creditworthiness of private customers





### Scenario 3 – DEC as a Traditional Utility, Taxable Debt

**Description** - Issue taxable debt for new needs and refund existing bonds, enter into long term take or pay contracts, use Local District Heating & Cooling (LDHC) tax-exempt bonds for distribution piping

### Advantages

- Customers fully obligated to pay bonds, lowering DEC risk
- Take or pay contracts

- Potentially higher cost of issuing and retiring debt
- Small scale customer base
- Bond rating could be affected by creditworthiness of private customers
- Take or pay contracts may minimize growth opportunities





### <u>Scenario 4</u> – Retain Current Structure

**Description:** New private customer consumption is limited to 10% of the maximum possible output of the generating facilities, over the life of the debt

### Advantages

- Pipelines could be funded with LDHC bonds to lessen private use impact related to debt
- Take or pay contracts could be utilized

- Limited to 10% private use of existing facilities
- Administrative challenges balancing private use and customers on utility rate schedules
- Bond rating could be affected by creditworthiness of private customers



# **Structuring For Growth**



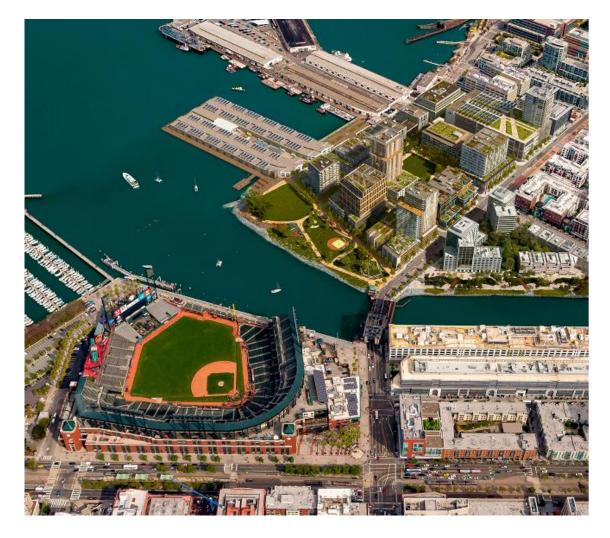
- Remove organizational constraints
- Prepare the business operations for growth
  - Energy service agreement
  - Energy rate strategies
  - Reallocation of demand charges
  - Customer service strategy
- Growth within the 10% constraint
- Determine optimal financing strategy





# District Energy at Mission Rock San Francisco, CA



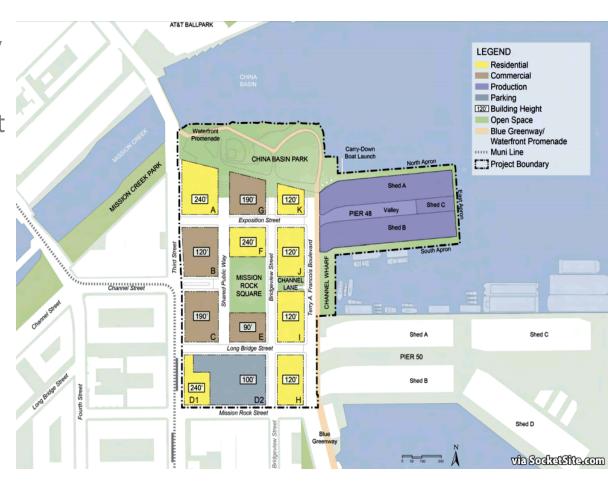






# **Mission Rock Development**

- 28-acre site owned by the SF Port Authority
- 3.5 million square feet of mixed-use development
- San Francisco Giants:
   Master Developer
- Ever-Green Energy: developer, operator, and manager of the district energy system







# **Mission Rock Development Goals**

#### **ECODISTRICT GOALS**



#### **ENERGY**

#### 20-26% better than ASHRAE 90.1-2010

- Central Energy Plant for heating, cooling, and hot water
- Tenant sub-metering and real time information
- Tenant committments to reduced plug-loads

#### WATER

# Zero potable water use for non-potable applications

- 33-47% Reduction in GHG emissions
- Water efficient fixtures
- Centralized graywater system
- Potential for bay source cooling

#### WASTE

# 25-50% increase in waste diversion over SF baseline

- User education to increase waste separation
- Source control programs to limit sale of landfill materials

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

#### 7% Reduction in carbon emissions from automobile use

- Improved transit services
- Improved bike facilities and network
- Improved walking connections and experience
- TMPs





### **Mission Rock DES**

- Load defined
  - 21 MMBtu/hour
  - 2,900 tons
- Energy supply options
  - Bay water energy capture
  - Wastewater energy capture
- Targeting development approvals by Fall 2017







## **Organizational Options for Implementation**

- Non-profit business
- California Public Benefit Corporation
- For-profit business







### **Non-Profit Business**

### Pros

- Cost-based rates
- Should be able to take advantage of low-cost, tax-exempt debt
- Board level participation for key stakeholder groups

### Cons

- Requires IRS approval
- Higher initial formation costs
- Less flexibility for future expansion
- Increased oversight from the IRS





# California Public Benefit Corporation

### Pros

- Board-level participation for stakeholder groups
- Similar to non-profit, cost-based rates

### Cons

- Increased regulation to maintain CPBC status
- Increases the cost of service to end users





### **For-Profit Business**

### Pros

Encourages third-party equity investment

### Cons

- Decreased involvement from stakeholders
- Increases the cost of service to Mission Rock customers





# **Types of Credit Enhancement/Support**

- End user/off-take contract guarantees
- Single off-taker between Mission Rock DES and its customers
- Provide senior debt financing for all or a portion of the project
- Provide DES debt guarantee
- Provide subordinated debt financing





# **DES Financing Options**

Estimated Revenue Bond Interest Rates By Bond Type and S&P Rating			
Bond Type	A-	BBB-	Non-Rated
Tax-Exempt 501c3	3.75%	4.25%	5.50%
Tax-Exempt (AMT)	4.00%	4.50%	6.00%
Taxable	4.50%	5.50%	7.25%
Subordinated Debt	8.00%	10.00%	12.00%





# **Proposed Financing Model**

### Credit Enhancement/Support by SF Port

- 100% debt financing
- ~2/3 of the annual cost of the DES is debt service
- Customers' annual energy costs reduced ~30%
- 250,000 square foot building saving ~\$200,000 per year
- Enhanced land value
- Potential revenue to SF Port for credit enhancement/support



# **Summary**



One size doesn't fit all



# **Questions?**

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