

CITIZEN COMMENT CARD

The Board of County Commissioners values your participation

Please fill out this card if you wish to speak or record your sentiment regarding an agenda item or general topic. Individuals wishing to speak may do so for up to three minutes when called to the lectern.

Citizens to be Heard

Agenda Item

Agenda date: 8/15

Agenda item number (NOT case number): _____

Speaking:

For Against Undecided

Waive speaking:

In Support Against

(The Chairman will read this information into the record.)

Topic: BEACH RENOVATION

Name: JOSE L. CORDEN

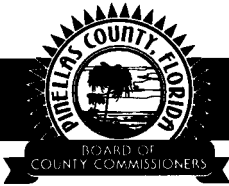
Address: 4 Gulf Blvd #204

City: LRB Zip: 33785

Email: RSandBeh@AALCOOK
Micha IG Julia@ydhoo.com

Please refer to the Pinellas County Commission Public Participation & Decorum Rules for details.

Visit Pinellas County online at www.pinellascounty.org



CITIZEN COMMENT CARD

The Board of County Commissioners values your participation

Please fill out this card if you wish to speak or record your sentiment regarding an agenda item or general topic. Individuals wishing to speak may do so for up to three minutes when called to the lectern.

Citizens to be Heard
 Agenda Item

Agenda date: 5/15/17

Agenda item number (NOT case number): 44 Public Council

Speaking:
For Against Undecided

Waive speaking:
In Support Against
(The Chairman will read this information into the record.)

Topic: FL Sun Solar Co-ops

Name: DAVE Sillman

Address: 6415 Giribard Ct.

City: New Port Richey Zip: 34652

Email: dave@beyourbestinc.com

Please refer to the Pinellas County Commission Public Participation & Decorum Rules for details. Visit Pinellas County online at www.pinellascounty.org

Thanks and let me know if I can answer any questions, and note that I would be glad to present our Powerpoint and answer questions at a future BOCC meeting (or in a one-off, since our launch is only a few weeks away)

Thanks,

Dave Sillman –
N. Pinellas FL Sun Coordinator (Volunteer)
Tel: 727.807.3911
Cell: 678.642.7305



[FL Sun](#) is currently forming **solar co-ops** across Florida, including one coming to N. Pinellas in September. This program is a win-win-win for our community (ie, consumers, local solar industry, environment) and is proving very popular and growing fast!

The FL Sun co-ops bring together groups of homeowners interested in going solar, then solicits competitive bids and volume discounts from local installers. The aims of the program are to –

- raise public awareness to the many benefits of solar through public information meetings
- make residential solar more affordable through group discounts; and offer guidance thru the purchase process
- lower folks' electric bills
- support our local solar industry and the jobs they create, and
- try to move FL towards solar leadership nationally [sadly the Sunshine State is currently a laggard]

Expanding solar presents a golden opportunity to improve the environment, economy and quality of life for our citizens and we would like to invite Pinellas County to join us as a Community Partner to help us promote this important initiative.

x
x x x x x x x

Synopsis –

FL Sun is a partnership between the League of Women Voters and Community Power Network ([CPN](#)), a non-profit whose goal is to help get more solar deployed around the country. CPN has formed ~80 co-ops in 4 states over the past several years, and launched one of the first FL Sun solar co-op in St Pete in 2016. Since then 9 more co-ops have launched around the state, with another dozen or so in various stages of formation, and some communities going back to form additional co-ops. Thus far the co-ops have proven to be wildly popular, signing up hundreds of homeowners (each) and garnering ~20%+ group discounts for co-op members!

Our Process –

- We conduct a series of public 'solar information meetings' to educate & answer questions about going solar
- Once approximately 30 families sign up to join the group we put out an RFP to get competitive bids from local installers
- We guide the group through the selection process, including in-depth evaluation of each solar installer and their bids, and as a group we select our installer(s)
- Once the installer is chosen they contact each member individually to evaluate their project and generate a customized estimate
- We remain engaged through installation to assist if necessary.

Community Partners -

The way we market the co-ops is through Community Partners (ie. City or County governments, media partners, community groups, Churches, Foundations, etc) who:

- endorse our efforts in spirit,
- lend a logo for our website
- help us spread the word through their events, websites, newsletters, etc.
- Sometimes lend a venue for a Solar Information Meeting
- Sometimes lend an official to speak at our kickoff press conference

You'll see examples of some of community partners on the FL Sun website: <http://www.flsun.org/>. Our roster of partners in N. Pinellas includes the cities of Safety Harbor and Tarpon Springs, the Sierra Club and Southern Alliance For Clean Energy, the Universal Unitarian church of Tarpon Springs, USF's Clean Energy Research Center and Physicians For Social Responsibility.

This is an important & exciting time in FL's transition to clean energy. With St Pete and Dunedin's recent commitment to transition to 100% renewables (along with ~30 other American cities), and following last year's 'battle of the solar amendments', we know that 70+% of ALL Floridians want more solar! FL Sun provides a golden opportunity to tap into this momentum and take advantage of the many benefits that more solar can provide our community!

Here are a few links to stories about some of our existing co-ops –

TBT FL Sun: <http://www.tampabay.com/news/business/energy/league-of-women-voters-starts-co-op-program-for-solar-energy/2285451>

ABC News story: <http://www.abcactionnews.com/news/local-news/solar-co-ops-spurring-solar-electricity-growth-in-tampa-bay-area>

Sun Sentinel (Broward): <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/business/fl-bz-solar-co-ops-form-in-broward-20170215-story.html>

OpEd Gainesville Sun: <http://www.gainesville.com/opinion/20170430/editorial-sunnier-outlook-for-solar-power>

TBT - "Tampa named an up-and-coming solar energy city": <http://www.tampabay.com/news/business/energy/tampa-named-an-up-and-coming-solar-energy-city/2319071>



FLSUN
Florida Solar United Neighborhoods

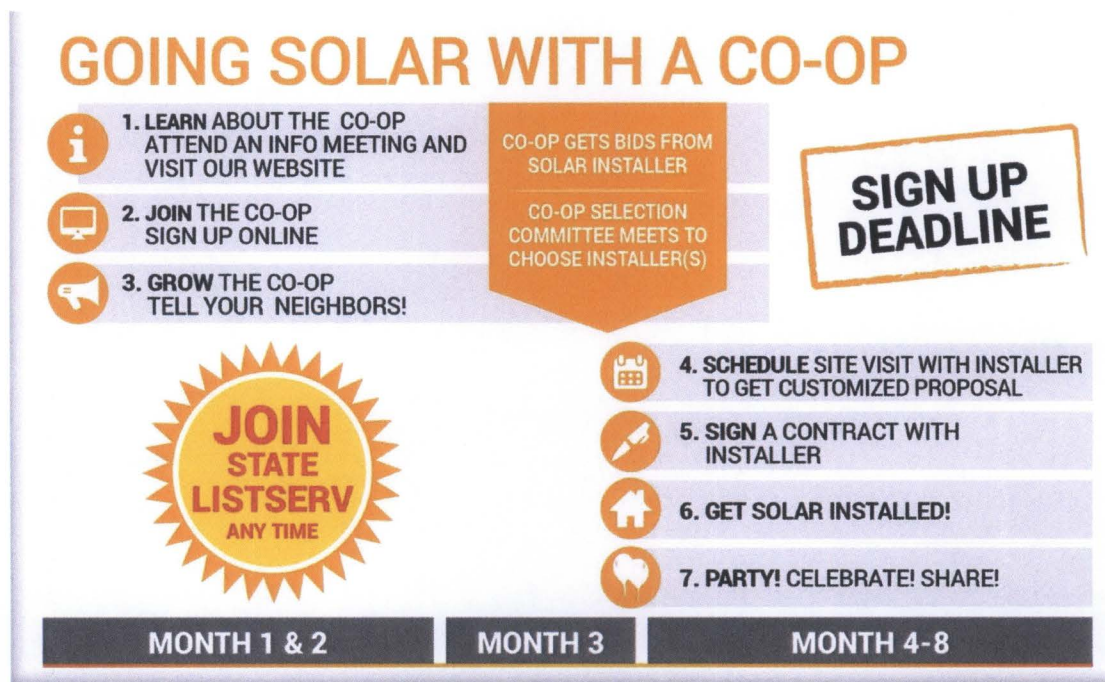
In partnership with:



Solar Co-ops: Neighbors Going Solar Together

About Solar Co-ops

FL SUN, a nonprofit, expands access to solar by educating Floridians about the benefits of distributed solar energy and helping them organize group solar installations. By going solar with their neighbors, participants can save up to 20% off the cost of a system and have the support of their community!



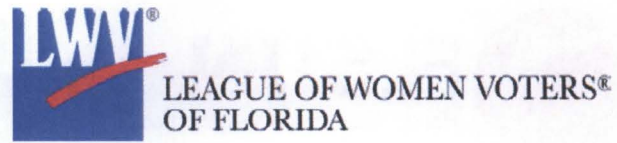
Highlights

- FL SUN launched 1st group in St Pete in mid-2016 and signed up 250 interested families. 2nd chapter in Orange Country signed up 525.
- Interest has been huge and new groups are forming (or interested) across FL: Brevard (100 so far), Sarasota, Hillsborough, Seminole, Alachua, Volusia, Palm Beach/Miami, Lower Keys, Upper Keys, Broward, as well Orange Country wanting to form additional groups!
- FL Sun is facilitated by Community Power Network (CPN), a national nonprofit that helps communities build & promote local renewable energy projects and policies. CPN helps people start their own community-based renewable energy projects by providing resources, technical assistance, case studies, and connections to other practitioners. They have deep experience, having helped form 50+ solar co-ops across 5 States!

Check out our website for a list of existing solar co-ops in Florida:

www.flsun.org

Don't see a co-op in your community? Start one!



Working with Partners to Make Florida #1 in Solar!

Why should we want more solar in Florida?

- Lower Energy Costs: Rooftop solar helps homeowners reduce and control their energy bills, keeping millions of dollars in state and in consumer's pockets instead of going out of state and overseas.
- Keep Florida \$\$ in state and clean up air and water: The increased use of solar reduces the need for expensive out of state fossil fuel. As a result, air and water quality is improved plus the cost to operate, maintain and expand the plants and transmission lines is reduced. Solar on some roofs helps everyone by reducing the need for new expensive power plants as Florida grows.
- Jobs: Solar jobs are local and opportunities are growing along with strong demand. Solar jobs outnumber those in coal and are growing fast (ie. 12X the rate of the rest of the economy in 2016)!

Florida is already #1 for sunshine on the east coast/how do we become #1 in solar?

- Overcome lack of information – Many Floridians are positive about solar but they don't have a trusted source to consult. Most Floridians do not know someone who has experience with solar.
- Help homeowners get access to most affordable price – Prices have come down dramatically to where the **return on investment can now be between 5 to 7 years**, with a 100% return on investment following that for the life of the panels, which are generally warrantied for a minimum of 25 years.

What is a Neighborhood Solar Co-op?

- **A solar Co-op is a group of homeowners that bundle their buying power to secure** a volume discount on rooftop solar PV systems. They use free-market principles to solicit competitive bids from area solar installers in order to secure the best price, and ensure a quality product.
- These discounts are usually **10% to 20% below local market prices on solar PV installations**. Co-op members select one installer. Co-op members are not obligated to sign a contract submitted by the co-op's chosen installer.



What is the role of a partner?

- Partners endorse our program in spirit, lend a logo for our website, and help publicize the Co-op and encourage members, citizens or the public at large to attend the public meetings and learn more about how solar might work for them.
- When feasible, partners may provide a public meeting space or assistance with social media outreach for greater public awareness.

How do Co-ops work?

1. Homeowners learn about solar at local public information meetings, and join online at www.FLSUN.org. Roofs reviewed for suitability.
2. Once 20 - 50 members have joined, installers are invited to bid and members select one installer.
3. Installer draws up customized design and each homeowner decides if they will sign contract. (No obligation to sign)
4. Installer completes installations and co-op members enjoy monthly savings on utility bills.

What is the track record of solar co-ops in Florida? In other states?

- In Florida, two co-ops were completed in 2015, and three in 2016 with almost 1,000 households joining. At least five to seven co-ops are planned for 2017.
- Mayor Teresa Jacobs spearheaded the Orange County Co-operative, the largest co-op in the country with 550 households signing up. Mayor Rick Kreisman of St. Pete, spearheaded that co-op over the summer generating 250 participants. Since then, Co-ops have launched in Sarasota, Space Coast and two in Broward County.
- Since beginning CPN in 2011, the organization has collectively launched 67 co-ops in Washington D.C., Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, and Florida.

FL SUN is a program of Community Power Network (CPN), a nonprofit based in Washington DC. CPN has extensive experience in facilitating solar co-ops.

FL SUN's State Director is Angela Demonbreun, angela@flsun.org She works with groups around the state to implement FL SUN Solar Co-ops.

Learn more at www.FLSUN.org



CITIZEN COMMENT CARD

The Board of County Commissioners values your participation

Please fill out this card if you wish to speak or record your sentiment regarding an agenda item or general topic. Individuals wishing to speak may do so for up to three minutes when called to the lectern.

Citizens to be Heard

Agenda Item

Agenda date: 8/15/17

Agenda item number (NOT case number): _____

Speaking:

For Against Undecided

Waive speaking:

In Support Against

(The Chairman will read this information into the record.)

Topic: Pinellas Gov.

Name: Greg Pound

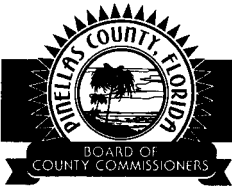
Address: 9166 Sunrise Dr.

City: Largo Zip: 33773

Email: _____

Please refer to the *Pinellas County Commission Public Participation & Decorum Rules* for details.

Visit Pinellas County online at www.pinellascounty.org



CITIZEN COMMENT CARD

The Board of County Commissioners values your participation

Please fill out this card if you wish to speak or record your sentiment regarding an agenda item or general topic. Individuals wishing to speak may do so for up to three minutes when called to the lectern.

Citizens to be Heard
 Agenda Item

Agenda date: Aug 15

Agenda item number (NOT case number): _____

Speaking:
For Against Undecided

Waive speaking:
In Support Against
(The Chairman will read this information into the record.)

Topic: Education Excellence

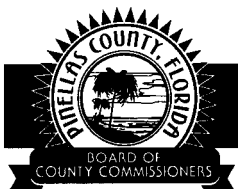
Name: Lenore Faulkner

Address: 11109 Kapok Grand Cir

City: Madiera Beach zip: 33708

Email: N/A

Please refer to the **Pinellas County Commission Public Participation & Decorum Rules** for details.
Visit Pinellas County online at www.pinellascounty.org



CITIZEN COMMENT CARD

The Board of County Commissioners values your participation

Please fill out this card if you wish to speak or record your sentiment regarding an agenda item or general topic. Individuals wishing to speak may do so for up to three minutes when called to the lectern.

Citizens to be Heard
 Agenda Item

Agenda date: Aug 15, 2017

Agenda item number (NOT case number): _____

Speaking:
 For Against Undecided

Waive speaking:
 In Support Against
(The Chairman will read this information into the record.)

Topic: PRESENT HISTORY OF KING OF BRITAIN

Name: DAVID BALLARD GEDDIS JR

Address: 802 GEORGIA AVE

City: PALM HARBOR Zip: 34683

Email: MYABRIDGEPOINT@GMAIL.COM

Please refer to the *Pinellas County Commission Public Participation & Decorum Rules* for details. Visit Pinellas County online at www.pinellascounty.org