October 2017 Presentation to Monroe County BOCC



# Multi-Provider PACE: How it Works, What's the Status?

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### WHAT IS PACE? Property Assessed Clean Energy

- One tool that property owners have among many
- Financing solution requiring use of special assessments (FL: interlocal agreements)
- Financing for energy efficiency, renewables and wind resistance improvements
- Residential and commercial properties
- Voluntary
- Enables long-term savings for property owners
- Furthers regional energy and resiliency goals
- Supports local economic development



### **Benefits to Residents and Business Owners**

- Lowers utility bills (energy savings \$\$\$)
- Can lower insurance with wind resistance projects
- No upfront out of pocket cash to do improvements
- Payback times commensurate with return on investments (longer for projects like solar)
- Contractors are vetted by program
- Interest rates are comparable with other financing tools



### **PACE STATUS IN US & FLORIDA**



160,000+ PROJECTS Complete to Date

37,000+ JOBS Created \$4Billion+ IN FINANCINGS (\$3.5 Residential) to Date

## FLORIDA'S PACE STATUTE (SECTION 163.08, F.S.)



- Legislative findings on benefits of program
  "Ouclifying improvements" qualified.
  - "Qualifying improvements" qualified:
    - Energy Conservation and Efficiency
    - Wind Resistance
    - Renewable Energy
- Improvements affixed to a building or facility that is part of the property
- **30 days notice** to existing lenders
- Consumer Protections:
  - All property taxes and assessments not delinquent for the preceding 3 years or period of ownership, whichever is less;
  - No involuntary liens
  - No notices of default or property-based debt delinquency during the preceding 3 years or the property owner's period of ownership
  - Property owner is current on all mortgage debt on the property
- Sets financing threshold at 20% just value unless:
  - Lender consent authorizes more
  - Savings equals or exceeds the annual repayment amount of the non-ad valorem assessment

### **MULTI-PROVIDER PACE IN FLORIDA**

To date 100+ Local Governments have 1 or more PACE programs together representing over 10 million residents

- Approximately \$500 Million in energy savings to residents
- Approximately \$40 Million in insurance savings to residents
- 4 active providers that have closed transactions
- \$250 Million financed to date, 14,000 people
- Available in 28 counties (or portions of counties)
- Approximately 1,500 contractors engaged



## **HOW PACE WORKS?**

### Local Government Approval to Operate, Then Turnkey



### MULTI-PROVIDER PACE BENEFITS PROPERTY OWNERS

- Competition: Residential
  - Rates
  - Consumer Protections: upholding and enhancing protections
- Competition: Commercial
  - PACE offers open source financing: some programs work with building owner's preferred lenders
  - Staged draws for the construction cycle
- Timeline:
  - Start funding projects as soon as signed resolution and Membership Agreement
  - Contractors are typically waiting and ready to go and will sign up with all programs

# PACE Can Help- but not a rebuild for construction

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PACE can replace windows and repair roofs

## **Responding to Concerns**

Concerns	Industry Actions to Respond				
PACE compared to other financing tools	PACE is one tool for consideration. Property owners should review all options and pursue the one that gives them the greatest benefit.				
PACE is a loan	PACE is a non-ad valorem assessment upheld by bond validations and FL Supreme Court opinions (and Section 163.08, F.S.)				
Underwriting requirements Note: not everyone qualifies for PACE.	State law requires: 3 years on time property taxes and assessments; No involuntary liens; No notices of default or property-based debt delinquency and current on all mortgage debt on the property. All programs have similar underwriting criteria <b><u>above</u></b> the statute. No negative equity.				
Not all improvements offset payments	Not all benefits can be directly quantified (for example windows, doors or generators). Some improvements also have longer paybacks (solar).				
Fannie – Freddie concerns	Fannie and Freddie are reviewing PACE liens on a case by case basis and have allowed the lien to transfer to new buyers. Fannie / Freddie concerns are disclosed to property owners so they are aware. VA / HUD PACE guidance allows transfer of outstanding liens.				
Interest rates	See comparison table (next two slides)				
Tax Collector/Property Appraiser Logistics	PACE programs operate by law (including Chapter 197, F.S.) requiring deadlines, costs and process to be those just like any other assessments.				
Consumer protections v. other financing tools	The industry has greater protections than Section 163.08,F.S. requires. See comparison table (next two slides)				

#### PACE CAN BE MORE AFFORDABLE THAN OTHER FINANCING OPTIONS

\$18,000 Pro (~\$19,800 Pro Assessment Cor	ACE	Example PACE Program	Home Equity Line of Credit <sup>2, 3,4</sup>	Home Equity Loan <sup>4</sup>	Personal Unsecured Loans		Credit Card²
Repayment Term	(years)	15 / 20	15	15	10	7 <sup>6</sup>	15
Interest Rate ( <u>F</u> ixed or <u>V</u> ariable)		7.99% / 8.29% (F)	3.865% ( <b>V</b> )	7.99% (F)	12.00% (F)	7.99% (F)	12.00% ( <b>V</b> )
Monthly Payment <sup>5</sup>		\$189 / \$169	\$132	\$172	\$258	\$280	\$216
Alternatives as % of PACE Pmt.	15 yrs.	100%	70%	91%	137%	148%	114%
	20 yrs.	100%	78%	102%	153%	166%	<b>128</b> %

1. PACE AC is \$1,800 greater than project cost to account for capitalized fees and capitalized interest.

**2.** Assumes payments are made as if financing is fully amortized with equal payments over repayment term.

3. >15% of property owners throughout the US and CA have a HELOC in place (9.0% and 11.6%, respectively).

**4.** Quote from <u>Wells Fargo web site</u> on 6/20/17 (760+ FICO; HELOC with 1<sup>st</sup> year fixed, then variable; no HEL options >15 years.

5. Monthly payment calculations do not account for tax deductibility of interest for PACE, HELOC and HEL options.

6. <u>Home Depot's</u> longest term option for fixed rate financing is \$55k at 7.99% APR and 84 months

## **Consumer Protections** PROTECTION PACE **Product Performance Requirements Contractor requirements Fair pricing requirements Permit requirements** Funding only provided after homeowner signs off **Dispute resolution Senior protections (65+)**

## **Other Local Government Approaches**

- Most all counties have multiple providers
- Miami Dade, Broward and Palm Beach adopted Code provisions that provide program guidelines and typically include:
  - Consumer protections
  - Reporting on performance
  - Dispute Resolution
  - Contractor management
  - Disclosures
- Some counties enact program guidelines through Resolution
- Most counties provide mechanisms for municipal participation
- Interlocal Agreements are individual to the programs (4 total), but some standard key provisions include:
  - Indemnifications
  - (Provisions not in Ordinance): bullets above
  - Termination procedures

## **Timeline for Implementation**



## **Items Before Commission Today**

- L. PACE provider comments to BOCC and respond to questions received
- Decision point on moving forward with PACE. If approved to move forward, bring back to future BOCC meeting:
  - a) **4 Provider Agreements**
  - **b) PACE Ordinance**
  - c) Other direction



#### Thank You!

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