

Energy Retrofits for Public Buildings

Equitable grant access for communities

Kristen Kalbrener

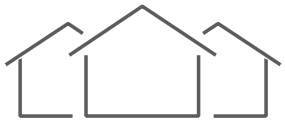
PROGRAM MANAGER, COMMERCE – ENERGY PROGRAMS IN COMMUNITIES

OCTOBER 19, 2022



Washington State
Department of
Commerce

We strengthen communities



**HOUSING
HOMELESSNESS**



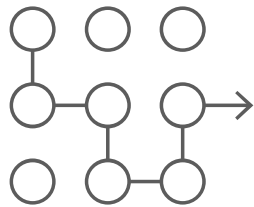
INFRASTRUCTURE



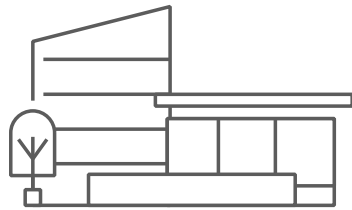
**BUSINESS
ASSISTANCE**



ENERGY



PLANNING



COMMUNITY FACILITIES



**CRIME VICTIMS &
PUBLIC SAFETY**



**COMMUNITY
SERVICES**

Energy Efficiency, Solar programs



Kristen Kalbrener



Jill Eikenhorst

Who is in the room?

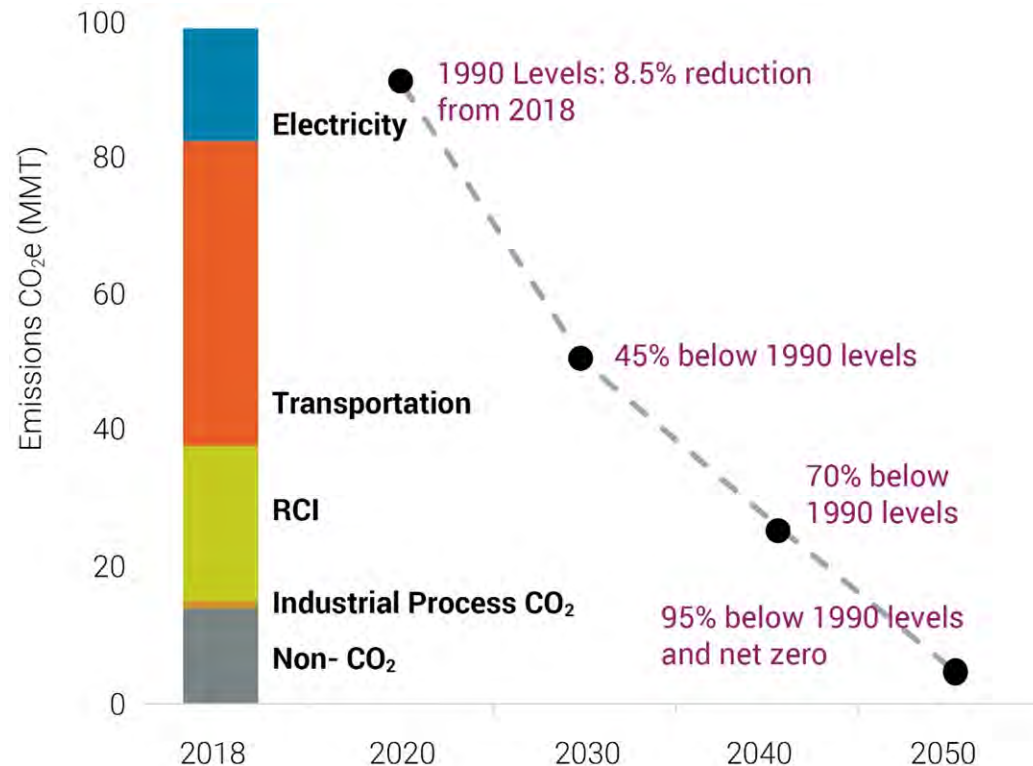
- Town or city administrators?
- County administrators?
- Tribes?
- School district administrators?
- Consultants?
- Other government reps?

Agenda

- **Energy Retrofits for Public Buildings program**
 - Energy Efficiency
 - Solar
 - State Project Improvement grants
- **Provide examples of past successful projects**
- **Describe how communities and tribes can access these grants**
- **Project development process**
 - Shareholder input
 - Energy Efficiency – ESCO (energy service company)
 - Solar – consultant
- **Grant application process**
 - Grant writing
- **Estimated timeframe for next rounds**
- **Input and Q&A**



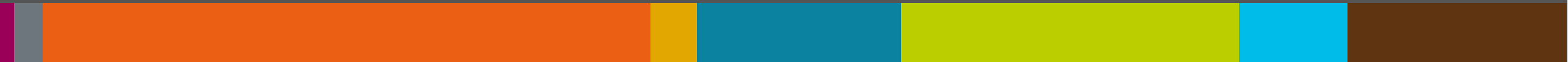
Washington's energy strategy



Source: Washington State Department of Ecology and Washington State.
Appendix A – Deep Decarbonization Pathways Modeling Technical Report, December 11, 2020 (p. 15).

- Coordinate with local, tribal and state governments and regional organizations
- Build an equitable, inclusive and resilient clean energy economy
- Lead by example through public capital projects

Program overview



Energy Retrofits for Public Buildings



Energy Efficiency



Solar



State Project
Improvements

Eligible applicants

- Local governments
- Washington state public higher education institutions
- School districts
- Affordable housing
- Tribal governments
- State agencies
- Municipalities and districts
- Public hospitals



Energy Efficiency (EE)

- **Project preferences:**
 - Use non-fossil fuels, when possible and cost effective
 - Projects with higher savings and lower costs
 - New applicants
- **Future solicitations may vary**
- **Match required**



Project example: City of Stevenson

- Water meter replacement and lighting upgrades
- Goal of efficiency and better leak detection
- \$291,746 grant
- 9,071 kWh electricity saved/yr
- 450,691 gallons of water saved/yr
- \$71,536 annual savings
- Match from private loan using utility revenues



Project range: Past EE grants

- School district: Install heat pump, improve ventilation
- Small city: Upgrade aerating brush and well pump
- School: Replace chiller and HVAC, add controls
- Community college: Update HVAC, controls, windows
- School district: Convert interior/exterior lighting to LED
- School district: Efficiency upgrades to improve ventilation and air quality
- Public hospital: Replace air handling unit with fan wall, replace HVAC with hot water reheat coils
- School district: Install hot water heat pump and optimize controls, LED lighting



Solar

- **Project preferences:**
 - Higher savings and lower costs
 - New applicants
 - Equipment made in Washington
- **Future solicitations may vary**
- **Match required**



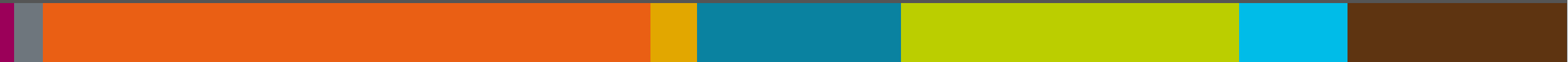
Project example: Samish Nation Cannery

- \$2,389 projected annual savings
- \$21,445 grant
- 2 solar arrays
- 80 480-watt photovoltaic panels
- Projecting 30% reduction in overall electricity bills
- Public-private funding: Commerce and Puget Sound Energy

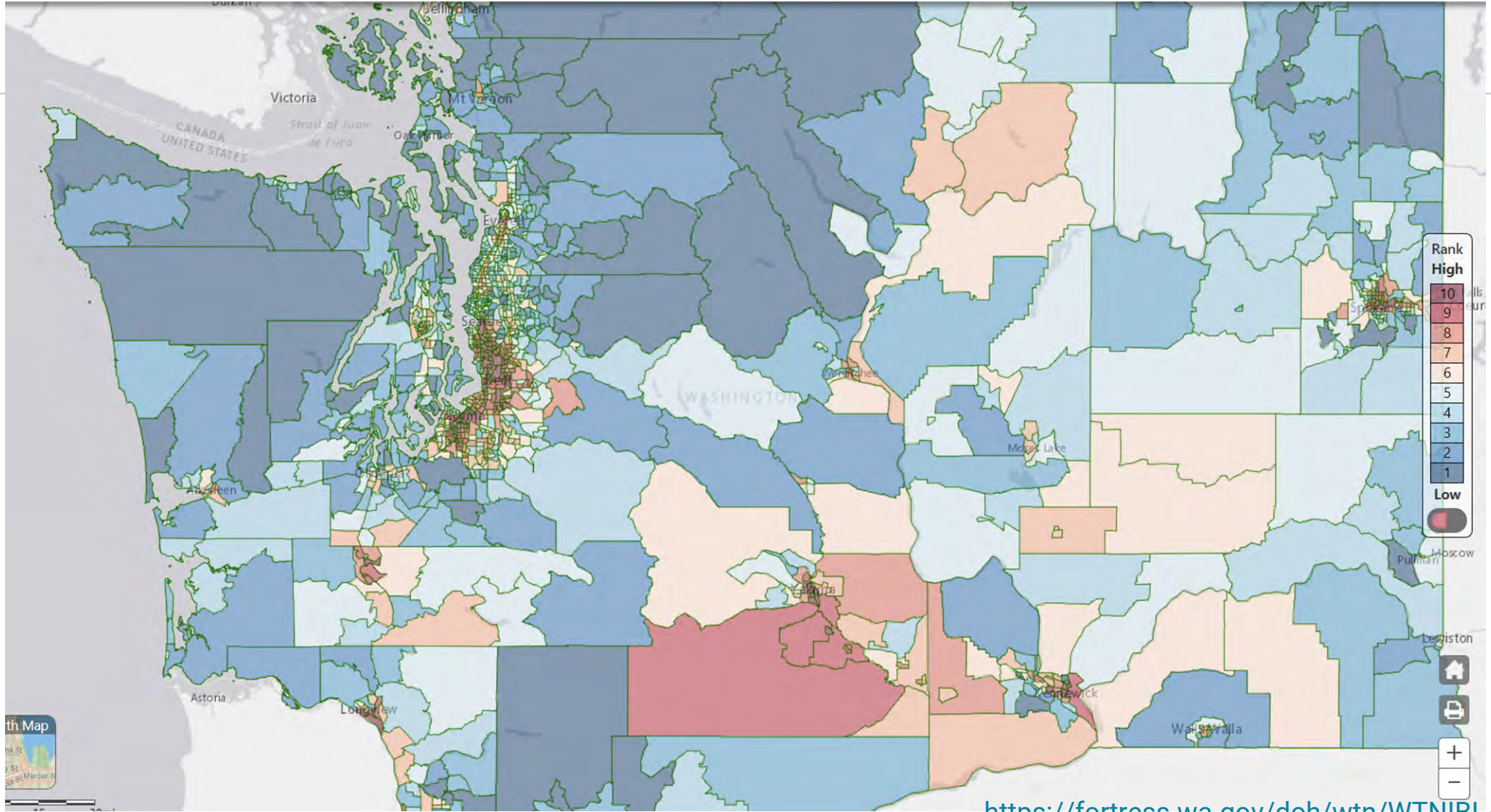


Program access & equity

For communities and for tribes



Environmental health disparities map



Project development



Email: EnergyRetrofits@commerce.wa.gov



Plan ahead

- **Don't wait for a solicitation to start planning**
 - Know your community's priorities and what you need in a grant
 - Have a community master plan in mind so you know which facilities are priority
 - Do a preliminary analysis of what it will take to address the need and the neighborhood of costs
- **Watch for a pre-announcement that a solicitation is coming**
- **Expect 2-3 months from announcement to close date**
- **Energy Efficiency projects require more lead time**

Technical consultants

- **EE: Usually energy service provider companies (ESCO)**
 - Conduct an audit of the building's current condition
 - Measure current energy consumption
 - Project consumption after project completion
 - Can assist with preparation of the grant application
 - Can assist with quarterly reporting for grants
- **Solar: Consultant**
 - Installers, independent consultants, ESCOs, in-house
 - No audit is required; some installers can do the design
 - Look at the energy usage, electrical system, space and amount of sunlight available to identify issues
 - Recommend the capacity of the array for the situation

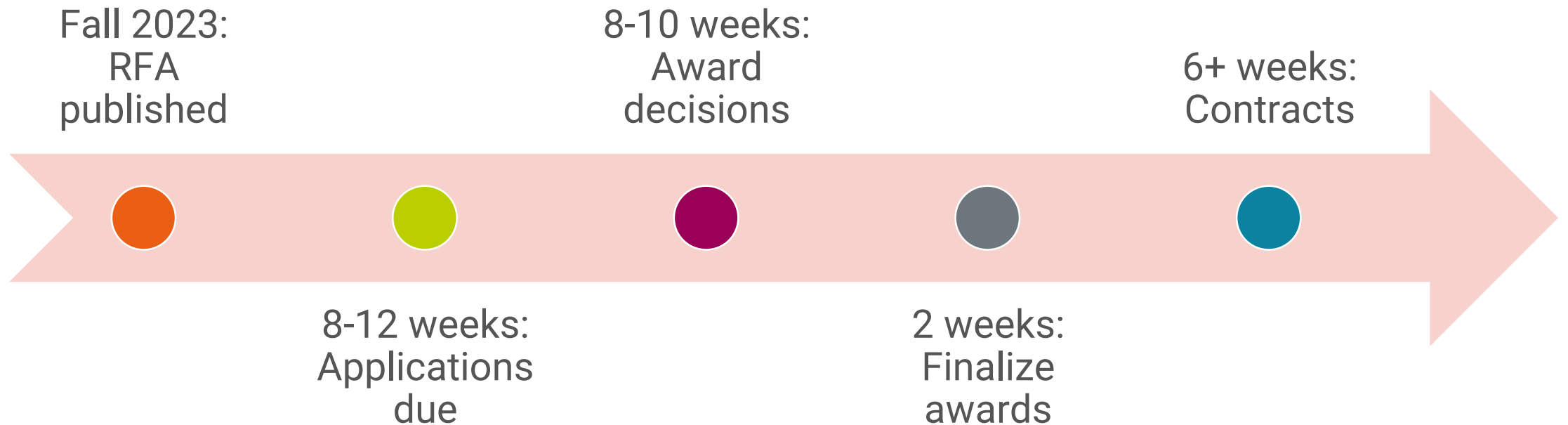


Application process

Grant writing



Estimated timeline



Grant writing tips

- Provide the project purpose and estimated budget
 - Use data to show the impacts of the proposed project
- Carefully read the application instructions and minimum requirements
 - Include all required attachments
 - Use provided budget format
- Confer with others to ensure technical data is complete
- Submit prior to the deadline
- Be prepared to begin promptly if awarded



Questions and discussion



Energy Efficiency and Solar grants

- What are your priorities for your community right now?
- Could one or more of these programs fit your needs?
- What barriers do you see in accessing these grants?

Thank you!

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