



## Colorado Main Street Heritage Energy Pilot

### Project Initiative Breakdown:

Community-led Support: Local Main Street Organization to support community outreach & engagement, development of community-specific Main Street Heritage Energy Roadmap, local project oversight.

#### Main Street Heritage Energy Study

- Green Team comprised of (8) Main Street Districts that are joining efforts with us to pilot a Roadmap for 100% Main Street Renewable Energy by 2040
- Each participating community should find a minimum of (1) privately-owned & (1) publicly-owned building for local & statewide energy analysis of Main Street properties.

#### Main Street Heritage Energy Toolkit: Precedent, Research, and Program Tools

- Colorado Main Street (COMS) consultants to provide a simple Energy Retrofit Analysis Tool to assist Main Street owners with preliminary project feasibility and planning.
- COMS consultants to provide Energy and Life cycle analysis (LCA) for study buildings and districts as a whole. This may include monitoring energy data for the buildings selected for the study. With background data and assumptions documented, consultants will analyze statewide Main Street communities' renewable energy potential (energy reduction + production), and detail a plan to reach 100% renewable energy powered Main Street districts by 2040.

Community Investment: Sustainability Planning, Infrastructure, Renewable-energy production & ownership, Placemaking, local Sub-grants/loans, statewide Heritage Energy Credits (LCA/carbon metric? sequestration?) for exchange in official Colorado (Main Street) Heritage Areas.

#### Main Street Energy Retrofit Funding:

- Colorado C-PACE (Private property ownership) will fund up to 30% of the total project cost.
- Colorado Energy Performance Contracting (EPC) (Public ownership)
- Colorado Historical Foundation (CHF) provides low-interest loans for gap financing these Heritage Energy projects. It can be used as matching funds for other grants/loans.
- State Historic Tax Credit - Jan 1, 2020, increases to 35% for rural counties
- Federal Historic Tax Credit - 20%, if sought (requires National Register listing)
- State Historical Fund (SHF): Grants for acquisition and development up to 200K. April 1 & Oct 1 application deadlines. Public & not-for-profits ownership 25% match, private ownership 50% match.
- DOLA Renewable & Clean Energy Challenge Grants (public ownership).

- Notice of funds July 1-August 1, 2020 ??
- Sept 3: Letters of inquiry for implementation projects. Dec 2: Invited applicants to submit applications. Funding determined in March 2021 ??

District-wide Green Streets, Infrastructure, and Placemaking:

- Main Street District Sustainability Planning can be provided for Main Street Mini-grant funds and/or consultant pool. DOLA/DLG also has professional planners to support.
- Colorado Resiliency Office (CRO) statewide experts on community strategy and building collective resilience. Energy resilience is a major component in an overall plan.
- Broadband contact Greg Winkler, DOLA Regional Manager
- Iowa Green Streets Program as model
- Federal Funding from block grants, Transportation, Housing, Opportunity Zones, New Markets, others ??
- State partners: GOCO, Colorado Health Foundation, Colorado Creative Districts, Colorado State Parks, EcoDistrict program, ULI, APA, others?
- Public Finance (Bonds) for capital improvements: Stifel, others? Implementation/match funding.

Outcomes:

- Become the first statewide program for Main Street communities to assist owners in understanding their properties' energy efficiency and renewable energy potential, access program incentives, return on investment (ROI) for energy efficiency improvements, learn sustainable preservation best practices related to historic Main Street building deep-energy retrofits and renewable energy generation.
- Demonstrated, targeted energy reductions in case-study buildings
- A finalized Roadmap and Toolkit for Colorado communities outlining a plan to realize 100% renewable energy powered Main Street districts by 2040, through strategic support and incentives for implementation.
- The potential to partner with History Colorado, Colorado Energy Office, the Colorado Resiliency Office, as well as other state and national organizations interested in promoting and preserving local heritage and energy resilience (Colorado Heritage Towns/Districts).
- Other?