PV Trainers Network
Program Overview & Procurement Technical Assistance

Ryan Cook, Meister Consultants Group
The NY-Sun PV Trainers Network aims to lower the installation cost and expand adoption of solar PV systems throughout the state by engaging municipalities and related solar stakeholders.

training.ny-sun.ny.gov
About the PV Trainers Network

Lead Organizations

Supporting Organizations
State-Wide Reach

- Services available across NYS
- Network partners across NYS

[SUNY Canton]
[SUNY Delhi]
[Erie Community College]
[Sustainable CUNY]
[Ulster BOCES]
[Pace University Land Use Law Center]
[Long Island]
[Bronx Community College]
What does the PVTN do?

Trainings for Municipalities & Stakeholders
• Policy Trainings
• Technical Trainings

Resource Development
• Filling gaps in the state solar knowledge base

Technical Assistance
• Funded one-on-one support for individual municipalities
Trainings
### Training Courses Covered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Administrators</td>
<td>Introduction to Solar Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Solar Procurement for Local Governments</td>
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<td>Introduction to Shared Solar Projects</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Streamlining Solar Permitting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Creating and Implementing a Solarize Campaign</td>
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<td>Expanding Commercial Solar with a PACE Program</td>
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<td>Planners</td>
<td>Land Use Planning for Solar</td>
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<td>Zoning for Solar Energy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Code Officials &amp; Inspectors</td>
<td>Solar PV Permitting and Inspection Methods*</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Streamlining Solar Permitting</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Responders</td>
<td>Safety and Fire Considerations for Solar PV*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plan Examiners, Engineers &amp;</td>
<td>Solar PV for Engineers*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architects</td>
<td>Solar PV for Architects*</td>
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* Indicates courses with Continuing Education Units. All CEU courses are considered “technical trainings” and are taught by NYS academic partners.
PVTN has conducted…. 

185 trainings

PVTN has trained…. 

+6,200 local officials and solar stakeholders

PVTN has reached…. 

61 out of 62 Counties
Several hundred municipalities
Training Progress to Date

Policy 30%

Permitting & Inspection 17%

Safety and Fire 43%

Engineers & Architects 9%

70% of PVTN trainings are on technical topics
Resource Development
PVTN has recorded podcasts and webinars on topics including:

- Rapid shutdown requirements
- Solar and resiliency
- Solar and historic districts
- Unified Solar Permit adoption
- Community Solar NY
- And more…

PVTN has published a municipal procurement toolkit and is developing factsheets on:

- The Real Property Tax Exemption
- Decommissioning Solar PV Projects
- Agricultural Assessments and Solar PV
Published December 2015

Includes:

• Guidance document for public officials
• Model Request for Proposal
• Model Power Purchase Agreement
• Bid Evaluation Tool

Available at: training.ny-sun.ny.gov/resources
Solar Procurement Process Overview

1. Stakeholder Engagement & Goal Setting
2. Data Collection & Site Identification
3. Develop and Publish RFP
4. Review Bids and Select Developer
5. Negotiate Contract
Technical Assistance
Technical Assistance Requests

PVTN has received 82 technical assistance requests since program initiation in late 2014.

- 36% relate to municipal solar procurement
- 32% relate to planning, zoning & permitting

Other common topics:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Property Tax Issues</th>
<th>Solarize Campaigns</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shared Solar Projects</td>
<td>Solar and Municipal Utilities</td>
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</table>
Typical PVInit technical assistance activities for municipal solar procurement:

- Upfront solar education
- Site identification support
- RFP development
- Proposal review and installer selection support
- Project financial analysis
- PPA review
- On-call and miscellaneous support
Emerging Trend: Shared Solar

PVTN is now supporting communities interested in community shared solar.

- How to plan and zone for large scale solar
- How to advise residents regarding solar leases
- How to sponsor shared solar programs
- How to participate in shared solar projects
Where to Find PVTN

online at training.ny-sun.ny.gov
by email at info@training.ny-sun.ny.gov