

South LA Eco-Lab Quarterly Community Meeting Notes

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2024

Location: Harvard Park, 816 W 51st St, Los Angeles, CA 90037

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Welcome and Introductions

Greetings and introduction by Vanesa Iniguez, Program Manager with SLATE-Z. Overview of meeting protocols, including interpretation services and consent for recording.

Discussion of community agreements and mutual respect. Introduction to the South LA Eco-Lab's mission and focus on addressing environmental and health issues through transformative community-driven projects.

Project Highlights

Single-Family Home Solar Installation & Cool Roofs

Details on solar installations and cool roofs projects, including benefits of reducing energy costs and environmental impact. Testimonials from beneficiaries.

Workforce Development and Economic Opportunities

Overview of job creation initiatives related to solar installations and workforce development programs, including paid training opportunities from CRCDC and LA Trade Tech College.

Transitional Period

Brief transition before opening the floor for public comments.

Public Comment

The floor was opened for public comments, where community members asked questions and expressed their thoughts on the projects and their impacts.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned with closing remarks, thanking participants for their engagement and informing them of the next meeting date.

Questions and Answers Session

Q1: Are there plans to include battery backup systems in solar installations?

A1: Yes, grants for backup batteries have been secured, and installations will commence later this year, with no extra cost to program participants.

Q2: What are the prerequisites for participating in the workforce development programs?

A2: Participants must be at least 18 years old, possess a valid California driver's license, and pass a drug test.

Q3: How can these initiatives be expanded to other neighborhoods?

A3: Expansion requires securing additional funding and forming new partnerships, with the current focus on replicating success based on South LA's outcomes.

Q4: Can you provide more details about the workforce development opportunities available?

A4: The program offers paid training in solar panel installation, including safety training, career development workshops, and certification in OSHA 10 and CPR.

Q5: What are the observed benefits for community members participating in these solar projects?

A5: Participants have reported significant savings on energy bills, contributing to financial stability and enhanced community sustainability efforts.