

city of **yes**

city of **solar**
city of **health**
city of **energy**
city of **carbon neutrality**
city of **resilience**





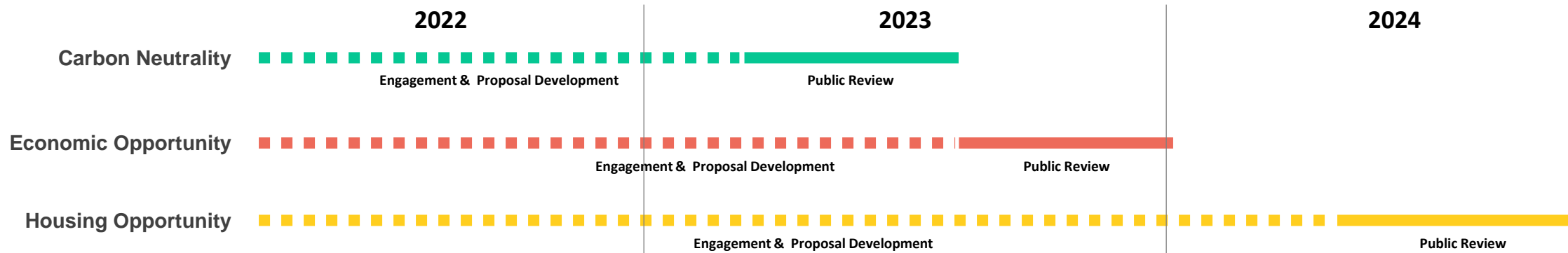
for Carbon Neutrality
Expanding opportunities for decarbonization projects



for Economic Opportunity
Growing jobs and small businesses with more flexible zoning



for Housing Opportunity
Ensuring all neighborhoods are meeting the need for housing opportunities



Why carbon?

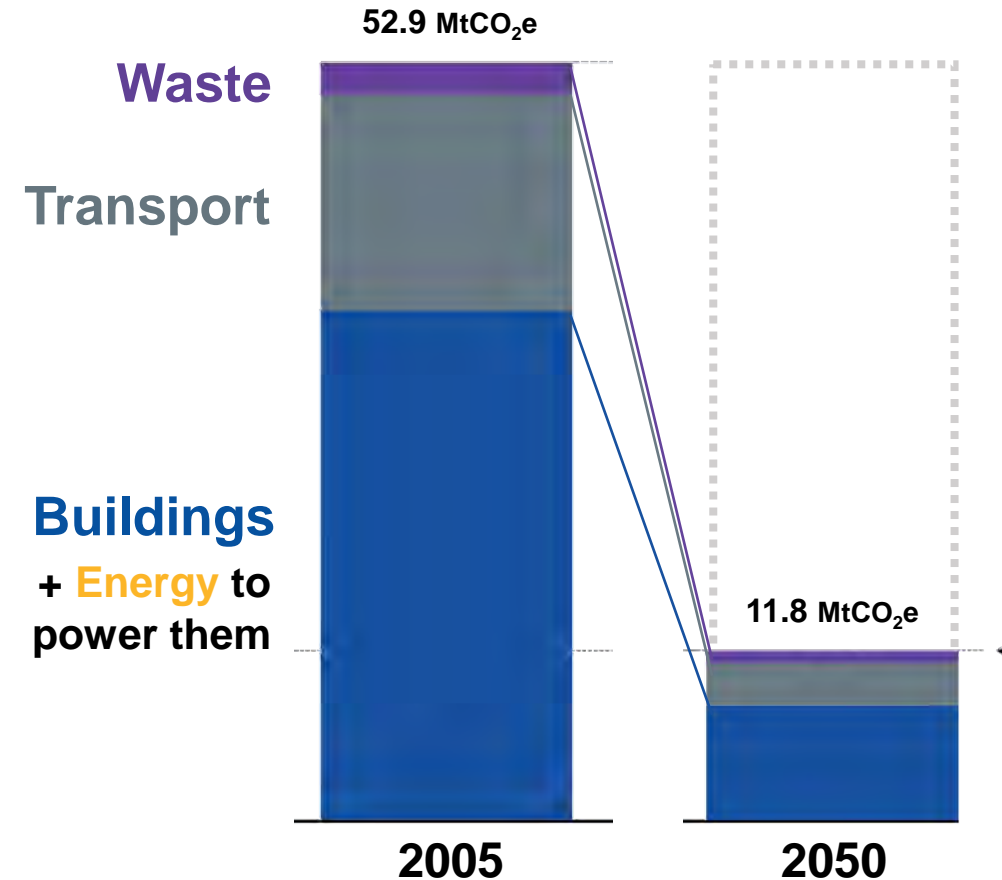
- We are in a **climate emergency**, caused by greenhouse gas emissions.
- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the **primary greenhouse gas** (GHG) emitted through human activities - **80% of US GHG** emissions in 2019.
- CO₂ is largely produced through the **burning of fossil fuels**
- Paris Agreement aims to limit global warming to 2°C and **avoid greater climate damage** by curbing GHG



What do we mean by a "carbon-neutral city"?

It's a city where we've...

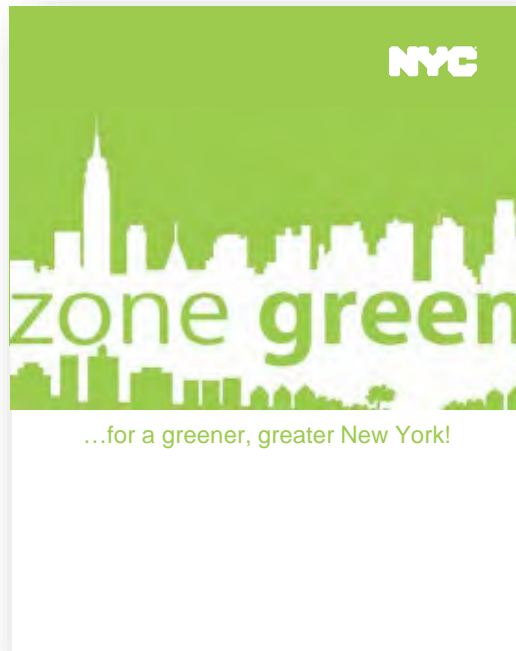
- 1. Reduced our energy needs**
(retrofit buildings to be efficient)
- 2. Cleaned the grid**
(decarbonize the source of electricity)
- 3. Electrified buildings + vehicles**
(all remaining energy needs are powered by the clean electric grid)



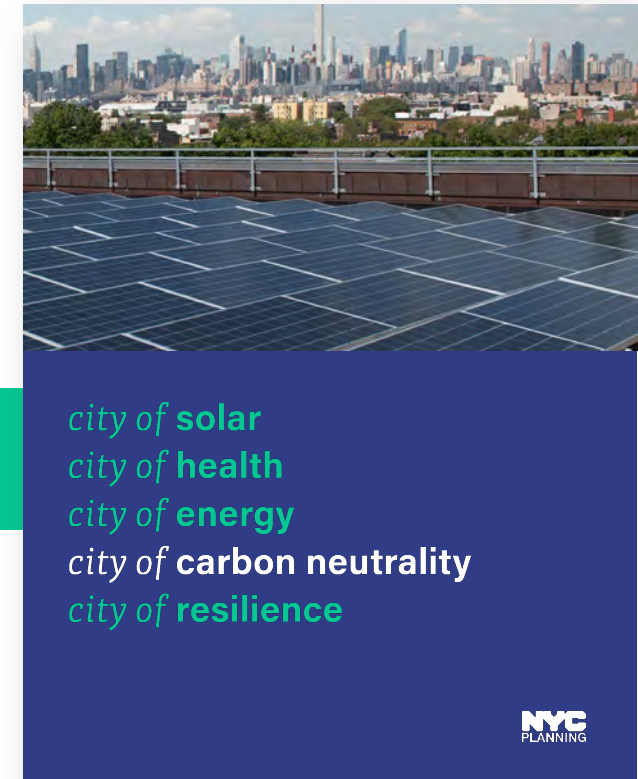
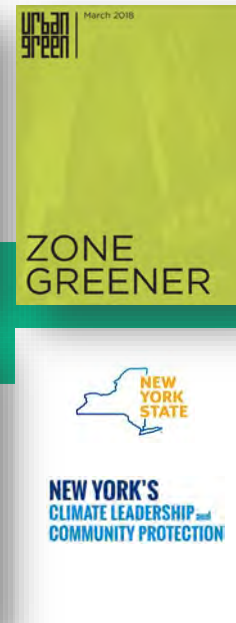
Necessary operational carbon reductions to meet 2050 goals, in millions of metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.
Source: NYC's Roadmap to 80x50

Recap

What has New York City already done?



2012: Designed to support elective, progressive experiments with “green building features”



2023: Respond to the climate crisis by removing zoning impediments to urgent retrofitting work, solar, energy storage, and EVs

Engagement process to date



to date:

Four open-to-the-public pre-referral info sessions

100+ meetings with stakeholders

Two in-depth working sessions convened with Urban Green Council

Where do we need to go? How can zoning help?

**Meeting the challenge
of our climate crisis is a
massive undertaking.**

We've worked with our partner agencies, as well as dozens of non-profit and private-sector groups, to understand what they're working on – **and how zoning can help support their efforts.**



Inclusion here does not necessarily indicate endorsement.

What we've learned: how zoning can support these efforts



ENERGY

Goal 1: **Decarbonize our energy grid**

by broadly allowing for distributed generation (wind + solar) as well as critically needed energy storage.



BUILDINGS

Goal 2: **Decarbonize our building stock**

by supporting the retrofitting of NYC's million-plus buildings to become energy-efficient and electrified.



TRANSPORTATION

Goal 3: **Decarbonize our vehicles**

by supporting the growth of EV adoption, biking, and e-mobility, by removing limits on where infrastructure can be placed.



WASTE & WATER

Goal 4: **Decarbonize our waste streams**

by supporting other City efforts to grow composting and rainwater collection

Summary of proposal



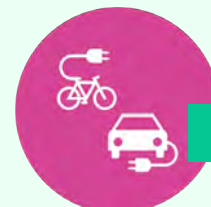
ENERGY

1. **Rooftop solar:** removing zoning impediments.
2. **Solar parking canopies:** remove zoning impediments to allow.
3. **Solar:** ensure standalone generation is allowed
4. **On-shore wind:** add a new tool for the CPC to consider future applications
5. **Energy storage (ESS):** add new rules to allow grid-supporting ESS in a wide range of zoning districts



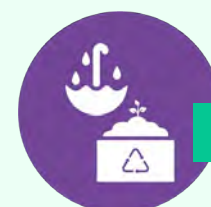
BUILDINGS

6. **Electrification retrofits:** expand rooftop and yard allowances to accommodate increased need for outdoor electrified equipment like heat pumps
7. **Building exterior retrofits:** fix rules to ensure that the widest range of exterior retrofits are allowed.
8. **Fix Zone Green:** update and improve this floor area exemption to ensure it continues to promote better-than-code performance.



TRANSPORTATION

9. **Vehicle charging:** expand allowance to all Commercial Districts
10. **Charge-sharing:** allow a % of residential spaces to be shared w/ the public
11. **Parking flex:** streamline car-sharing, car rental, and commercial parking rules
12. **Automated parking:** expand rules to encourage more automated facilities
13. **Bike parking:** add rules for storage and charging



WASTE & WATER

14. **Porous paving:** clarify language to ensure permeable paving is allowed.
15. **Street Trees:** update rules to accommodate new raingarden prototypes
16. **Organics:** add new use regulations clarifying when composting and recycling are allowed.
17. **Rooftop greenhouses:** simplify the process to allow them as-of-right

An isometric illustration of a city street scene. The scene features a grid of buildings with various rooflines, some with solar panels. A prominent building on the right has a sign that says "COMPOST". A street sign on a building in the center says "YES!". A river flows along the bottom right of the scene. The overall style is clean and modern, with a focus on urban planning and sustainability.

city of yes

Energy

Goal 1

Decarbonize our energy grid

By 2040, the New York energy grid must be 100% renewably-based

see: [2019 NYS CLCPA](#)



To meet demand, we need to generate energy everywhere; we've set a goal of 1000 MW of rooftop solar by 2030.

see: [2016 Climate Week NYC](#)

The grid of the future will be less centralized with 'distributed resources' spread across the city

see: [2015 NYS Reforming the Energy Vision](#)



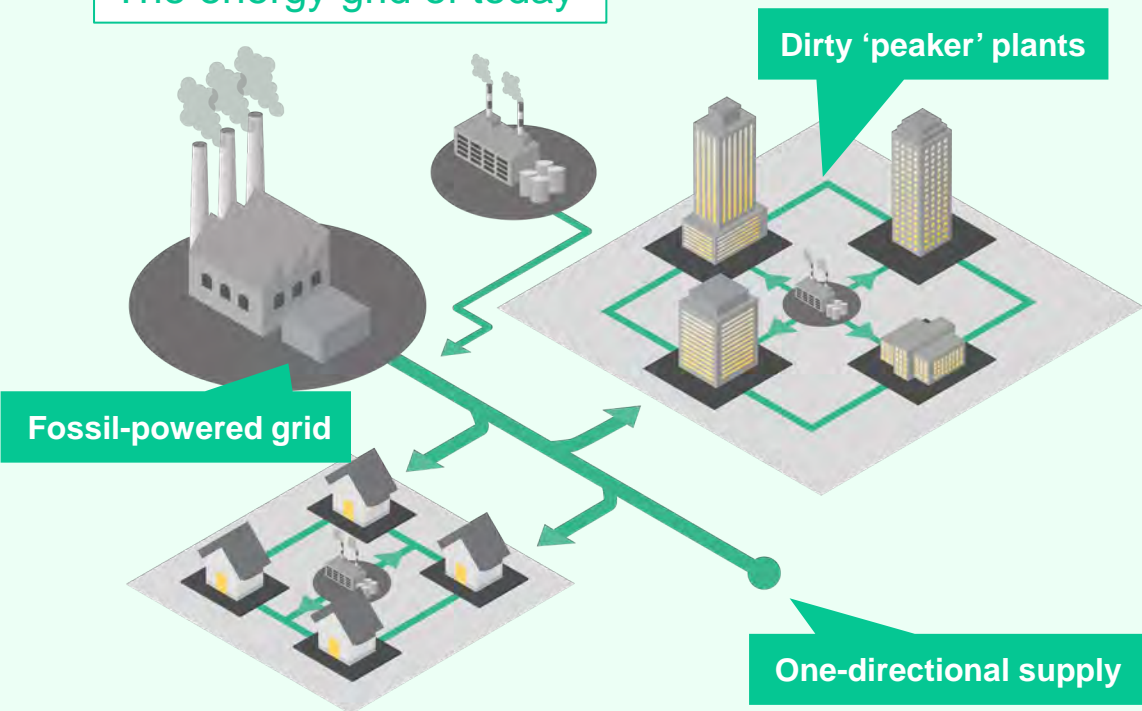
To store clean energy, and respond to demand, gigawatts of local energy storage will be crucial.

see: [2022 State of the State](#)

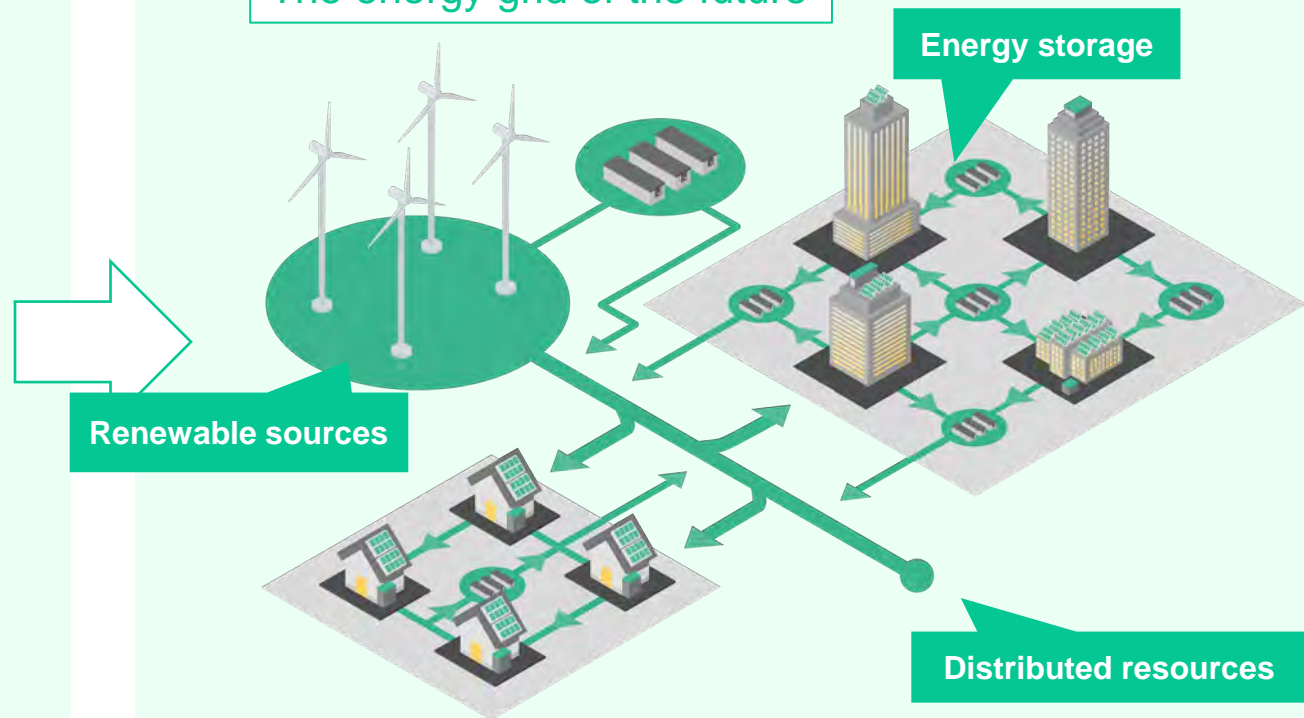
Goal 1

Decarbonize our energy grid

The energy grid of today



The energy grid of the future



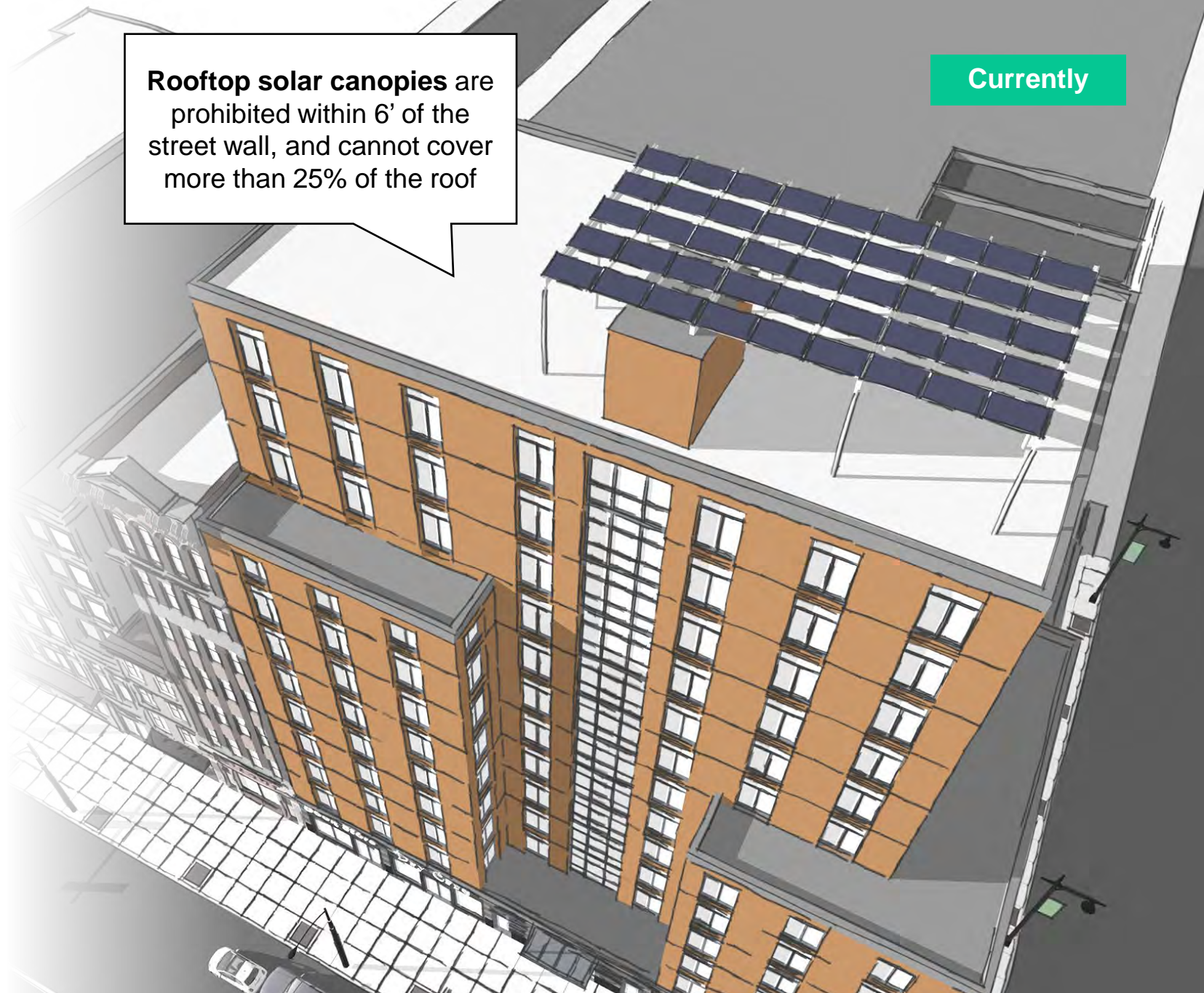
Proposal 1

Solar on building rooftops (flat)

- **Currently:** Zoning allows solar panels to be added to flat roofs, above the height limit, up to 6' (R1-R5) or 15' (R6+, C, M). When elevated to these heights, a 25% maximum coverage, and 6' setback from the façade, also apply.
- **Issue:** These zoning rules curtail how much solar a home/building owner realistically can install, artificially limiting solar potential and making installations infeasible. (The 6' height in certain districts also conflicts with FDNY need for 9' of clear headroom.)
- **Proposal:** Remove coverage and setback requirements for rooftop solar, and apply a 15' maximum height limit to all flat-roof solar installations, regardless of district.

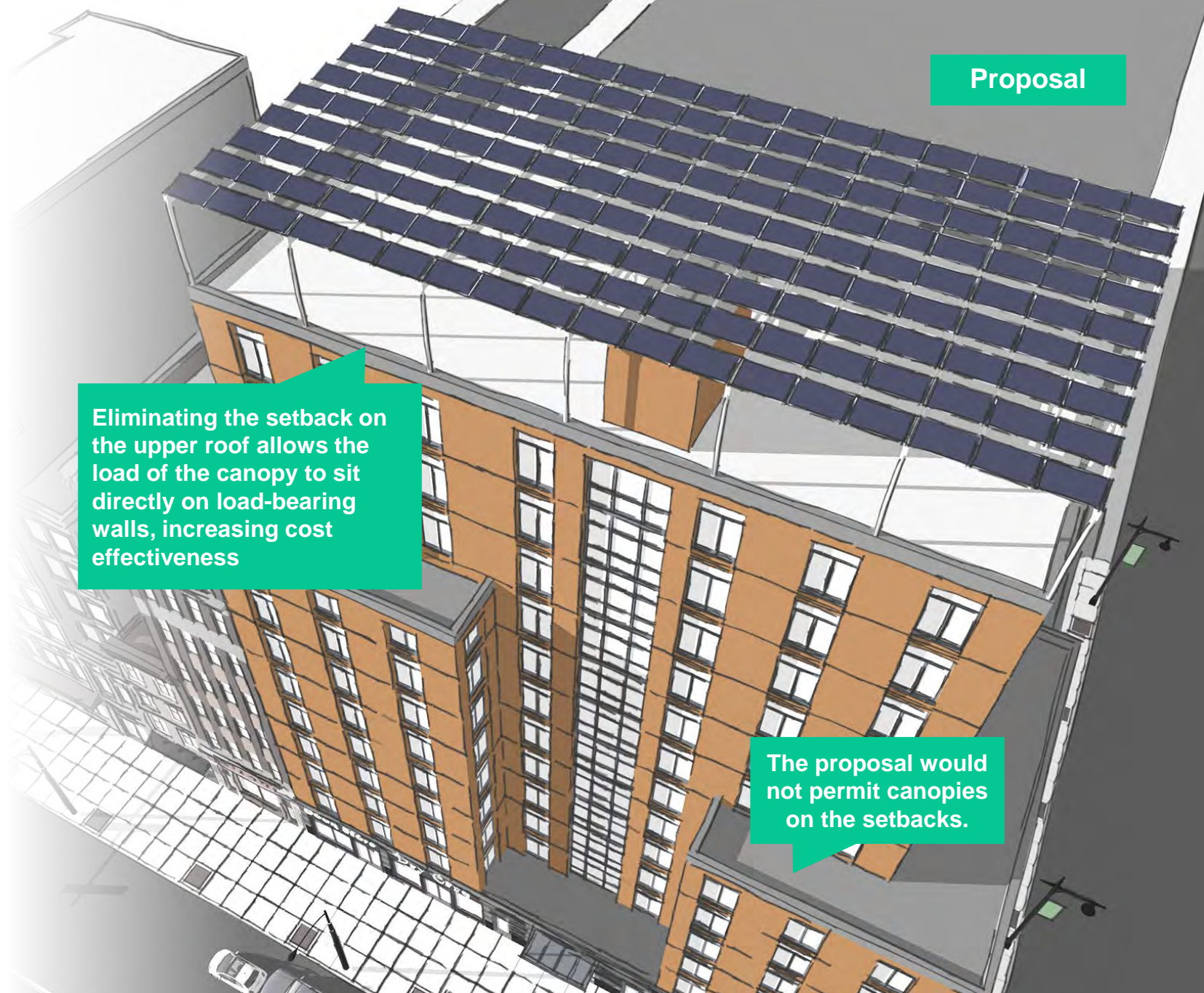
Rooftop solar canopies are prohibited within 6' of the street wall, and cannot cover more than 25% of the roof

Currently



Solar on building rooftops (flat)

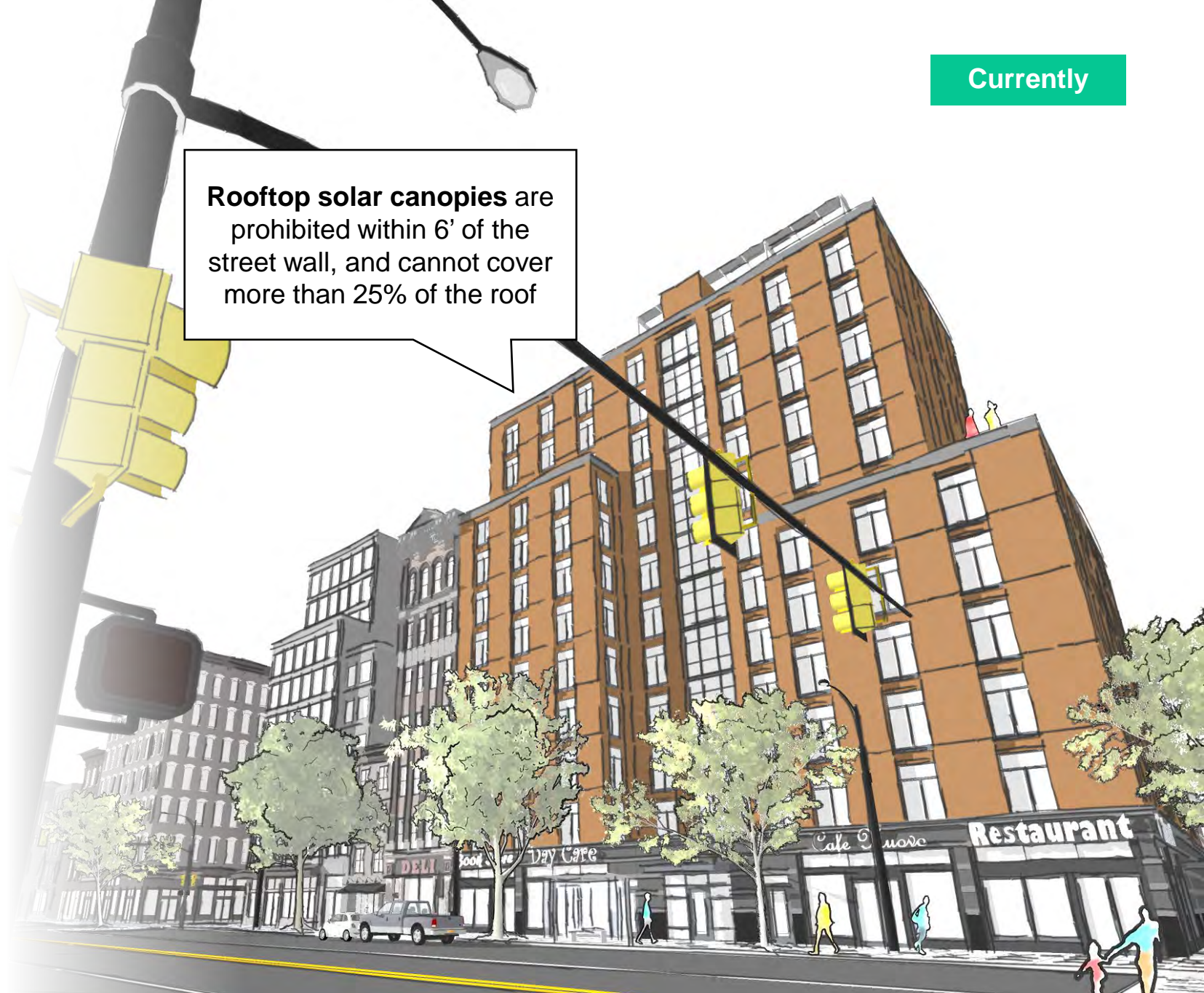
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LPC review would still be required in historic districts and for landmarked buildings.

Eliminating the setback on the upper roof allows the load of the canopy to sit directly on load-bearing walls, increasing cost effectiveness

Proposal

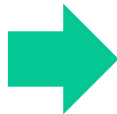
The proposal would not permit canopies on the setbacks.



Proposal 1

Solar on building rooftops (flat)

Currently for solar energy systems >4' in height, where above the zoning height limit:	
Height limit	6' (R1-R5) 15' (R6+, C, M)
Coverage cap	25%
Rooftop setback	6' from street wall
Contextual setback	Not allowed

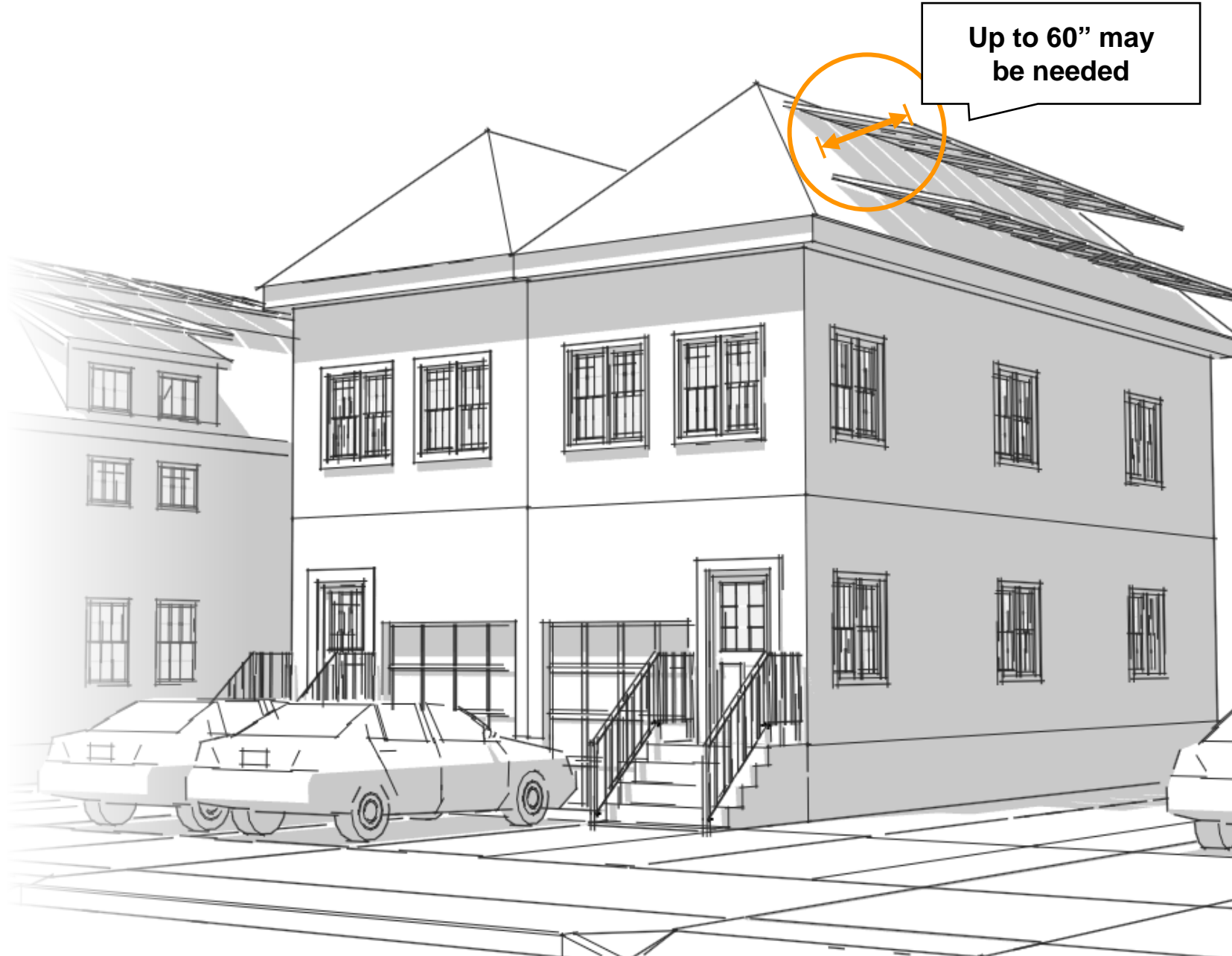


Proposal for solar energy systems, where above the zoning height limit:	
Height limit	15' (all districts)
Coverage cap	100%
Rooftop setback	0' from street wall
Contextual setback	Not allowed
New BSA special permit to increase height allowances if needed	

Proposal 1

Solar on building rooftops (sloped)

- **Currently:** Zoning allows solar panels to be added to sloped roofs, above the height limit, up to a maximum of 18 inches.
- **Issue:** This requires panels to hug the roof, even on roofs with poor solar orientations. Without the ability to “tilt” the installation to catch more sun, the installation is infeasible.
- **Proposal:** Provide greater flexibility for rooftop solar on pitched roofs, by expanding the 18” allowance to **60”**.



Proposal 2

Solar canopies over parking areas

- **Currently:** Zoning allows “accessory off-street parking spaces, open or enclosed” to obstruct a number of required open spaces, required front yards, required rear yards, etc.
- **Issue:** “Solar awnings/canopies” are not always permitted in the same areas as parking, preventing their installation.
- **Proposal:** Allow solar awnings / canopies (pictured at right) to cover parking areas by adding them as 'permitted obstructions'



48-10 43rd St, Queens, NY 11377

Proposal 3

Community solar + other renewable energy: Primary uses vs. accessory uses

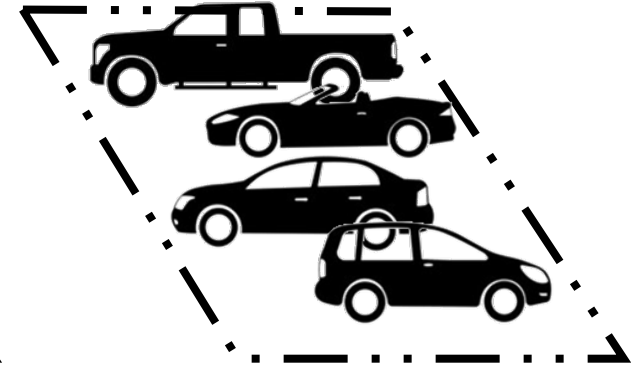
Example: **vehicle parking** in a **Residence District**



Primary use



**Primary use
with an allowed
accessory use**



**Disallowed
primary use**

Proposal 3

Community solar + other renewable energy

- **Currently:** The Zoning Resolution (ZR) currently classifies “non-accessory” solar generation as a commercial use.
- **Issue:** Large parts of the city are off-limits to crucially-needed, grid-supporting solar arrays. To locate here, solar and storage systems need to be kept small so that they can be considered “accessory” – precluding grid-supporting installations.
- **Proposal:** Reclassify this use as “energy infrastructure equipment (EIE)” and permit installations of <10,000 ft² in Residence Districts as-of-right.



Proposal 3

Community solar + other renewable energy

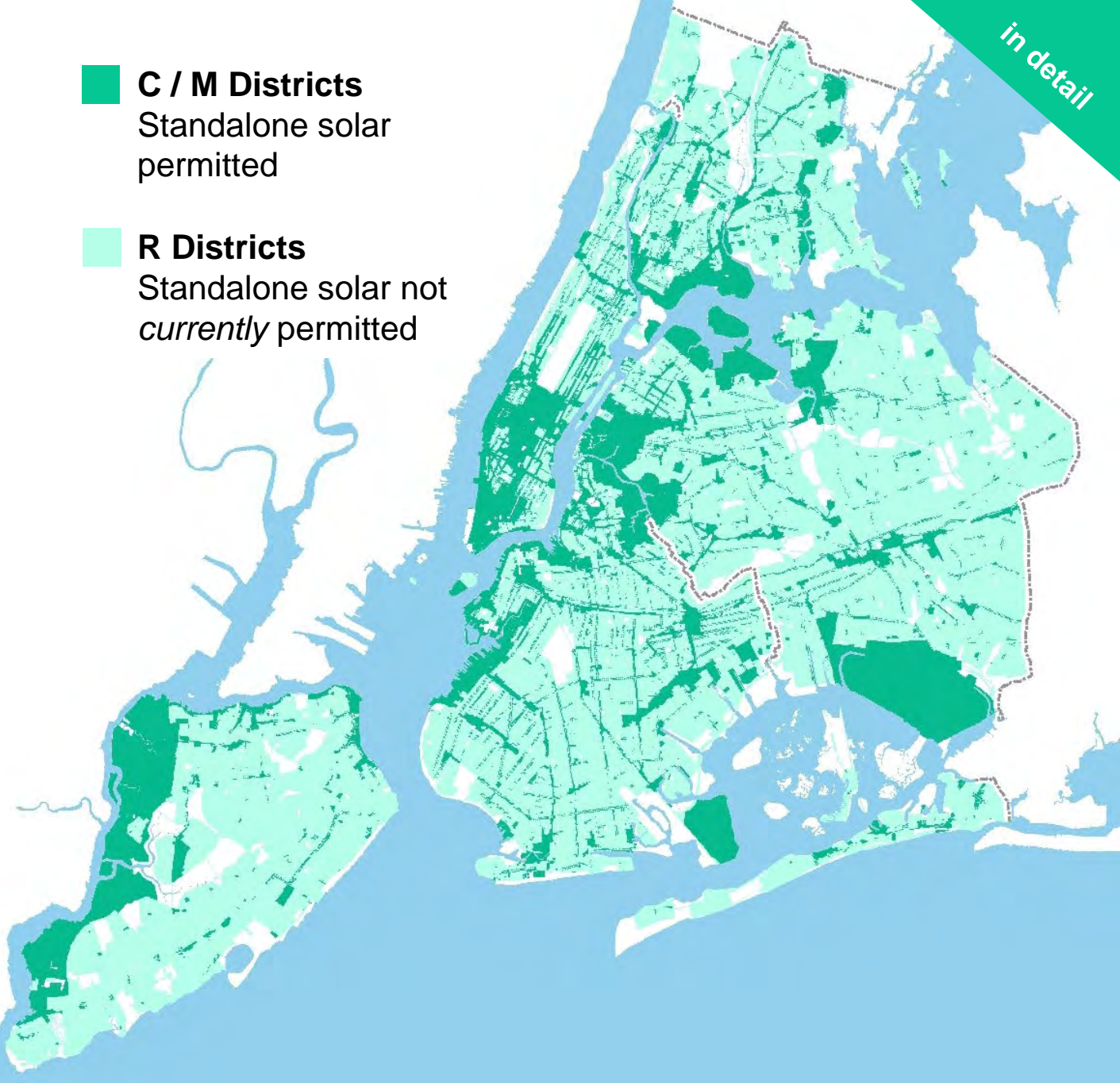
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C / M Districts

Standalone solar permitted

R Districts

Standalone solar not *currently* permitted



Proposal 4

Energy storage systems (ESS)

What is energy storage?

- Battery-based ESS are available with many different chemistries (e.g., Lead, LCO, LiFePO4)
- Battery-based systems are thoroughly reviewed, extremely safe, and are completely different from the systems found in common e-bike batteries.
- Each facility is essentially custom-designed and installed by specially-trained engineers and electricians.
- All installations must use UL-certified technologies pre-approved by FDNY
- All installations must be reviewed on a site-specific basis by DOB
- All installations >250 kW are classified as “large” systems and also all must be reviewed in parallel by DOB and FDNY



Rooftop energy storage
at the Barclay's Center, BK

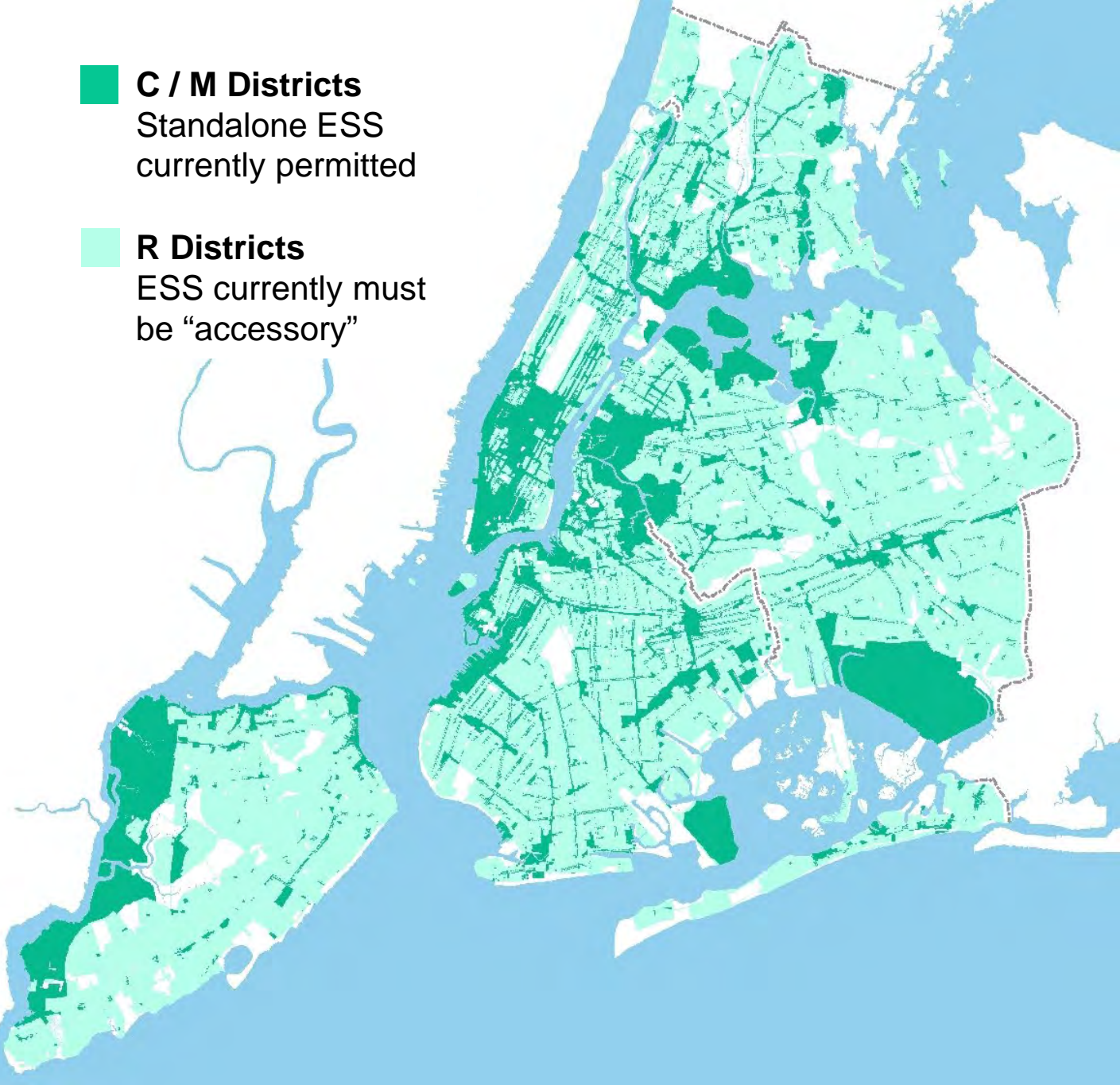
Proposal 4

Energy storage systems (ESS)

- **Issue:** The ZR currently does not have clear regulations governing energy storage. By interpretation, such uses can qualify as “electric utility substations” and thus must obtain a BSA special permit to locate in Residence Districts.
- **Proposal:** Create new uses within the ZR’s Use Group 4 and Use Group 6 to accommodate grid-supporting “energy infrastructure equipment” (EIE):
- **Smaller installations**, with footprints smaller than 10,000 ft², would be permitted as-of-right in Residence Districts.
- **Larger installations**, with footprints larger than 10,000 ft², would still require BSA review before locating in Residence Districts. They would be allowed as-of-right in Commercial + Manufacturing Districts.

C / M Districts
Standalone ESS
currently permitted

R Districts
ESS currently must
be “accessory”



Proposal 4

Energy storage systems (ESS)

	R Districts	C Districts	M Districts
Accessory solar / wind Accessory ESS	Permitted AOR	Permitted AOR	Permitted AOR
Electric utility substation <10k sf	BSA permit needed	Permitted AOR	Permitted AOR
Electric utility substation 10k-40k sf	BSA permit needed	BSA permit needed	Permitted AOR
Electric utility substation >40k sf	CPC permit needed	CPC permit needed	Permitted AOR



	R Districts	C Districts	M Districts
Accessory solar / wind Accessory ESS	Permitted AOR	Permitted AOR	Permitted AOR
Energy infrastructure equipment ≤10k sf	<u>Permitted AOR</u>	Permitted AOR	Permitted AOR
Energy infrastructure equipment >10k sf	BSA permit needed	<u>Permitted AOR</u>	Permitted AOR
Electric utility substation regs will remain for actual substations	<u>n/a</u>	<u>n/a</u>	<u>n/a</u>

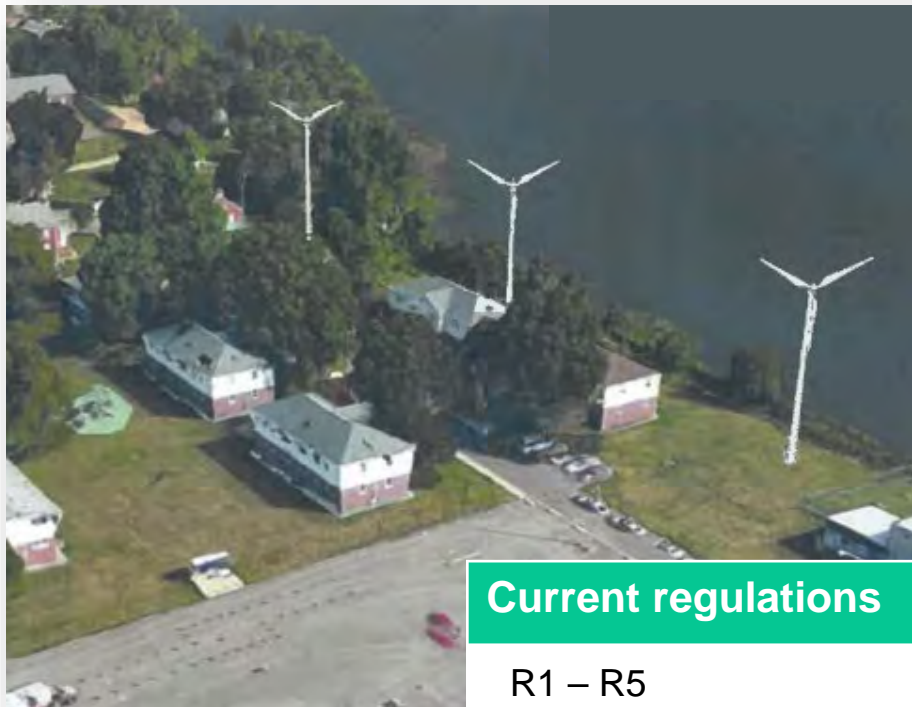
- + Clarifications that accessory energy storage + electrical equipment is included in “mechanical” floor area exemption
- + Clarifications allowing within rooftop mech. obstructions

* ESS Installations will always require safety review by DOB, and for systems >250kW, FDNY as well.

Proposal 5

New authorization for on-shore wind

- **Currently:** Along the waterfront, on-shore wind turbines must comply with strict height limits (*see table at right*).
- **Issue:** Some installations may need greater height flexibility. However, there is no tool to allow the CPC to consider such applications.
- **Proposal:** Create a new authorization that will allow the CPC to consider future applications for height & setback relief to facilitate on-shore wind. (*This proposal itself will not change the height limits for on-shore wind.*)



Current regulations	on roof	on ground
R1 – R5 + C Overlays	n/a	35'
R6 – R10 + C Overlays + Most C Equivalents M Districts (excl. M1-1)	50% of bldg. height or 55' whichever is less	35'
C4-1, C7, C8, M1-1	55'	85'

Not allowed in, or within 10' of,
waterfront yards and/or WPAA's



city of yes

Buildings

Goal 2

Decarbonize our building stock

Our buildings are
NYC's biggest source
of CO₂ emissions

see: **2019 NYS CLCPA**

To decarbonize our
building stock, virtually
every one of our city's
1,000,000+ buildings will
need to be retrofit.

2015 Roadmap to 80x50

Boilers and furnaces will
need to be replaced with all-
electric heat pumps

see: **NYC 80x50**

Windows and
walls will need to
be improved or
replaced with new
efficient ones.

see: **NYC 80x50**

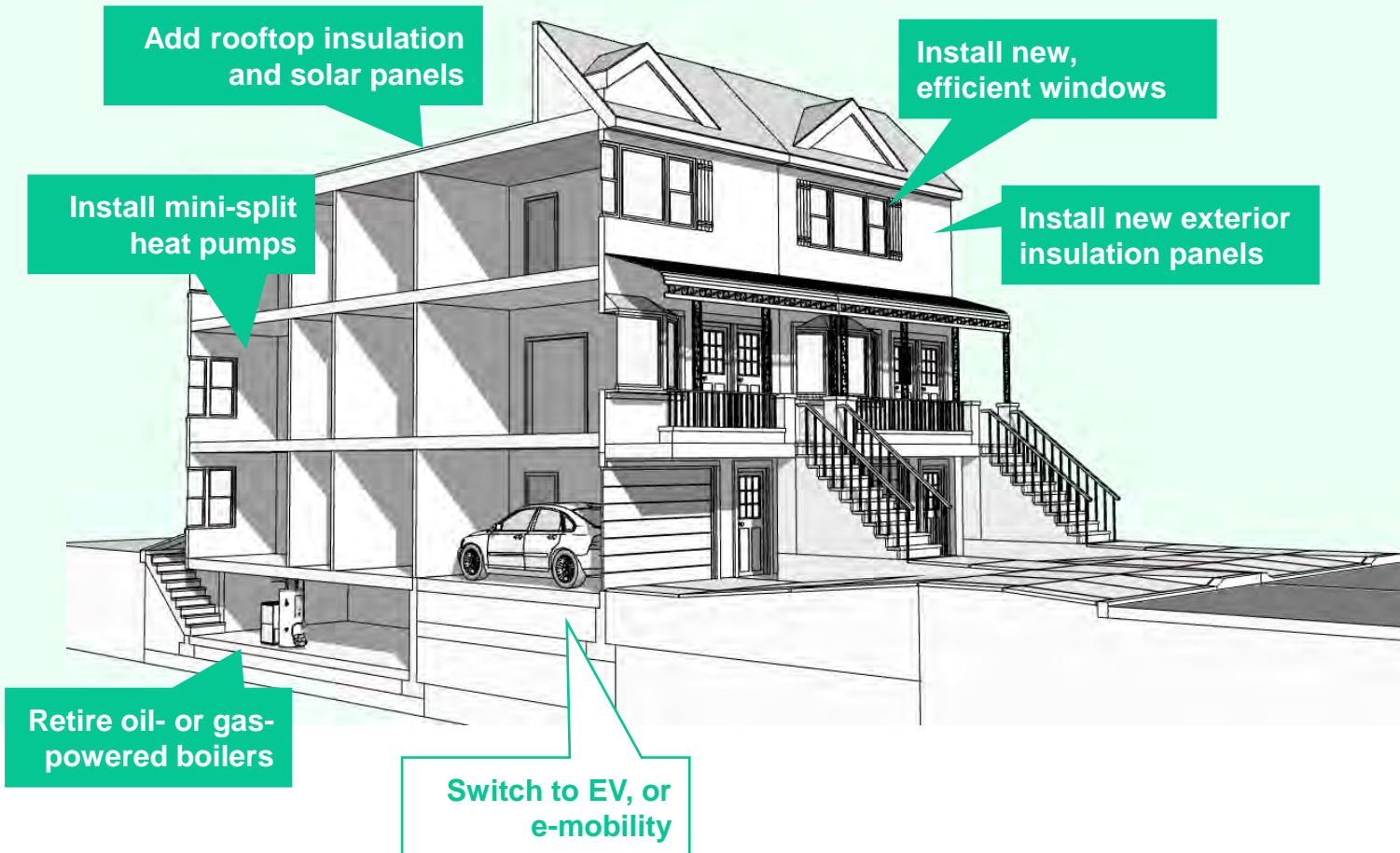
Large buildings
(> 25,000 sf)
that fail to cut
their CO₂
emissions will
face steep fines

**2019 NYC Climate
Mobilization Act
(Local Law 97)**

New buildings will be
prohibited from installing
fossil-fuel equipment
Local Law 154

Goal 2

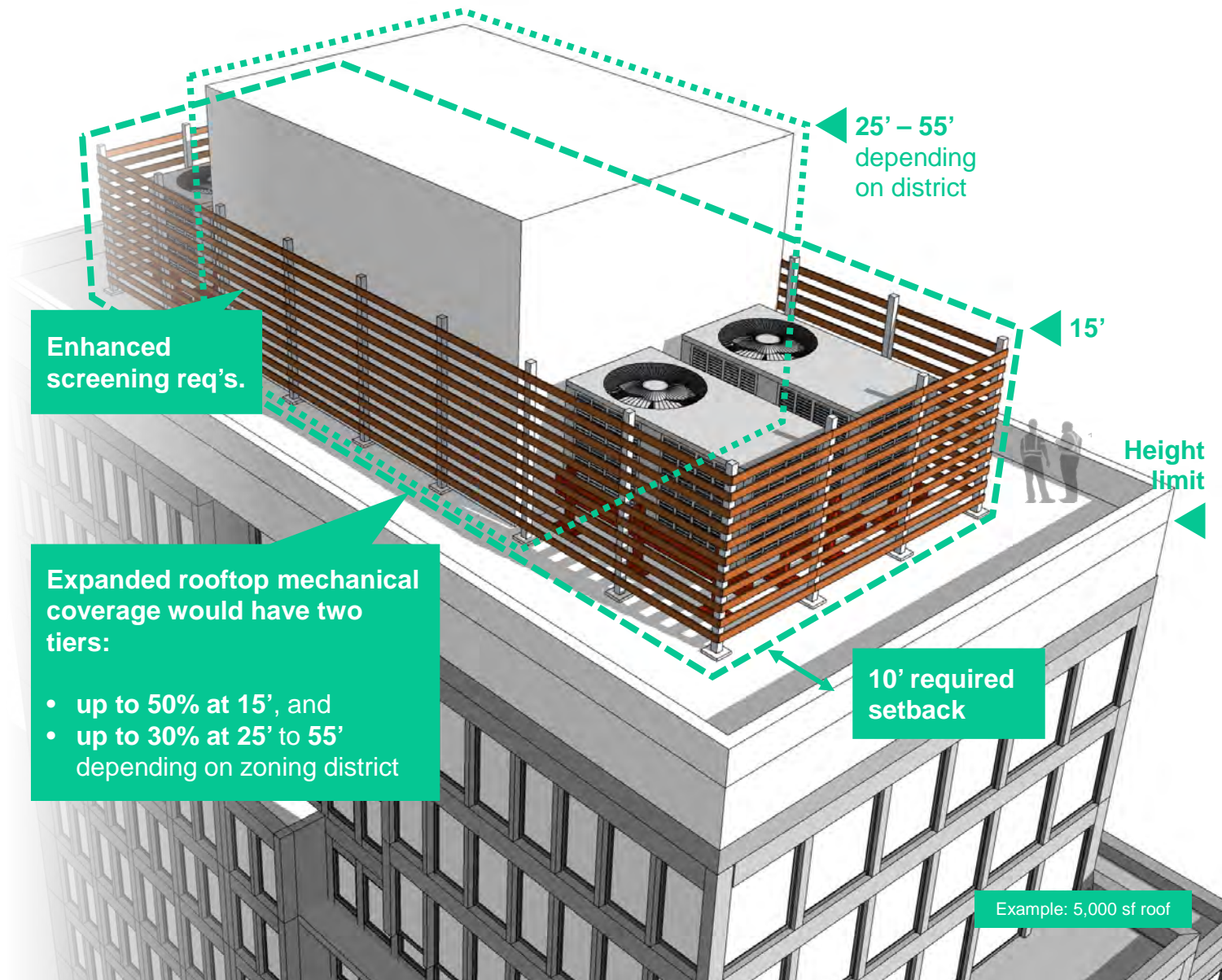
Decarbonize our building stock



- A program of the **MOCEJ (Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice)**
- NYC Accelerator provides free expert guidance and trainings
- It also connects home- and building-owners to service providers and financing opportunities
- accelerator.nyc

Retrofitting mechanical equipment for electrification

- **Currently:** Zoning regulates how much rooftop mechanical equipment is permitted above the zoning height limit. This takes the form of a coverage cap, and separate height limit, on the rooftop mechanical equipment.
- **Issue:** Buildings which are retrofitting to all-electric systems often need to replace boilers in their basement with heat pumps that are outdoors, typically on their roof – sometimes running into zoning limitations.
- **Proposal:** To provide greater flexibility for electric equipment like heat pumps, zoning allowances that currently apply only within the floodplain would be rolled out citywide.



Topic 6

Retrofitting mechanical equipment for electrification

Height & setback	coverage	height
R3-2, R4, R5	20%* (varies based on use and district)	+25' * (varies based on use and district)
R6 – R10, C, M where permitted height < 120'	20%	+25'
R6 – R10, C, M where permitted height > 120'	20%	+40'



Height & setback	coverage	height
R3-2, R4, R5 residential	50%	at +15'
	up to 30%	at +25'
R3-2, R4, R5 community facilities R6 – R10, C, M where permitted height < 120'	50%	at +15'
	up to 30%	at +35'
R6 – R10, C, M where permitted height > 120'	50%	at +15'
	up to 30%	at +55'

Yards, Courts & Open Space

All accessory power systems are permitted obstructions up to 25% of area, up to 10'/15' high

Yards, Courts & Open Space

All accessory mechanical equipment (incl. power sys.) are permitted obstructions up to 25% of area, up to 10'/15' high

Retrofitting mechanical equipment: screening

- **Currently:** Zoning currently requires accessory mechanical equipment that is a “permitted obstruction” above zoning height and setback requirements to be screened.
- **Issue:** Rooftop mechanical equipment that is not a “permitted obstruction” because it is **below** the zoning height limit has **no applicable requirement**.
- **Proposal:** We will be expanding our screening requirements to ensure better screening of permitted obstructions, as well as, for the first time ever, require other rooftop mechanical equipment which is not a permitted obstruction to be screened as well.

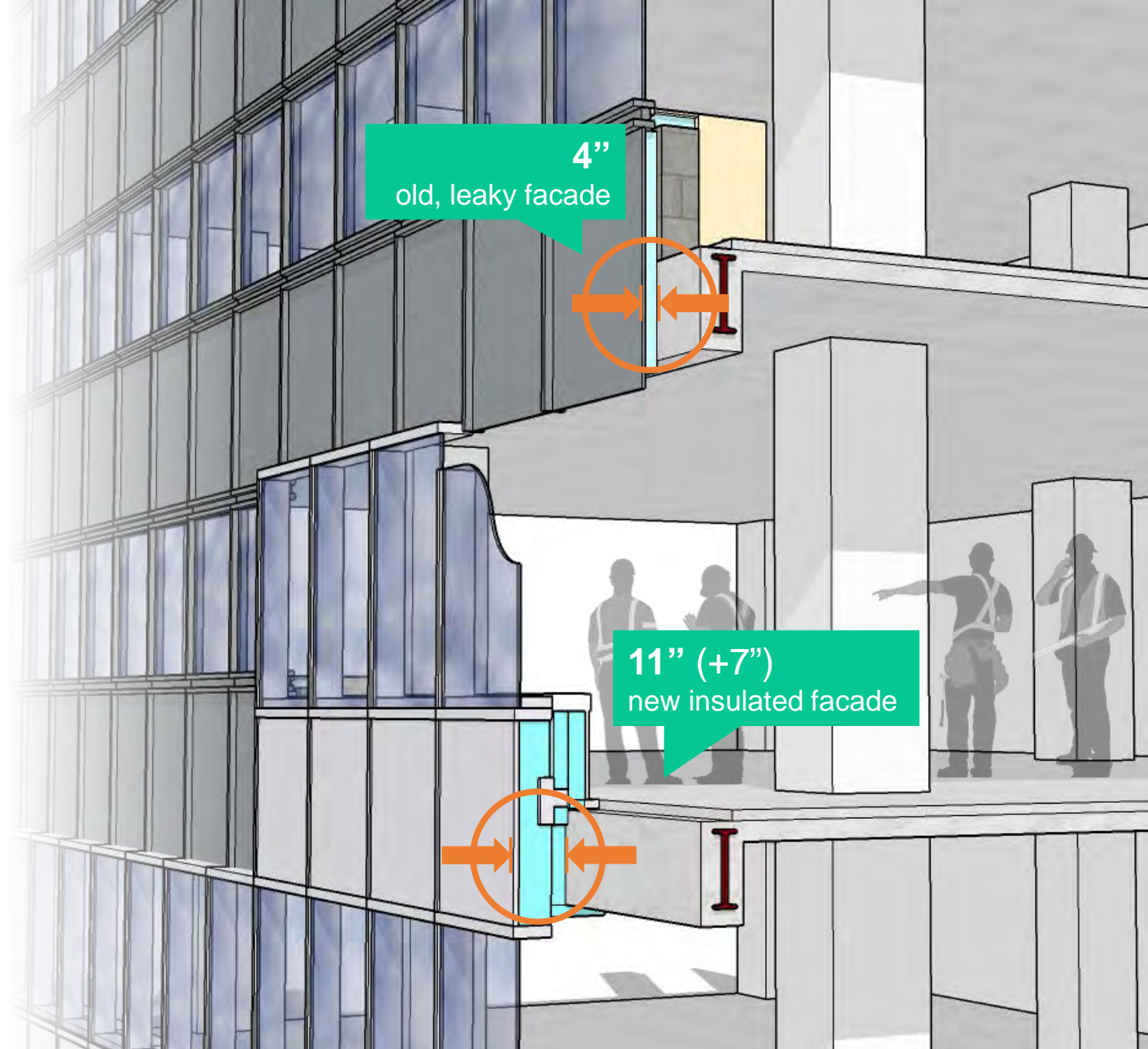
This proposal will require similar installations to be screened, going forward.



Proposal 7

Allowing envelope retrofits to meet code

- **Currently:** Zoning considers wall thickness as “floor area” – this counts against your FAR, or the amount you are allowed to build.
- **Issue:** When trying to completely replace a thin (4”) façade with a thicker (11”) façade, those additional 7” count as new floor area – and are not allowed to be added. This makes this façade replacement project impossible.
- **Proposal:** To ensure that a recladding is allowed, create a new allowance for additional wall thickness, provided the new wall complies with the latest thermal barrier requirements in the NYC Energy Code.



Proposal 8

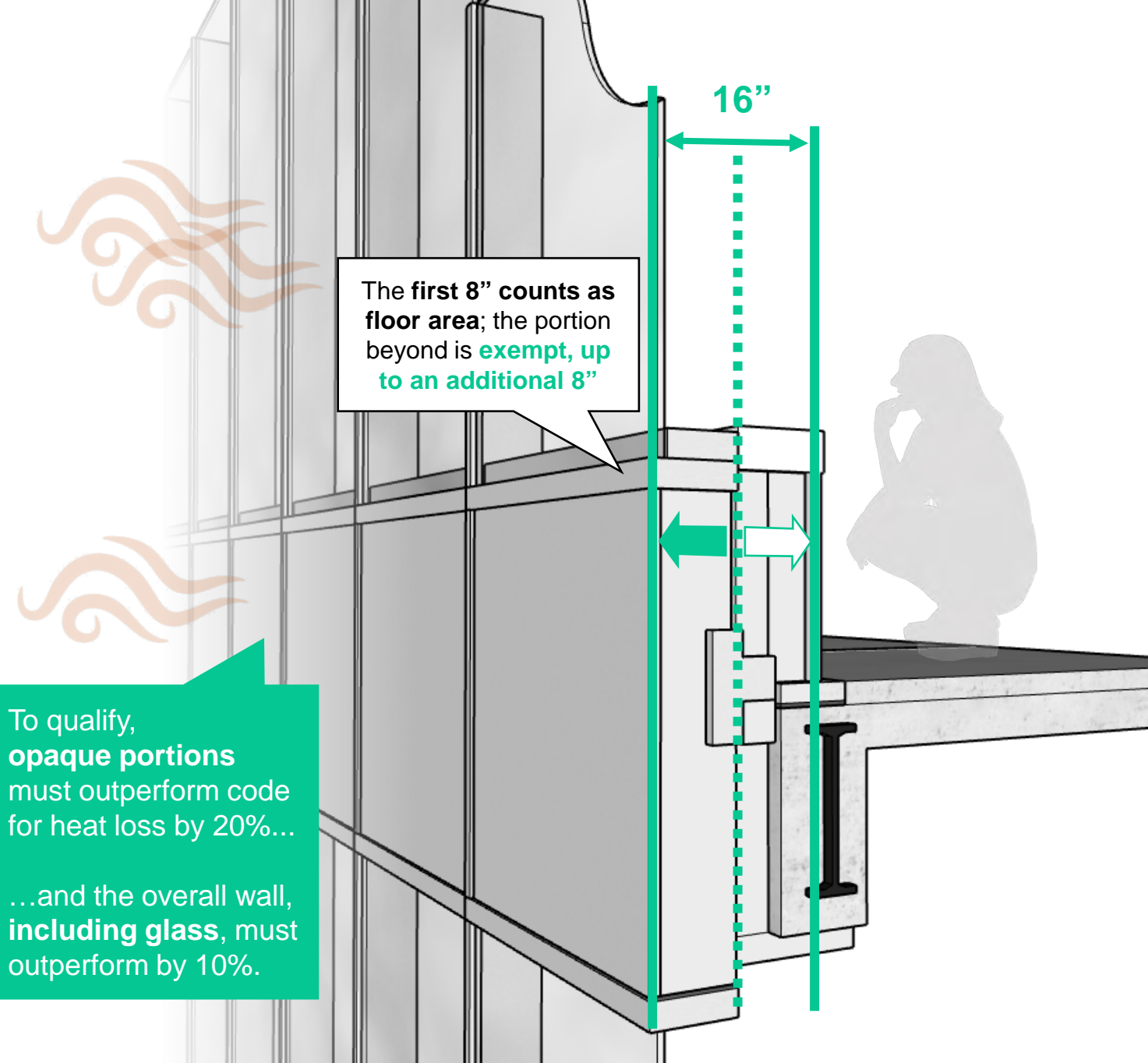
Promoting envelopes that perform better-than-code

Currently: Zoning allows a ‘wall thickness floor area exemption’ (the “Zone Green bonus”) for portions of walls that exceed Energy Code.

Issues:

- The current exemption focuses on the **heat transmission (u-factor)** of a wall. This misses other key criteria, such as air leakage.
- Code’s “u-factor” has been heavily revised since Zone Green. It is very difficult to outperform today’s u-factor, and **nearly impossible** to outperform future u-factors.
- Administering this “up to 8 inch” wall exemption is **complex + prone to issues**.
- It is impractical for **existing buildings** to take advantage of this exemption.

To qualify, **opaque portions** must outperform code for heat loss by 20%...
...and the overall wall, **including glass**, must outperform by 10%.



Proposal 8

Promoting buildings that perform better-than-code

Proposal:

Simplify the deduction from “up to 8in. beyond the first 8in. of wall thickness” into a **flat 5% exemption** from total FAR.

Align the exemption with Local Law 97 by promoting newer performance criteria:

- **existing buildings** which retrofit to become “fully electrified buildings” would be eligible for the exemption
- **new buildings**, which are already required to be fully electric (LL 154) would be eligible for the exemption if they design to “ultra-low-energy” usage building design standards.

The House at Cornell Tech, one of the few new buildings in NYC complying with ultra-low-energy standards



Image: Handel Architects

Proposal 8

Promoting buildings that perform better-than-code

Today Wall thickness deduction	Proposed Pathway A Promoting Code outperformance	Proposed Pathway B Supporting LL97 compliance
Primarily for new buildings	Available to <u>new</u> buildings	Available to <u>existing</u> buildings
up to 8” of wall thickness	flat 5% FAR exemption	
Promote higher u-factor than required by Energy Code	Promote ultra-low-energy buildings which exceed today’s requirements	Support compliance with LL97 by awarding floor area to #fully electrified buildings#
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused on envelope heat transmission based on prescriptive Code requirements (u-factor) which are very hard to meet for opaque walls • Hard for practitioners as well as DOB to evaluate and enforce • Leads to contrived wall designs to unlock maximum 8” beyond 8” deduction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat FAR exemption eliminates complexity/issues • Assumes a fully electrified building • Building must demonstrate specific at time of plan review that they will be either a “net zero” building or achieve “ultra low energy” consumption: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a source energy use intensity (EUI) of 38 kBTU per square foot per year • or, 50% outperformance of comparable building which comply with code • will require testing to verify performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat FAR exemption eliminates complexity/issues • New construction will be required to be fully electric by 2024/2027 per LL 154 • Existing buildings have no incentive other than fines that may be levied under LL97 (if applicable to that building)

An isometric illustration of a city street scene. The scene features a variety of buildings, including multi-story residential or commercial structures with different rooflines and some with solar panels. There are green trees scattered throughout the urban landscape. A red-paved area, possibly a park or playground, is visible in the upper left. A sign on a building in the center reads "YES!". In the lower right, a building is labeled "COMPOST". A river or canal flows along the bottom right edge of the scene. The overall style is clean and modern, with a focus on urban planning and sustainability.

city of yes

Transportation

Goal 3

Decarbonize our vehicles

Less than 1% of the 2,000,000 cars registered in NYC are zero-emission.

see: [NYS DMV, 2021](#)



One of the biggest hurdles to achieving **EV adoption** is finding a place to charge overnight.

see: [The New York Times](#)

By 2035, all vehicles sold in NYS must be EV; demand for charging will rapidly increase

see: [NYS Adv. Clean Cars II](#)



A one-to-one transition to EVs is not the solution. We also need to promote greater use of **bicycles**, **e-mobility**, and **mass transit**.

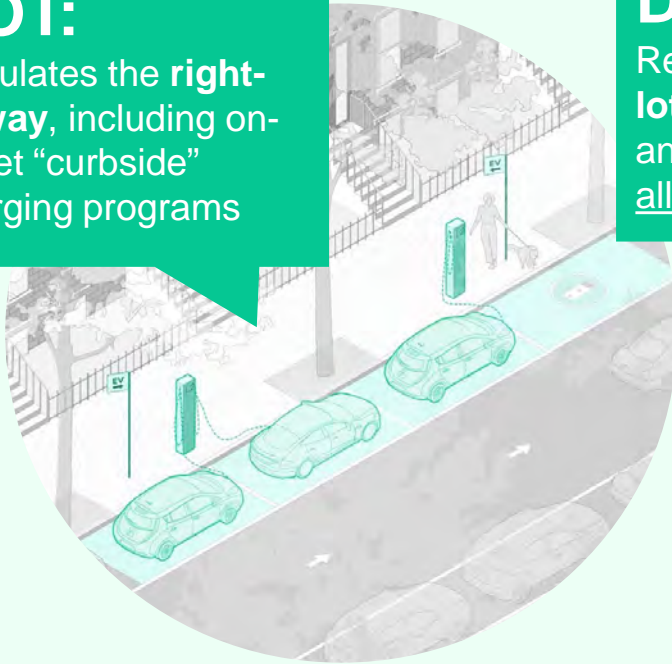
see: [2016 PlaNYC](#)

Goal 3

Decarbonize our vehicles

DOT:

Regulates the **right-of-way**, including on-street “curbside” charging programs



(RPA)

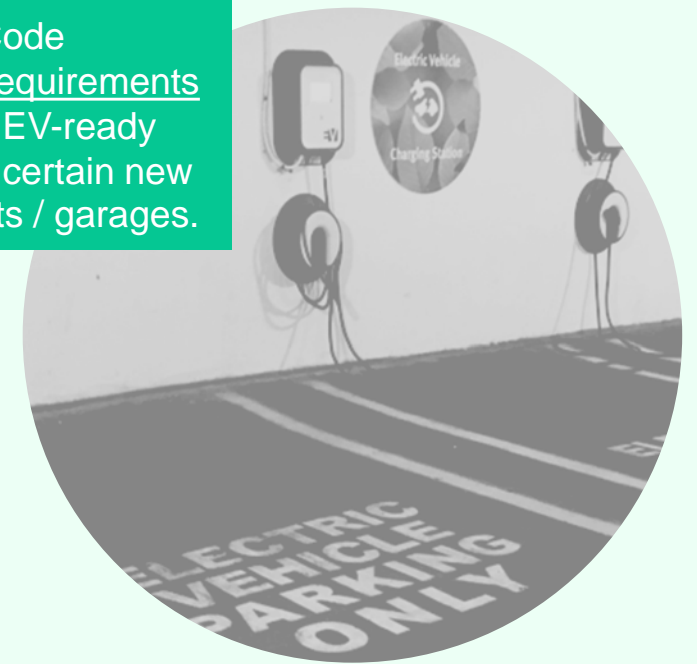
DCP:

Regulates the **zoning lot**: off-street parking, and off-street charging allowances.



DOB:

Building Code contains requirements to include EV-ready spaces at certain new parking lots / garages.



Proposal 9

Open-to-the-public EV charging facilities

- **Currently:** Zoning considers open-to-the-public EV charging facilities as “Use Group 7” commercial uses.
- **Issue:** These facilities aren’t allowed in many C Districts commonly mapped closest to where people live.
- **Proposal:** Reclassify these facilities as Use Group 6 uses that are permitted in all Commercial Districts, more than doubling the commercial land area available for EV charging facilities.



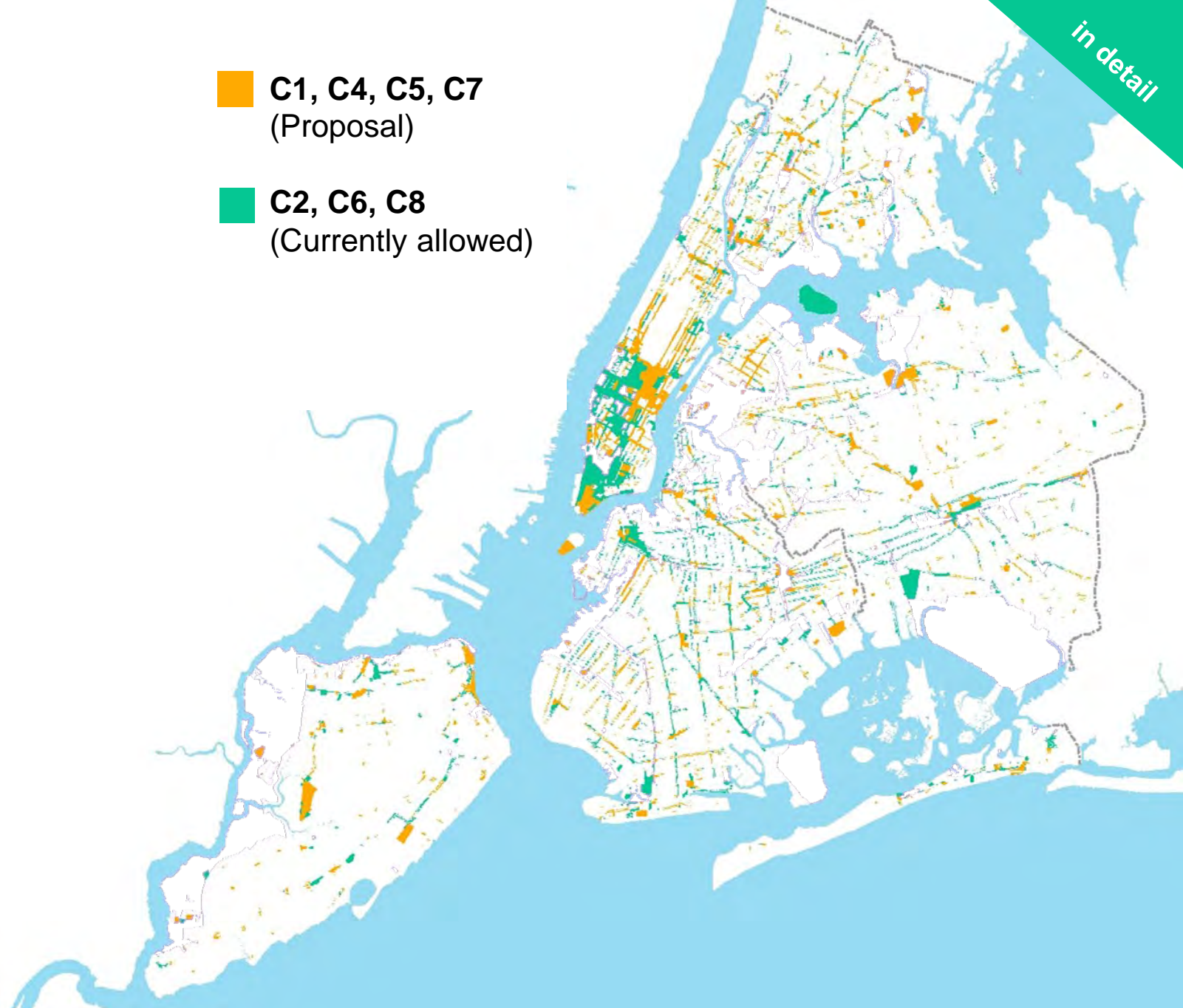
Proposal 9

Open-to-the-public EV charging facilities

	Currently	Proposed
C1, C4, C5, C7	No	Yes
C2, C6, C8	Yes	Yes
All M Districts	Yes	Yes
All R Districts	No	Limited*

* See next proposal

- C1, C4, C5, C7
(Proposal)
- C2, C6, C8
(Currently allowed)



Proposal 9

Open-to-the-public EV charging facilities

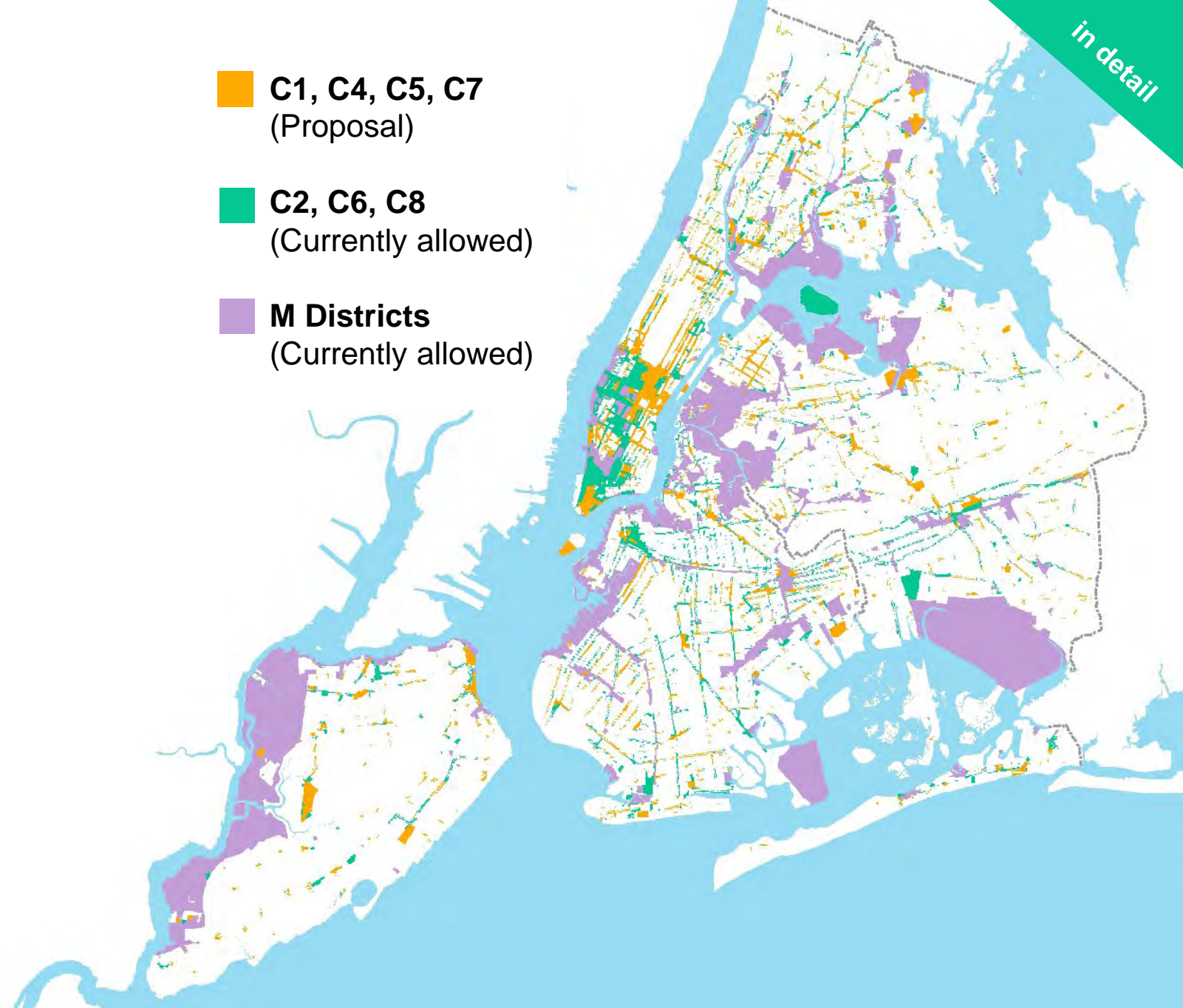
	Currently	Proposed
C1, C4, C5, C7	No	Yes
C2, C6, C8	Yes	Yes
All M Districts	Yes	Yes
All R Districts	No	Limited*

* See next proposal

C1, C4, C5, C7
(Proposal)

C2, C6, C8
(Currently allowed)

M Districts
(Currently allowed)



Proposal 10

Expanding car sharing: public EV charger sharing

- **Currently:** Zoning generally requires parking spaces serving uses, such as retail stores, or apartment buildings. Accessory charging is permitted in all of these spaces. Some of these spaces are permitted to be occupied by commercial car share program vehicles.
- **Issue:** EV chargers installed in accessory spaces are not available to the public, per zoning rules.
- **Proposal:** Expand existing car share rules to allow property owners to **designate up to 20% of their spaces** (or 5, whichever is greater) for flexible, public EV ‘charger-sharing’, or car sharing, or any combination thereof.



Proposal 10

Expanding car sharing: public EV charger sharing

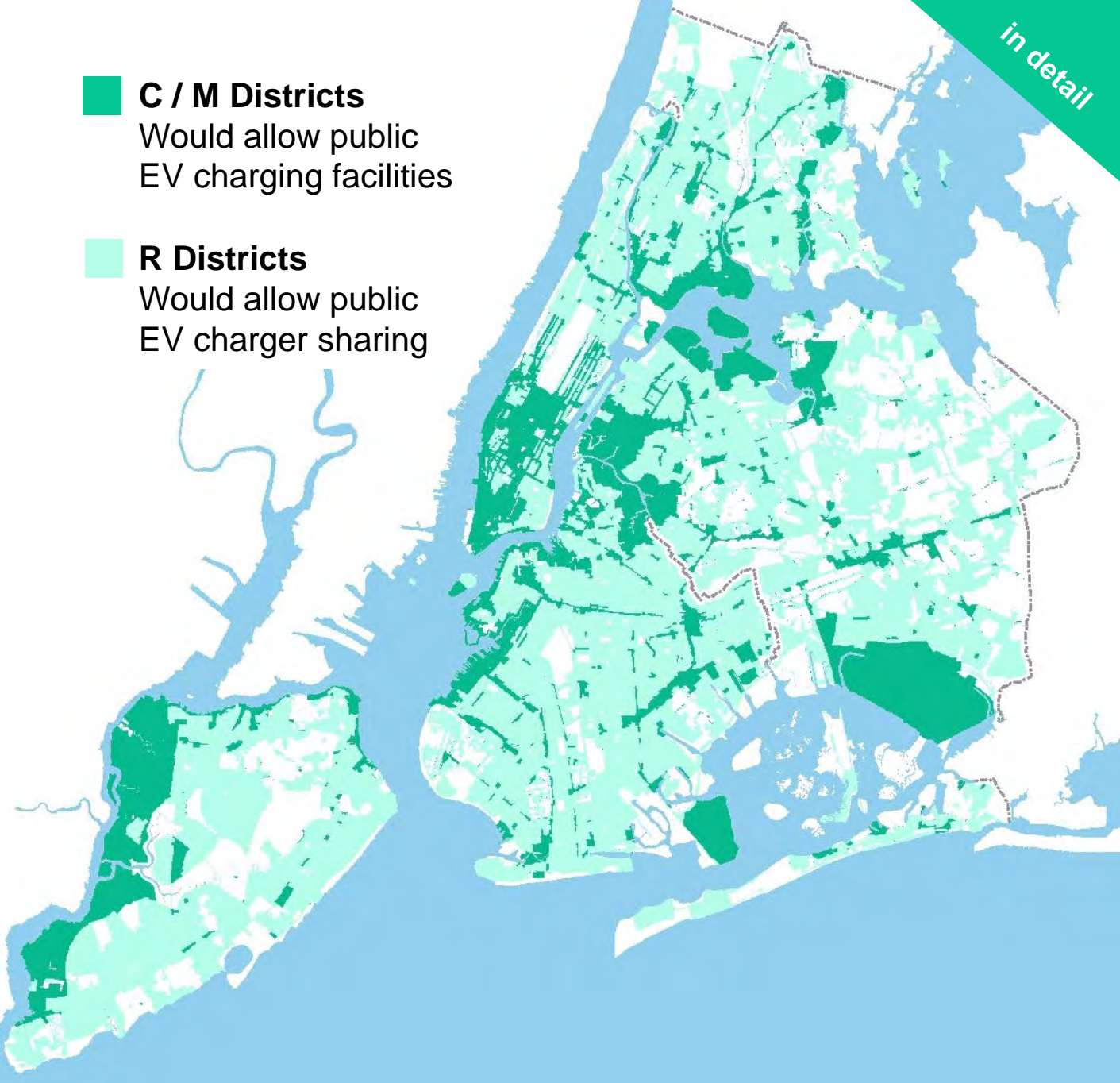
	Current Car Sharing	Proposed Car Sharing + <u>EVCS Sharing</u>
R1, R2, R4-1, R4A, R4B, R5A	Not allowed	Not allowed
R3-2, R4	10% in facilities w/ 20+ spaces	20% or 5 spaces whichever is greater
R5 – R10	20% or 5 spaces whichever is greater	20% or 5 spaces whichever is greater
Non-residential uses	20% or 5 spaces whichever is greater	20% or 5 spaces whichever is greater

C / M Districts

Would allow public
EV charging facilities

R Districts

Would allow public
EV charger sharing



Proposal 11

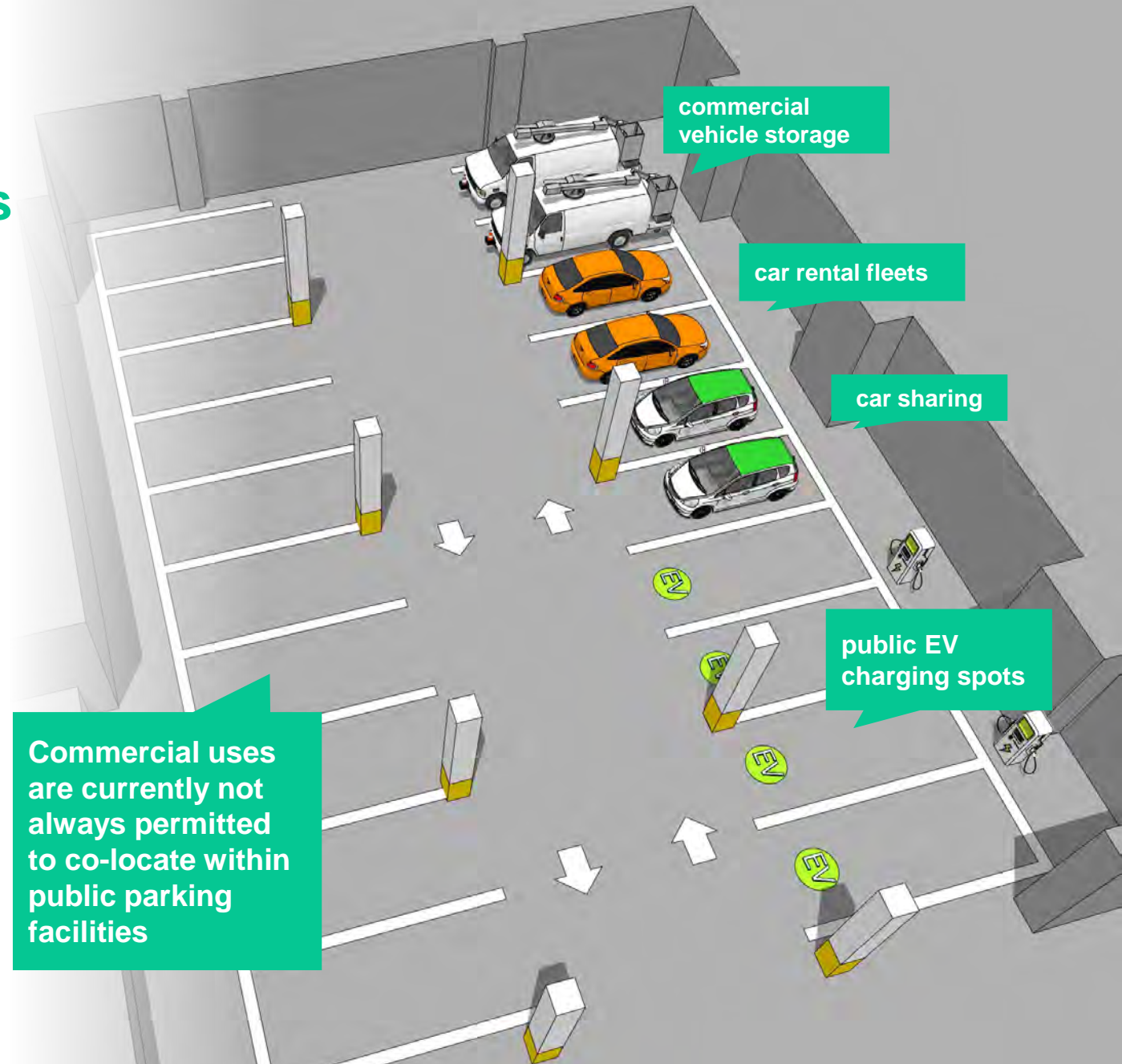
Flex parking: commercial vehicles in non-residential districts

Currently:

Zoning separately regulates the use of parking spaces for (1) car sharing services, (2) car rental services, and (3) commercial vehicle storage.

Issue:

These rules are varied, confusing, and limited. They should be expanded to promote car rental/sharing services (as an alternative to personal car ownership) and provide more locations for overnight truck parking and charging.



Proposal 11

Commercial Fleet EV Charging in both Accessory and Public Parking Lots + Garages

Proposal: In most Commercial, and all Manufacturing Districts, allow up to **20% of accessory spaces** to be occupied by:
 1. car share vehicles, 2. car rental vehicles, 3. public EV charging spaces, 4. commercial vehicle (<20') storage
 ...or any combination thereof.

	R Districts		C Districts				M Districts	
	Accessory	Public Lots / Garages	Accessory		Public Lots / Garages		Accessory	Public Lots / Garages
	R3-2+ MF	N/A	C1, C2 mapped in R3-2+	C4, C5, C6, C7, C8	C1, C2	C4, C5, C6, C7, C8	M1, M2, N3	where permitted
Publicly-accessible EV charging (not inclusive of any EVCS for below uses)	20% of total spaces, or 5 spaces, whichever is greater	N/A	20% of total spaces, or 5 spaces, whichever is greater	20% of total spaces, or 5 spaces, whichever is greater	100% of total spaces	100% of total spaces	20% of total spaces, or 5 spaces, whichever is greater	100% of total spaces
Car share services		N/A			50% of total spaces	50% of total spaces		50% of total spaces
Automobile rental services		N/A			N/A			
Commercial vehicle storage (< 20 feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A					

Expansion of automated parking regulations

- **Currently:** In limited areas, the ZR provides special allowances to “automated parking facilities” that are tailored to their unique operational needs versus a typical parking facility. For example, the minimum size requirements for a parking space are reduced to reflect the unique ‘tray-and-rack’ system used to store cars.
- **Issue:** These allowances don’t apply outside of the Manhattan Core and a few other areas, limiting the feasibility of such facilities citywide.



Proposal 12

Expansion of automated parking regulations

Proposal: To support the growth of automated facilities, this proposal would proactively expand the allowance and associated lower maneuvering requirements due to their high efficiency, on a citywide basis.

Typically	Current zoning-mandated size
Standard parking space	300 ft ²
Attended or alternate maneuverability space	200 ft ²
Automated rules	Current size set forth in zoning
Automated parking tray (in designated areas only)	153 ft ²

Automated rules

Available in Manhattan Core, LIC Area, Downtown Brooklyn SD, and Gowanus SD.

No automated rules

Other districts permitting group parking facilities

in detail

Proposal 13

Bicycle and e-mobility: storage & charging uses

- **Currently:** Zoning provides use regulations for automobile parking and charging.
- **Issue:** Zoning doesn't provide any similar regulations for bicycles and other e-mobility. This creates regulatory uncertainty around where **bike / micromobility parking facilities** are permitted.
- **Proposal:** Create a new commercial use for public bicycle and micromobility parking. New rules would also provide for secure outdoor bike storage lockers as permitted obstructions in yards & open spaces.



Image courtesy of Oonee



city of yes

Waste & Water

Goal 4

Decarbonize our waste streams

Our waste stream only accounts for 4% of our City's greenhouse gas footprint – but there are some **clear steps** to take.

80x50

Reducing stormwater runoff also reduces the need for energy-intensive stormwater treatment

80x50

Newtown
Wastewater
Treatment Plan
(DEP)



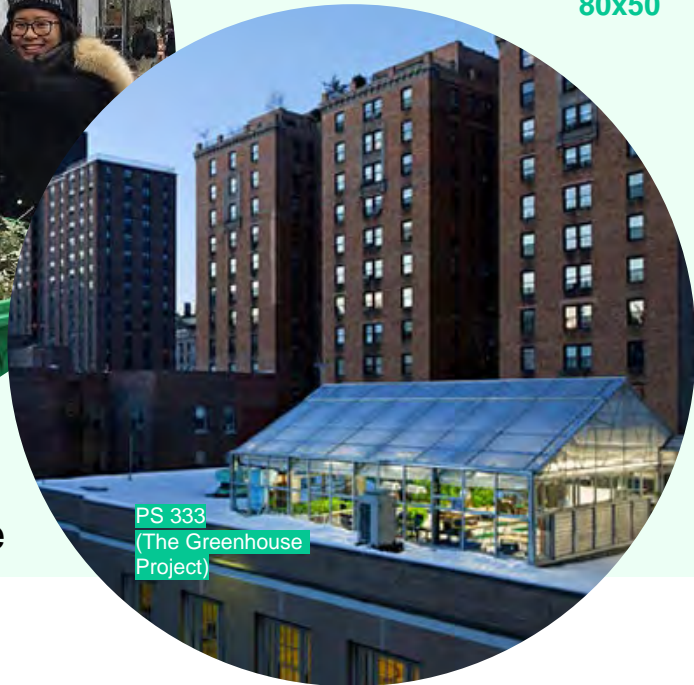
Organics Drop-off
(GrowNYC)

By diverting organic material from the waste stream, we can reduce our solid waste by **45%**

80x50

Supporting local food systems can also play a role in reducing CO₂ associated with food.

80x50



PS 333
(The Greenhouse
Project)

Proposal 14

Expand the use of permeable paving

- **Currently:** Zoning is supposed to allow any paving area to be paved with permeable paving.
- **Issue:** The text, as drafted, requires the Department of Buildings to investigate each proposed installation to deem it appropriate. Ambiguity about how to do so has complicated the process of using permeable paving in NYC.
- **Proposal:** Revise this language to make it clear that permeable paving is always allowed.

Standard ZR language regarding paving:

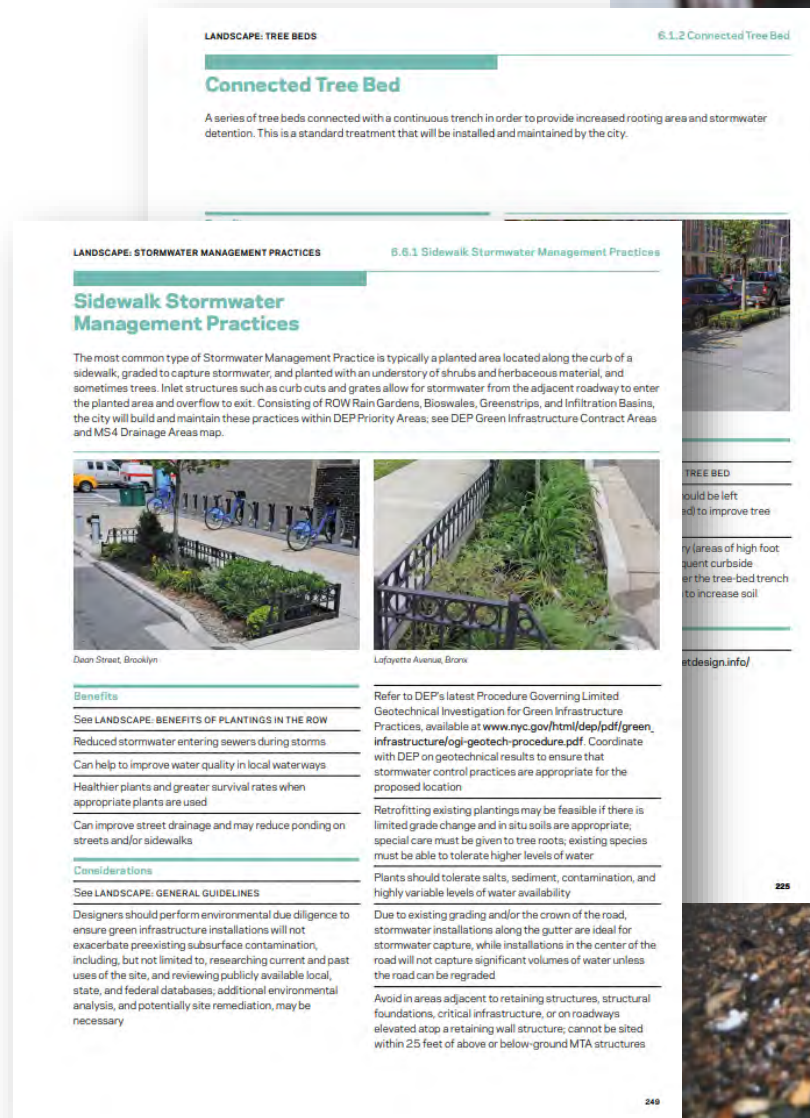
“asphaltic or Portland cement concrete, or other hard-surfaced dustless material [...] However, permeable paving materials may be used in open parking areas where the Commissioner of Buildings determines that such materials are appropriate.”



Proposal 15

Allow for high-performance street beds

- **Currently:** Zoning requires street trees to be installed alongside new developments and enlargements.
- **Issue:** As drafted, the zoning text precludes the use of newer, more inventive prototypes such as “connected tree beds” and “raingardens” that have been designed and approved by DOT.
- **Proposal:** Add flexibility to the street tree requirements to allow location of required trees within connected tree beds or raingardens, as well allow as substitution of one required street tree with a DEP-compliant raingarden.



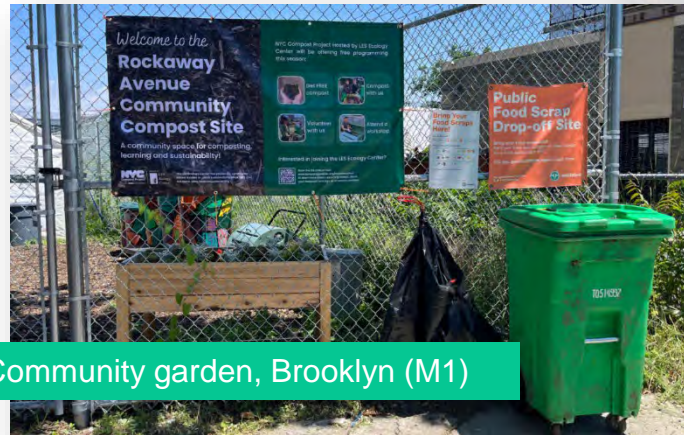
Proposal 16

Clarify regulations for composting & recycling

- **Currently:** Zoning doesn't mention "composting" or "recycling" at all.
- **Issue:** This creates confusion about where composting and recycling are allowed to occur. (DSNY's only compost facility is classified as a "dump" and located in a heavy M3 District on Staten Island.)
- **Proposal: 1.** Clarify that small-scale composting can be considered an "accessory use", **2.** that neighborhood-focused recycling facilities can locate in commercial storefronts, and **3.** that large-scale facilities should continue to locate in Manufacturing Districts.



Community garden, Manhattan (C1/R7A)



Community garden, Brooklyn (M1)

DSNY Facility,
Staten Island (M3)



Proposal 17

Facilitate rooftop food production

- **Currently:** Zoning allows rooftop greenhouses to be added atop **non-residential buildings**, beyond maximum FAR and height limits.
- **Issue:** Even though there are a few straightforward requirements, all applicants are required to obtain a CPC certification that they've followed the rules – increasing the cost and process, and discouraging projects.
- **Proposal:** Change the rooftop certification to an as-of-right allowance. (Proposals would still be evaluated for compliance by DOB.)

75-01 Certification for Rooftop Greenhouses

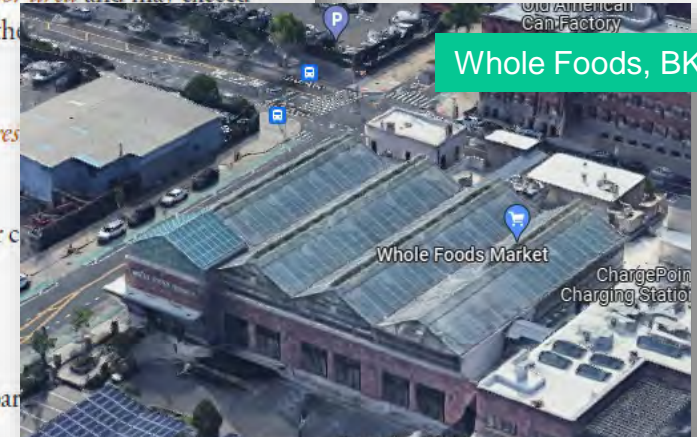
LAST AMENDED 4/30/2012

HISTORY



A rooftop greenhouse shall be excluded from the definition of *floor area* and may exceed *building* height limits, upon certification by the Chairperson of the Commission that such rooftop greenhouse:

- (a) is located on the roof of a *building* that does not contain residential sleeping accommodations;
- (b) will only be used for cultivation of plants, or primarily for cultivation of plants, *accessory to a community facility use*;
- (c) is no more than 25 feet in height;
- (d) has roofs and walls consisting of at least 70 percent transparent material permitted pursuant to paragraph (f)(3) of this Section;
- (e) where exceeding *building* height limits, is set back from the *story* immediately below by at least six feet on all sides; and
- (f) has been represented in plans showing:
 - (1) the area and dimensions of the proposed greenhouse, the location of the existing or proposed *building* upon which the greenhouse is located, and access to and from the *building* to the greenhouse;
 - (2) that the design of the greenhouse incorporates a rainwater reuse system; and
 - (3) any portions of the greenhouse dedicated to office or storage space, to the greenhouse, which shall be limited to 20 percent of the total area of the greenhouse, and shall be exempt from the transparency requirement in paragraph (d) of this Section.



Whole Foods, BK



Friends Seminary, MN

Summary of proposal



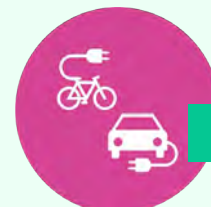
ENERGY

1. **Rooftop solar:** removing zoning impediments.
2. **Solar parking canopies:** remove zoning impediments to allow.
3. **Solar:** ensure standalone generation is allowed
4. **On-shore wind:** add a new tool for the CPC to consider future applications
5. **Energy storage (ESS):** add new rules to allow grid-supporting ESS in a wide range of zoning districts



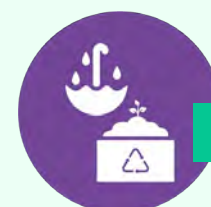
BUILDINGS

6. **Electrification retrofits:** expand rooftop and yard allowances to accommodate increased need for outdoor electrified equipment like heat pumps
7. **Building exterior retrofits:** fix rules to ensure that the widest range of exterior retrofits are allowed.
8. **Fix Zone Green:** update and improve this floor area exemption to ensure it continues to promote better-than-code performance.



TRANSPORTATION

9. **Vehicle charging:** expand allowance to all Commercial Districts
10. **Charge-sharing:** allow a % of residential spaces to be shared w/ the public
11. **Parking flex:** streamline car-sharing, car rental, and commercial parking rules
12. **Automated parking:** expand rules to encourage more automated facilities
13. **Bike parking:** add rules for storage and charging



WASTE & WATER

14. **Porous paving:** clarify language to ensure permeable paving is allowed.
15. **Street Trees:** update rules to accommodate new raingarden prototypes
16. **Organics:** add new use regulations clarifying when composting and recycling are allowed.
17. **Rooftop greenhouses:** simplify the process to allow them as-of-right

Racial equity report

As a zoning text amendment affecting more than 5 community districts, this proposal is subject to the racial equity reporting requirement.

The proposal serves as an important step to meet the City's climate goals by alleviating regulatory burdens and allowing for the creation of a more sustainable, more resilient and more equitable city.

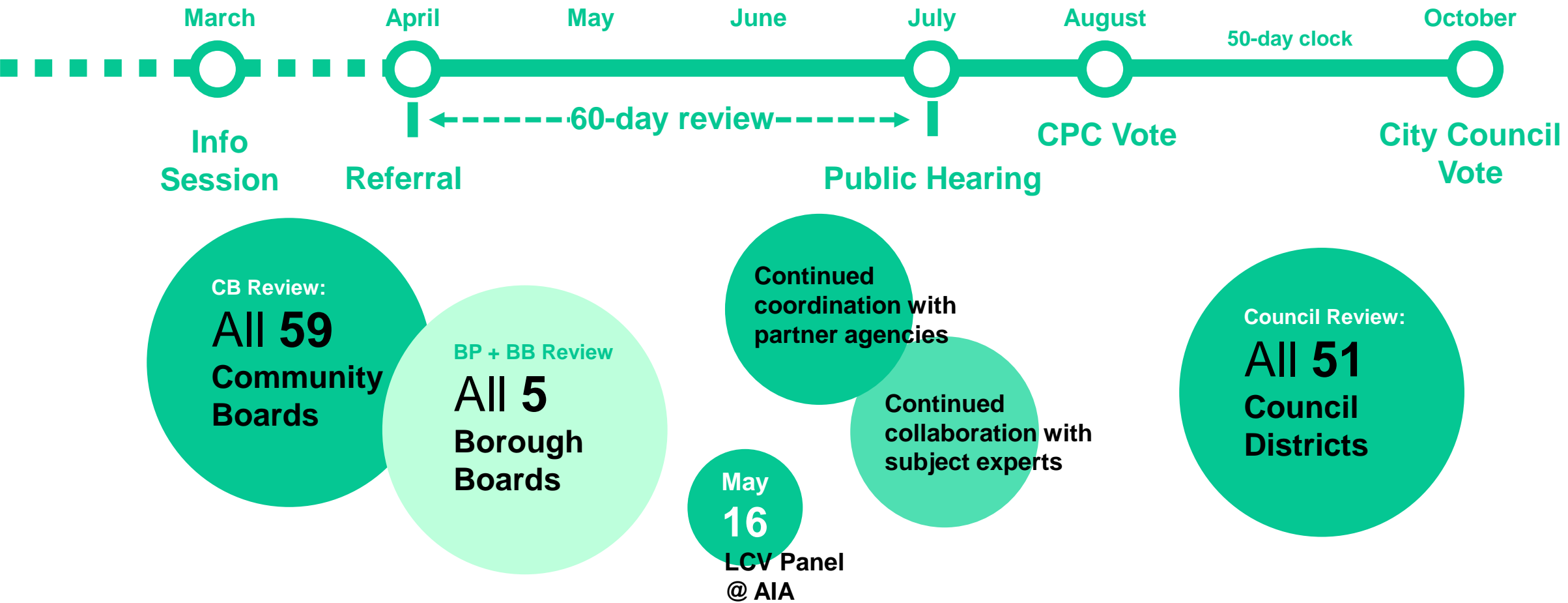
Due to the nature of this proposal, no increases in residential space, non-residential space, or other development activity are anticipated. Therefore, analysis of residential affordability, employment, or construction jobs is not applicable.



A 'peaker' plant – among the dirtiest forms of energy production in NYC.

Source: Gotham Gazette, "Peaker Plants Harm Communities of Color; It's Time for New York City to Replace Them" (2020) by Rachel Spector (NYLPI), Elizabeth Yeampierre (UPROSE) & Dariella Rodriguez (The Point CDC)

Beginning the public review process



Approximate schedule of public review, for illustrative purposes only

An isometric, aerial view of a dense city grid. Buildings are rendered in various colors: yellow, orange, red, purple, and blue. Some buildings have flat roofs, while others have more complex structures. A prominent green banner with the text "Thank you!" is centered over the middle of the image. The banner is a solid green rectangle with the text in white, sans-serif font. The city streets are visible, with small figures of people and vehicles. The overall style is a colorful, stylized illustration of an urban environment.

Thank you!