



Commercial PACE (C-PACE)





Want to save money on your utilities?



Energy Efficiency: the least cost energy is the energy we don't use. **Energy Efficiency upgrades:**

- Save money to building owners
- Create jobs for contractors, suppliers, and engineers
- Spur local economic development—money stays local
- Are a powerful tool in fighting climate change (20% of U.S. total energy is used in commercial buildings)



Why don't Montanans make the investment in energy efficiency?

PROBLEM: Financing gap. Many building owners don't pursue energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades that would save them more money over the long term because of the up-front cost of these upgrades.

Affordable financing is hard to find.

SOLUTION: <u>Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy</u> (<u>C- PACE</u>) is an energy efficiency financing tool that will save Montana's businesses money, create jobs, and help build thriving communities.

What is C-PACE?

Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy

- Energy efficiency and renewable energy financing tool
- 100% upfront financing for upgrades to existing buildings
 - Energy efficiency upgrades
 - Water conservation upgrades
 - Renewable energy upgrades
- Paid back as an assessment on annual property tax bill
- Long term (up to 20 years)

Old Concept- New Application

Tax Assessments are a private financing tool that the local government facilitates. We use tax assessments to pay for things we've determined to be a public benefit:

- ✓ Water and sewer service
- ✓ Parks
- ✓ Sidewalks
- ✓ Street lighting
- ✓ Downtown renewal

C-PACE establishes that clean energy upgrades are a public benefit and are therefore assessable.



BUT unlike the above upgrades, C-PACE is a voluntary assessment.

Where does the money for C-PACE come from?

- 1. Uses private capital from local banks and investors.
- 2. C-PACE is an "open market", meaning any number of banks and investors can participate.
- 3. 167 Lenders across the country are participating as C-PACE lenders.

Who can use C-PACE?

Eligible property types:

- Commercial
- Industrial
- Agricultural
- Non-Profit
- Multifamily housing

Eligible Upgrades:

- Insulation
- New heating and cooling systems
- Lighting improvements
- Solar panels and other onsite renewable energy
- Water efficient fixtures and more





Why property owners want C-PACE?

- Make necessary building improvements
 - Save money on utilities
 - More disposable income
 - Increase business profitability
- Increase the value of the property
- Improve and maintain existing buildings/Main Street

Reasons to use C-PACE continued ...

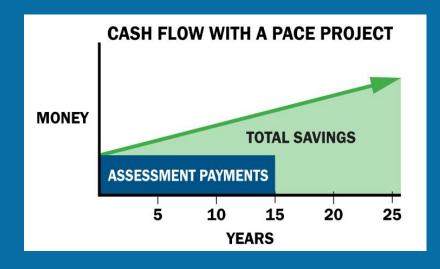
- Unlike a loan, there are no credits checks, or debt to income analysis.
- Eligibility: current on property taxes, appropriate assessment to value ratio.

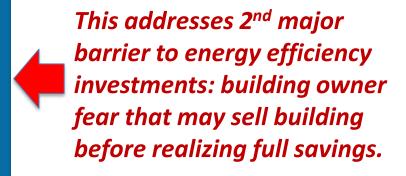


Credit: Homeword MT

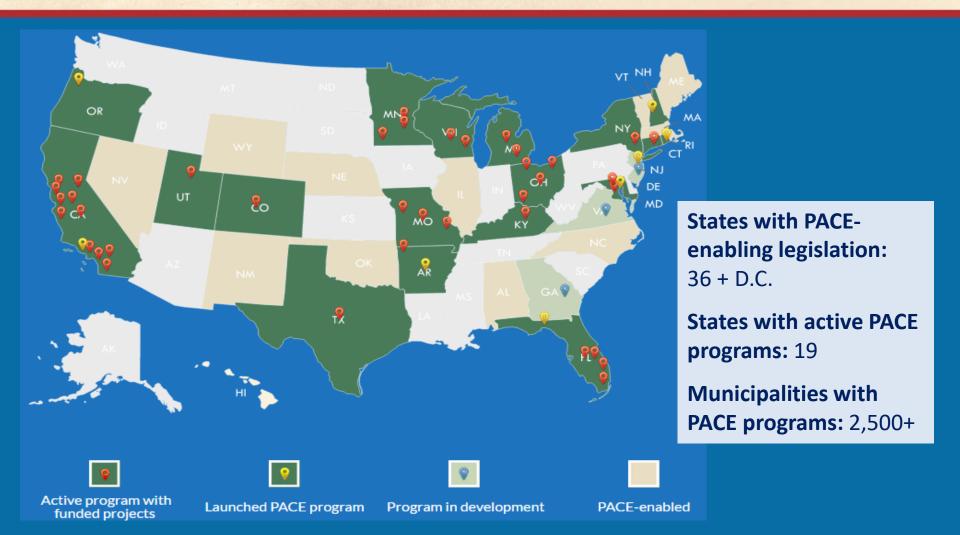
Why use C-PACE over other financing?

- Accessible financing = zero upfront cost
- Spread the payback over the life of the improvements
- Savings are greater than investment
- C-PACE is a <u>NOT</u> a loan Property lien = transferable upon sale



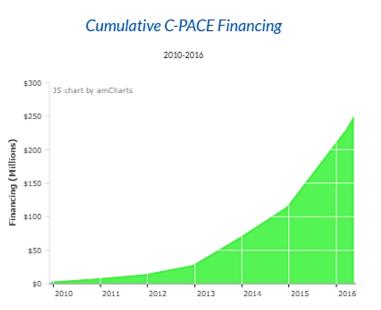


PACE Nation



C-PACE Impact 2017





How do we get C-PACE?

• State/ Legislature

- passes enabling legislation

Counties

- pass a resolution to "opt in" to statewide C-PACE program

• Banks and investors

- agree to be a C-PACE lender

Contractors

- Get necessary certifications to make C-PACE eligible upgrades make improvements

HOW A PACE PROJECT WORKS



1. The County chooses to enable PACE.



The Property Owner gets a baseline energy audit to identify needed efficiency upgrades.



The Property Owner submits a project application to the PACE program administrator.



 The Program Administrator reviews the application with an independent review of energy projections.



Valid projects are sent to PACE participating Banks and Investors.



6. Local Workers get the job.



The Property Owner pays back PACE financing as an assessment on their property taxes.

THE OUTCOME:



The Property Owner wins by saving money and improving their building.



Local Workers win by getting more job opportunities.



Banks and Investors win by making a low-risk investment.



The County wins by meeting its goals of enhancing local business.

Case Study: Salut Restaurant, MN



Credit: Eutectics

Upgrade financed: LED lighting retrofit

Total Project Cost \$50,622

- Xcel efficiency rebate \$20,000

Total PACE financing \$39,308*

*includes admin. cost and interest

Total down \$0

6 year term

Annual PACE assessment payment: -\$9,334

Annual energy and

operations savings: +\$15,296

first year, adjust upwards 2.25% annually

Total Annual Savings (Years 1-5): \$6,383
Total Annual Savings (Year 6+): \$17,096

Case Study: 5 Spoke Creamery Farm

Upgrade Financed: Ground-mounted solar electric system

Total Project Cost	\$164,859
- NYSERDA	\$ 51,977
- USDA	\$ 41,215

Total PACE financing: \$74,796

Total down \$0

5 Year term

Annual PACE assessment payment: -\$16,780 Annual energy savings : +\$16,030

Net cost (years 0-5): -\$750/yr Year 5+ (after financing repaid): +\$15,400/yr



Credit: 5 Spoke Creamery

Case Study: University Club



\$1,900,000 Total Project Cost: **C-PACE** financing: \$662,600

Total down-

18 year term, 6% interest

Annual C-PACE assessment: Approx. \$61,200 \$75,000

Average annual savings:

Net annual savings (years 1-18): \$13,800

Net annual savings (18+ years, after term):

>\$61,200

Upgrades financed:

- Window repair
- 4 HVAC systems; steam trap remediation, air units and air balancing
- LED lighting retrofit

Questions?

