

Leveraging Your Purchasing Power

Regional Renewable Procurement



GreenGov Symposium

October 6, 2010

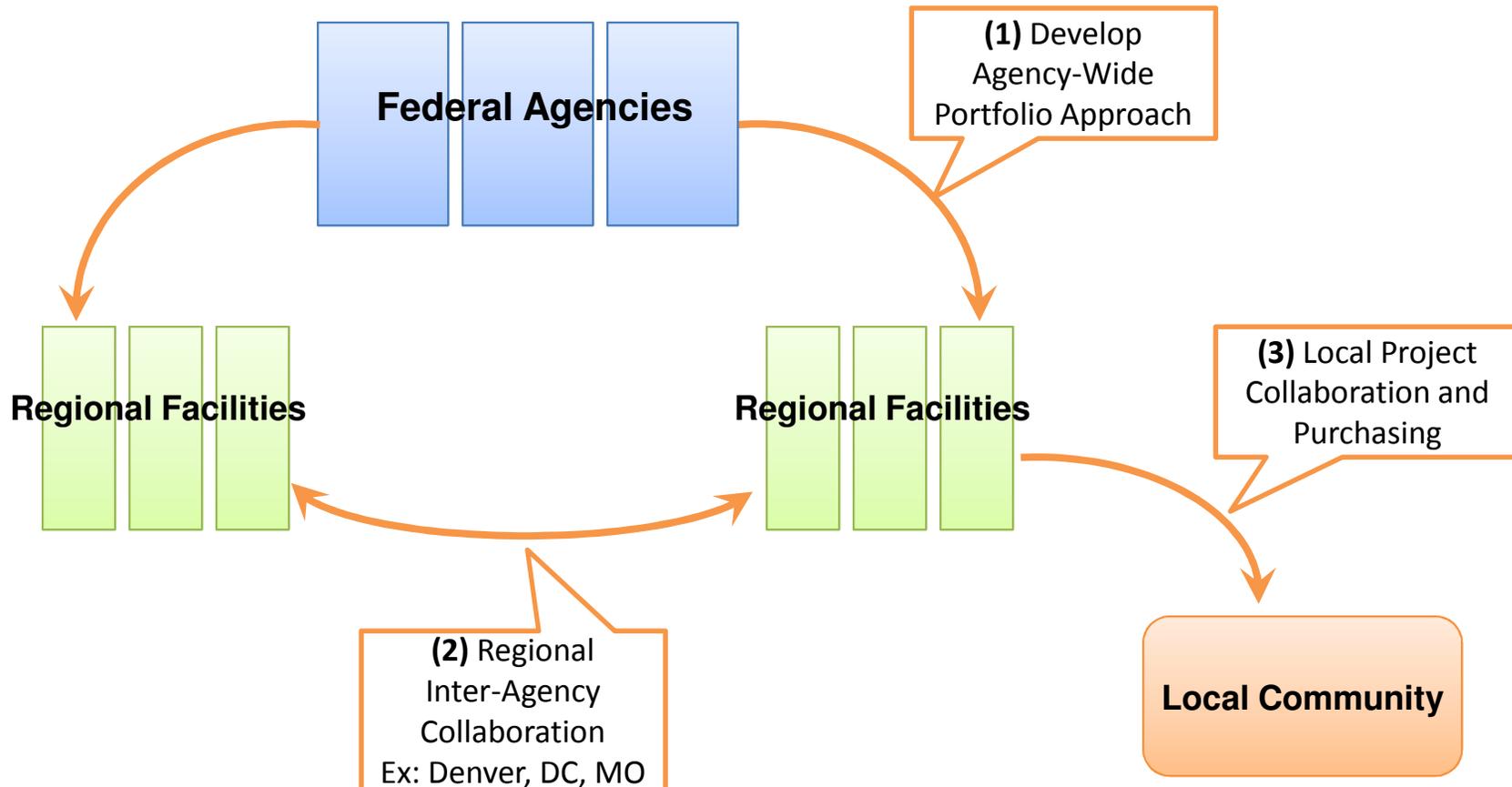


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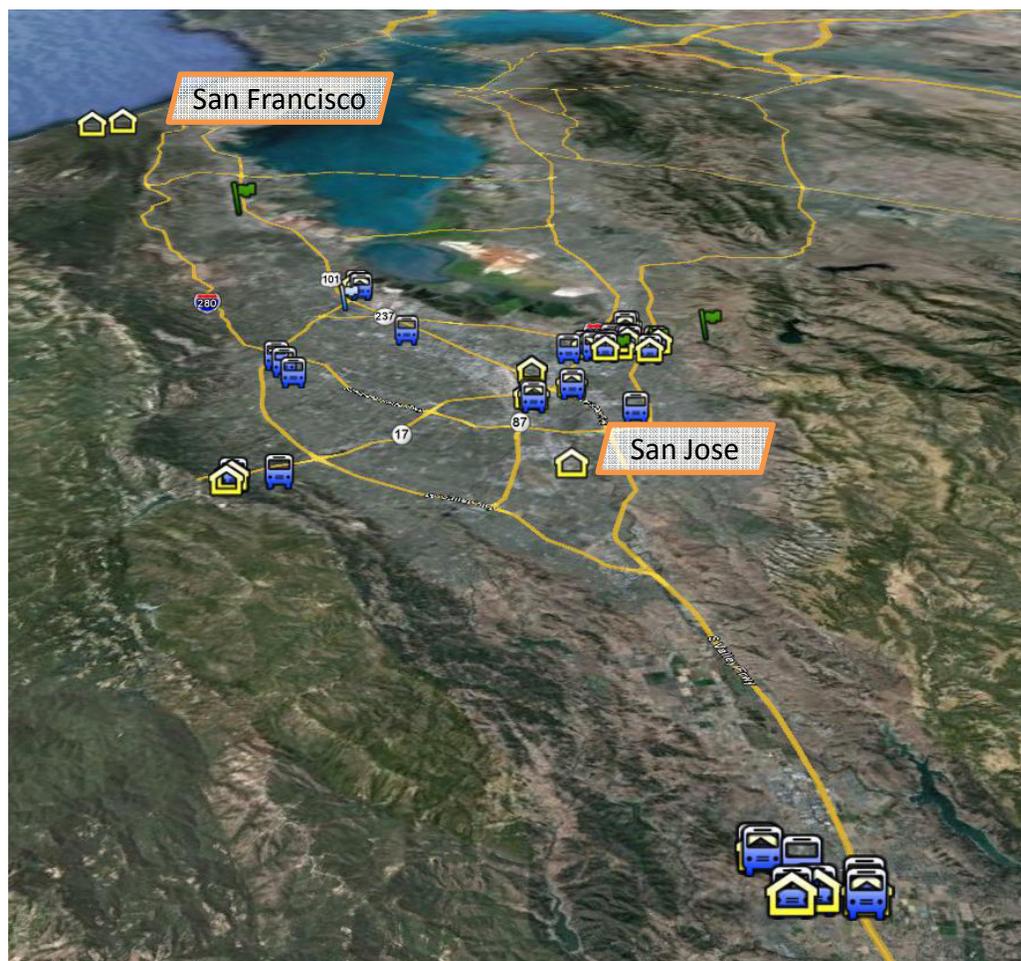
Federal Agency Collaboration for Renewable Energy

- Achieve Federal Strategic Sustainability Performance Plans by working together
- Aggregation yields greater market interest, better pricing and faster impact
 - Demonstrate leadership regionally and locally through national action
- Very few mandatory Federal programs reduce long-term costs, but...
 - Renewable energy can generate savings, when managed properly
- Strategic planning demands a comprehensive approach, but...
 - Need to shorten the long learning curve on new technologies

Three Approaches to Federal Solar Project Collaboration



Silicon Valley Regional Solar Project Overview



- Includes **70 sites** in Phase 1
- Collaboration across **9 jurisdictions**
- **14.4MW** of combined solar PV
- Multiple Site Types:
 - Carports
 - Rooftops
 - Ground mounted
- Largest multi-agency effort to date
 - County of Santa Clara
 - City of Milpitas
 - City of Morgan Hill
 - Town of Los Gatos
 - City of Mountain View
 - City of Pacifica
 - City of Cupertino
 - VTA
 - SBWMA

Regional Goals & Project Initiation



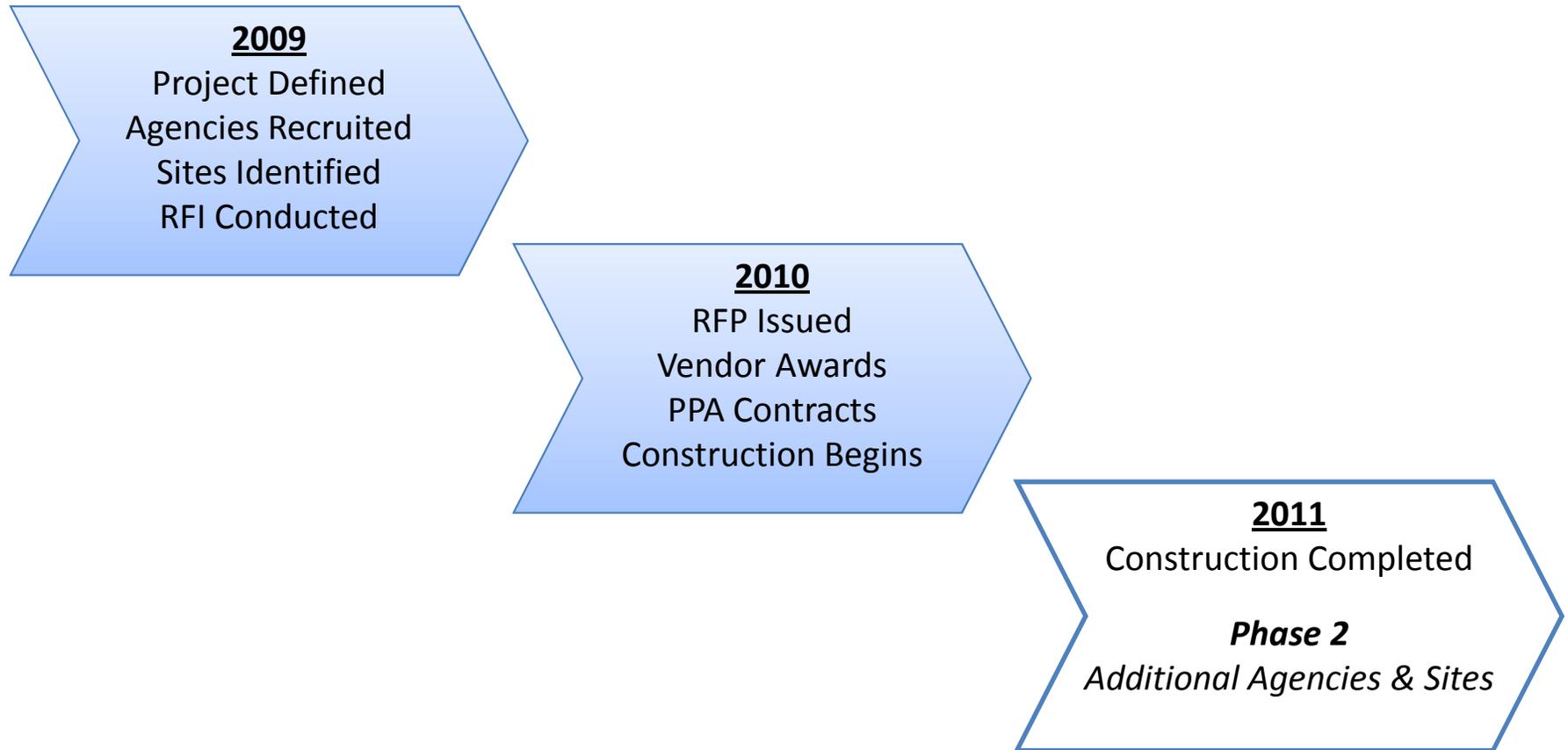
- Launched by Joint Venture's Public Sector Climate Task Force
 - Formed in 2007, started effort in 2009
 - Local government partners from cities, counties, and other agencies
 - Lead Agency – County of Santa Clara
- **Charter Statement:**

To develop effective, collaborative, solutions for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from public agency operations, by providing a neutral forum for city and county government agencies and special districts to learn from each other and from others about climate protection programs.

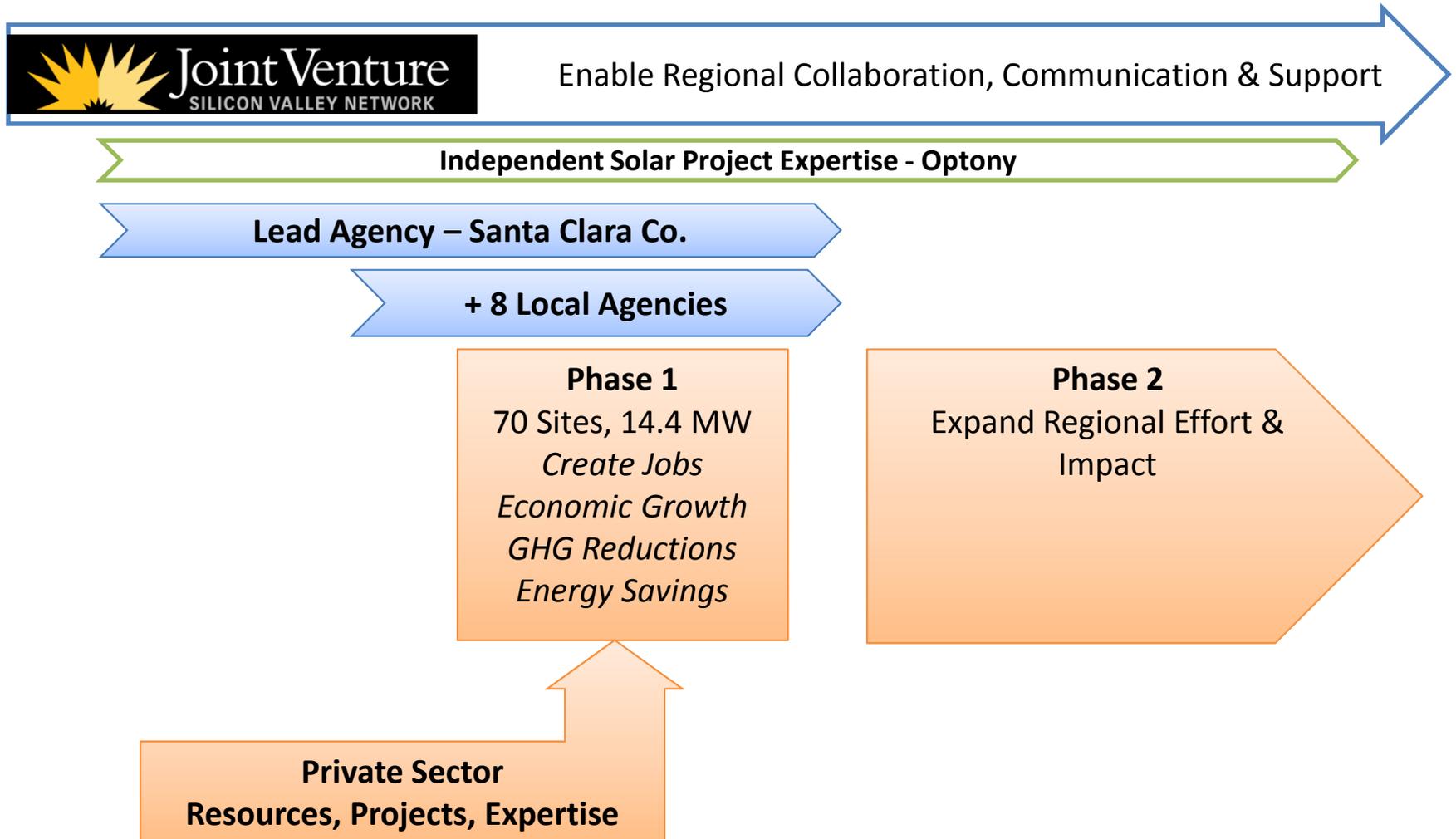
Challenges & Opportunities

- Challenges
 - High upfront costs associated with purchase and installation
 - Need to minimize transaction costs and admin time
 - Lack of understanding of financing options and available incentives
 - Reach GHG reduction goals and meet state mandates
- Opportunities
 - Collaborative effort to conserve funds, staff time
 - Standardized procurement documents, PPA, and process
 - Accelerate financing process and deployment
 - Serve as a model for similar efforts across the USA

Project Timeline



Silicon Valley Regional Collaboration Model



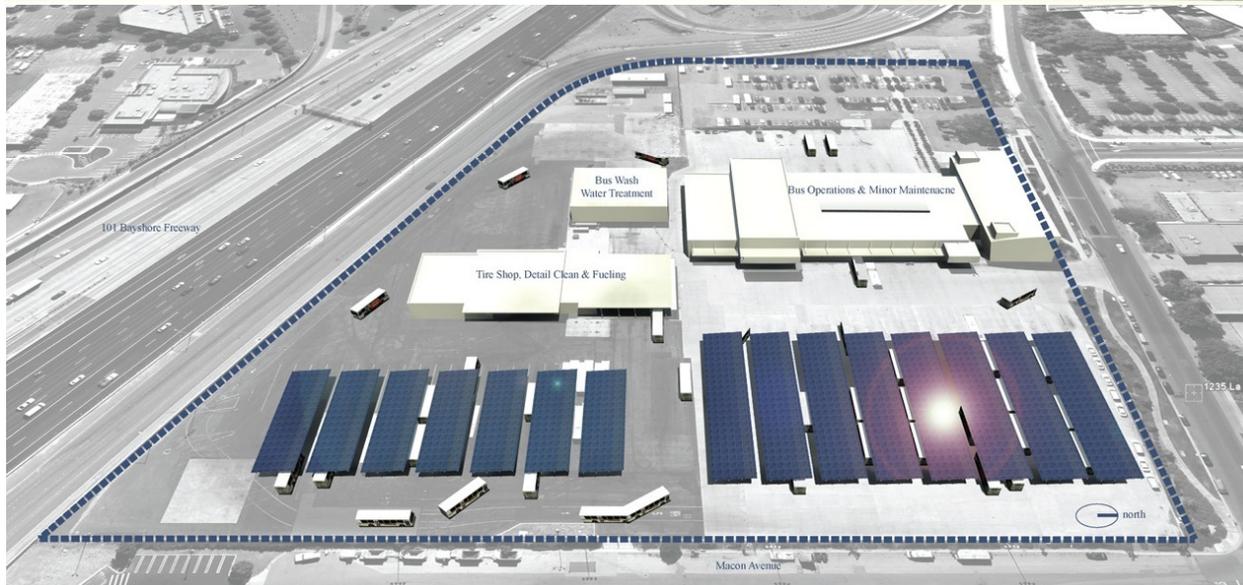
Strategic Bundling Approach

- Thorough review of individual site characteristics
 - Look for potential sizing issues and opportunities
- Consider site-specific and agency-level constraints
 - Energy usage, incentive structures, jurisdictional requirements
- Bundling sites by installation type, host facility, size and other attributes
 - Make bundles attractive to qualified integrators
- Incorporate solar market input
 - Capabilities, economies of scale
 - Avoid deal-breakers found in many other projects
- Consider total size (MW) and number of sites per bundle
 - Some bundles can be too small or too large
 - Evaluate other non-PV options

Site Bundle Descriptions

TABLE OF RPG SYSTEM BUNDLES	
RPG System Bundle Type	Description/Characteristics
Bundle 1 - Large systems	This bundle includes rooftop and ground mounted PV systems with a capacity to generate 650kW or more power at a single site.
Bundle 2 – Medium size systems	This bundle includes rooftop and ground mounted PV systems with a capacity to generate between 160 kW and 650kW at a single site.
Bundle 3 – Small size combined systems	This bundle includes rooftop and ground mounted PV systems with a capacity to generate upto 160 kW at a single site.
Bundle 4 – Small size rooftop only systems	This bundle includes exclusively rooftop mounted PV systems with a capacity to generate upto 220 kW at a single site.
Bundle 5 – Other systems	This bundle includes solar thermal PV, Fuel cell, and micro-wind turbine systems of various capacities yet to be determined based on the type of application.

Valley Transit Authority – Bus Depot



SITE: Bus Depot
TYPE: Bus Canopy
SIZE: 1,100 kW

Estimated to provide
>100% of onsite
power needed



South Bayside Waste Management Agency



SITE: Shoreway Environmental Center

TYPE: Roof, Standing Metal Seam

SIZE: 187 kW



Regional Benefits

- Reliable cost of electricity over 20 year term, escalation rates 2%-4.5%
- Volume & competitive pricing yielded 10-14% cost reductions
- Electricity consumption completely offset for 25% of sites
- Projected to generate \$70M+ in local economic activity and 300+ jobs
- Over \$30M in Federal tax benefits captured via PPA (ITC + Depreciation)
- Demonstrated leadership with large number of installations
- Capture long-term REC benefits with future potential for resale

Agency Collaborative Working Structure

- How it was structured
 - Initial expression of interests with site information from various agencies
 - Formal letter of cooperation (MOU) between partners committed to process
 - All sites bundled and bid out together – however final contracts at each agency
- Lead agency (County of Santa Clara) perspective
 - Providing leadership across County and region
 - Volume discounts and better competition
 - Increased economic activity within and around the County
- Other participating agency perspective
 - Could not easily or cost-effectively pursue this project on their own
 - Much better outcome and can leverage regional expertise
 - Competitive bids for individual site that might otherwise not be attractive to vendors



Broad Application of Lessons Learned

○ **Adoption of Best Practices in Creation of Model Documents**

- Learning from other public agencies + due diligence with industry leaders to ensure agreements would be attractive to both the participants and the vendors
- Process standardization saves time and costs for all participants and stakeholders
- Frequent communication to project participants at regional and special purpose meetings

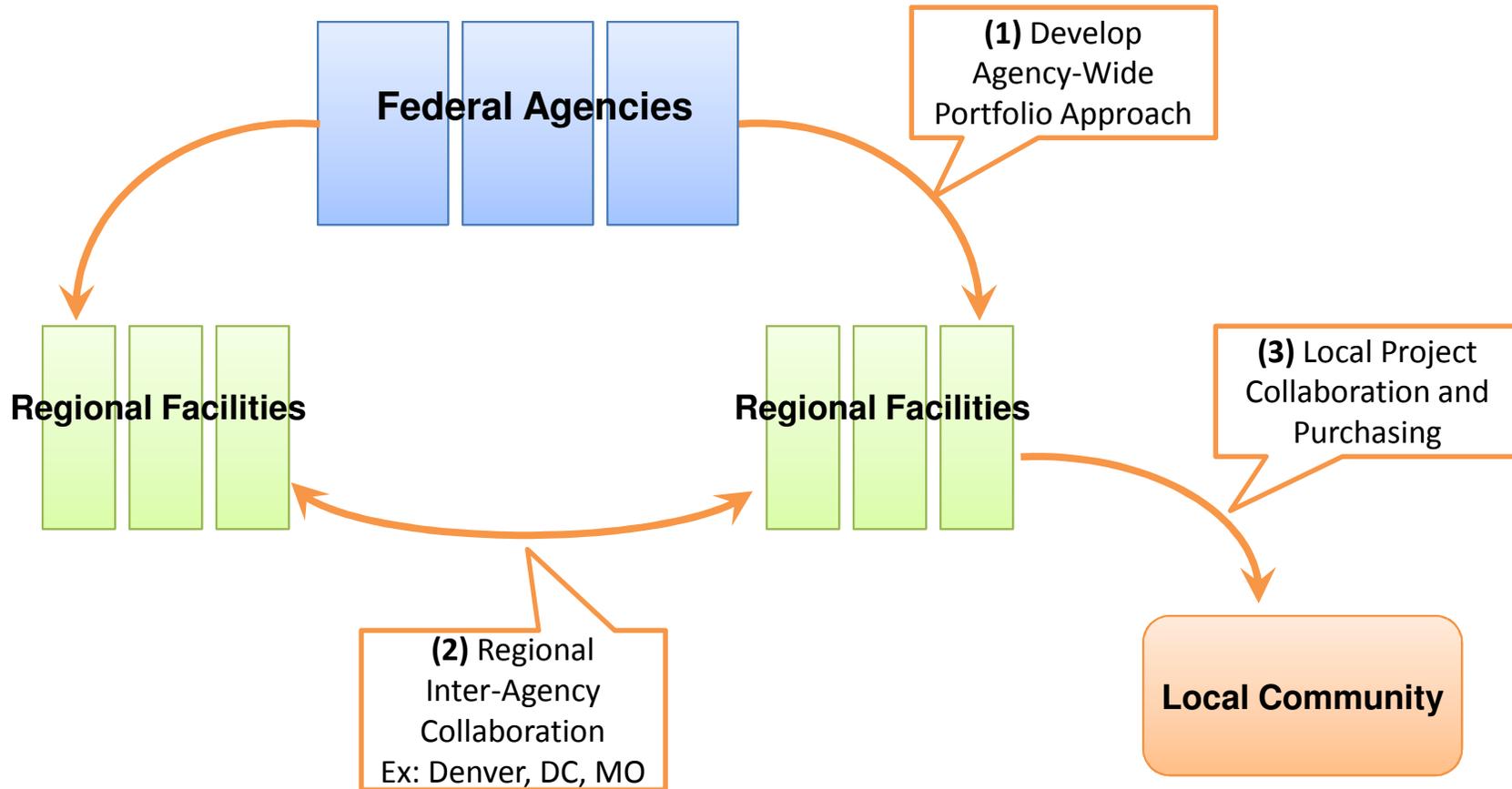
○ **Strategic Bundling of Sites**

- Leverage economies of scale while optimizing for the strengths of the vendors
- Better competition by qualified vendors = better pricing and outcome

○ **Vendor Outreach**

- Maximize vendor knowledge of RFP release through outreach partners: DOE, EPA, NREL, local industry consortium
- Encourage vendors and provide timely feedback and relevant project information

Three Approaches to Federal Solar Project Collaboration



Getting Started

- Identify sites across your organization, nationally and regionally
- Recruit other departments and agencies to aggregate sites and combine efforts
- Define goals, constraints and success factors
- Utilize internal and external expertise to assess sites and tailor procurement effort
- Convene stakeholders to review plans and build support for the initiative!





Questions



Optony creates value for government and commercial organizations across the USA and in China by developing and deploying solar best practices across the entire solar project lifecycle.

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