



BusinessScene

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Financing Energy-Efficient Projects Just Got Easier



PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) financing is now available in Ventura County, through the California First initiative. PACE is an innovative way to finance energy-efficient upgrades to buildings as a property tax assessment. For decades, this type of assessment has been used throughout the country to finance improvements to private property. By eliminating up front costs, providing low-cost financing, and making it easy for building owners to transfer repayment obligations to new owners, PACE overcomes challenges that have hindered energy-efficient projects.

CA FIRST is using PACE to connect property owners in Ventura County to low-cost capital and the following benefits:

- Lower interest rates
- Longer payback periods (up to 20 years)
- Property qualified financing; (not credit-based)
- Repayment obligation remains with property (if property is sold or transferred)
- Flexible/negotiated financing

Financing through CA FIRST is available for commercial and multi-family properties (five or more units). Property owners enter into a contract with the CA Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA) to finance clean energy projects. Property owners agree to repay the costs of improvements through a line item on the property tax bill. This line item is given priority over private liens, and secures the low cost financing.

Property owners can work with any licensed contractor, and any qualified financing partner. CA First can help applicants find financing, if needed. Most clean energy retrofit installations are eligible for CA FIRST financing, including:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Windows and doors | • Solar photovoltaic (PV) |
| • Electric vehicle charging stations | • Solar water |
| • Lighting | • Insulation |
| • Refrigeration | • HVAC |
| • Bathrooms | • Cool roofs |

For information about participating in PACE, please contact the Economic Development Collaborative of Ventura County (EDC-VC) at 384-1800.

Disaster Planning & Recovery App



In emergencies, people are more likely to save their cell phones than their computers...so, **Tools for Business Success** is creating an app for businesses to access disaster resources and retain important information. The app, scheduled for a November debut, will be customized to include local, state, and federal resources. More to follow...

Tools for Business Success is full of **free resources** for all business needs, and is on the City website at www.ci.camarillo.ca.us. For more information about the new Disaster Recovery App, please contact Carolyn at cusinger@toolsforbusiness.info or (866) 429-1527.

TOOLS FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS

