



BOSS

Black Owners of Solar Services

Happy Juneteenth!

In this time of reflection and celebration, we honor both where we've been and where we're going together. The BOSS family wishes you all a joyous Juneteenth!

We'll see y'all in July for our next community meeting!

Black Owners of Solar Services
May/June 2022 Newsletter

"If it makes dollars, it makes sense."
- AJ Patton



May 19, 2022 - Meeting Highlights



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Black Owners of Solar Services

BOSS: Leveraging the CRA for solar

May 19, 2022 1pm ET - 2pm ET

AGENDA

- Greetings
- A discussion on Federal Opportunities with:

Lee Peterson
Senior Manager, Project Finance & Consulting
Transactions & Turnaround Advisory
[Cohn Reznick](#)

Member Spotlight: A.J. Patton Sr.
CEO & Managing Partner
Solar Chicago Fund & 548 Capital

- Boss Climate Finance Summit with the American Green Bank Consortium and ACORE, July 20th, 2022, Washington, DC
- Closing Remarks

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Funlola Otukoya, Operations Manager for [BOSS](#), played MC for May's BOSS Community Meeting. If you have questions about BOSS or know someone who is interested in joining, please connect with Fun by email: operations@blacksolar.org.

[Lee Peterson, Esq.](#), Senior Manager of Project Finance & Consulting Transactions & Turnaround at [Cohn Reznick](#), gave us an overview of the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) and how this can be leveraged in solar. The CRA can push financial institutions to put more money toward clean energy projects in our communities. A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) is now in effect to reflect on the CRA. Lee encourages everyone who recognizes their stake in this game to submit a public comment. BOSS intends to file a comment that reflects the needs of our community and encourages our members to file as individuals or on behalf of their company as well.

“There is an opportunity to get the rules that will benefit you - designed to benefit you - if you help the process do that.”

Learn more about the CRA and the NOPR:

- ◆ [NOPR Memo from the FDIC](#)
- ◆ [OCC Summary & Highlights](#)
- ◆ [Press Release - Submit or View Comments](#)

Click [here](#) to view the shareable recording of the May 19th webinar.

Member Spotlight:

[AJ Patton Sr.](#), Founder & CEO of [548 Capital](#) & [548 Development](#) shared highlights about his 100% Black owned and operated business that builds sustainable, solar powered housing and industrial developments. His projects include the 2nd largest passive house projects in Chicago, IL. With his eye on Black excellence, AJ purchased Malcom X's print factory with the intention to renovate the building into a sustainable housing facility of mixed housing (half affordable and half market rate). AJ plans to announce expansion from the Chicago market in the coming months.

If you'd like to network with AJ, connect with him by email: ajpatton@548capital.com.

SL SOLAR LOFTS (SOUTH LOOP)
2548 S. FEDERAL ST.
WIND: 3 ACU PAT DISTRICT
AJ PATTON

PROJECT OVERVIEW
SL Solar Lofts is South Loop's first inclusive sustainable development. It is comprised of 1 newly renovated building totaling 75,000 square feet of habitable space on 0.45 acres of land at the edge of the South Loop neighborhood. The project will be solar powered, energy efficient, include electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, 22 market rate and 28 affordable housing units to benefit families and professionals that would normally commute to the downtown area for work, as well as add to the diversity of the neighborhood.

The existing building has been extensively renovated including new roof, windows and mechanicals, and will be further renovated with energy efficiency upgrades and rooftop solar photovoltaic systems. In Phase 1 of the project the units will be renovated including energy efficiency upgrades, variable refrigerant flow (VRF) HVAC systems, and integrated IoT devices. Phase 2 of the project will be the installation of a rooftop solar PV system, reducing the energy usage of the building for all tenants. Between the rooftop solar systems and energy efficiencies, we expect a 35-55% reduction in all utilities for the building and for the tenants.

FEATURES

- Building renovations, additions to PL 4 & 5
- 28 affordable units, 22 market rate
- 35 parking spaces
- Solar powered/energy efficient, 33-50% utility savings
- Electric vehicle charging stations
- Construction start: Oct 2022, end: Oct 2023

“As long as we keep ownership, we control the narrative... When our deals go through, everybody wins.”

- AJ Patton

Career & RFP Opportunities

Careers at ENEL: [Multiple positions](#)

Careers at BayWa r.e. Solar Systems (Distribution): [Multiple positions](#)

Careers at SunPower: [Manager of Market Development and Policy, Northeast](#)

BOSS will participate in the **Interconnection Innovation eXchange (i2X)**, a soon-to-be-launched program led by the **U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO)** and **Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO)** focused on developing innovative solutions that enable the faster, simpler, and fairer interconnection of solar and wind energy resources all while enhancing the reliability and resilience of the electric grid.

If you are interested in participating in this program or any of the working groups please let us know at your earliest convenience by emailing info@blacksolar.org.

CONNECT WITH US

Join us on [LinkedIn](#)  & Bookmark our [Website](#).
Please share BOSS with other entrepreneurs of color!

We'll see you for the next BOSS meeting on
July 19th, 10am PT // 1pm ET
Don't forget to [REGISTER IN ADVANCE!](#)

All BOSS meetings are on the 19th of every month (except weekends and Juneteenth) at 10am PT / 1pm ET - Save the Dates in your personal calendars so you never miss a moment!

Thank you for being a part of BOSS!

<https://www.blacksolar.org/>