

# State Government Panel

*Hear from representatives in state governments administering energy equity programs. Speakers will discuss the current procedural, structural, and regulatory environment.*

**Moderator:** Rebecca O'Neil,  
PNNL

**Participants:**

- Sarah Vorpahl, Washington COM
- Joy Wang, Michigan PSC
- Crystal Pruitt, New Jersey BPU



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Pacific Northwest NATIONAL LABORATORY

Sandia National Laboratories

## Energy Storage for Social Equity

ROUNDTABLE

June 28 - 29, 2021 • 10 am - 1 pm PST

# We strengthen communities



**HOUSING  
HOMELESSNESS**



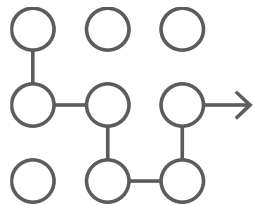
**INFRASTRUCTURE**



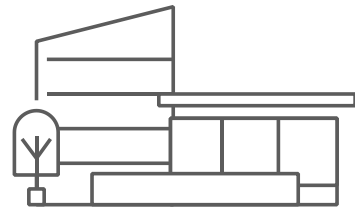
**BUSINESS  
ASSISTANCE**



**ENERGY**



**PLANNING**



**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

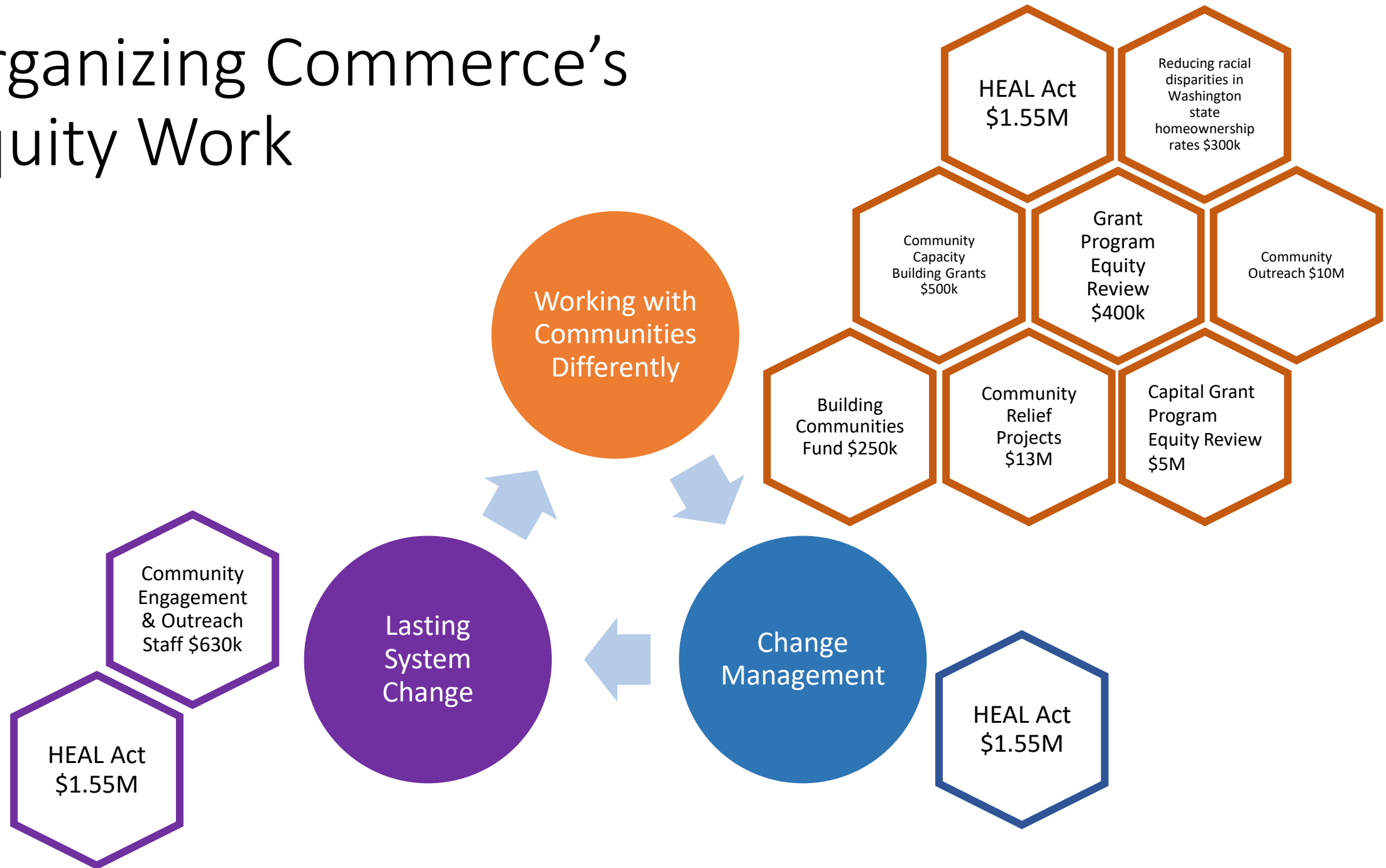


**CRIME VICTIMS &  
PUBLIC SAFETY**



**COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

# Organizing Commerce's Equity Work



# Energy Equity Issues

Current Efforts and Next Steps at the  
Michigan Public Service Commission

Joy Wang, Ph.D.

Energy Storage for Social Equity Roundtable

June 28, 2021



# Disclaimer

- All views expressed are solely my own and do not express the views of the Michigan Public Service Commission.
- The Commission speaks through its orders.

# MPSC Efforts - Energy Equity

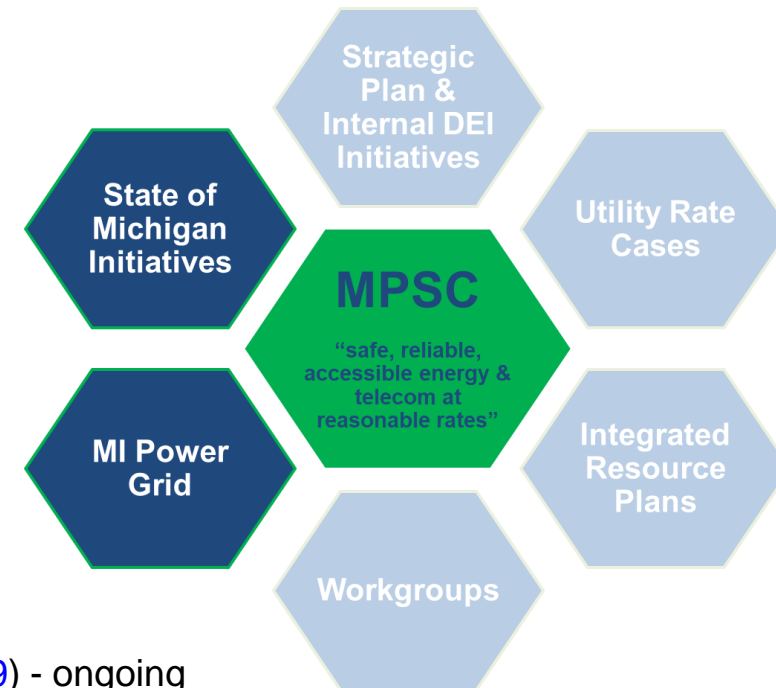


# MPSC Efforts - Energy Equity

- Participate in other State of Michigan initiatives
  - [Interagency Environmental Justice Response Team](#)
    - Assisting EGLE in development of Michigan's first [Environmental Justice Screening Tool](#)
  - [Energy Transition Impact Project](#)
  - [Council on Climate Solutions](#)
  - [Michigan Council on Future Mobility and Electrification](#)

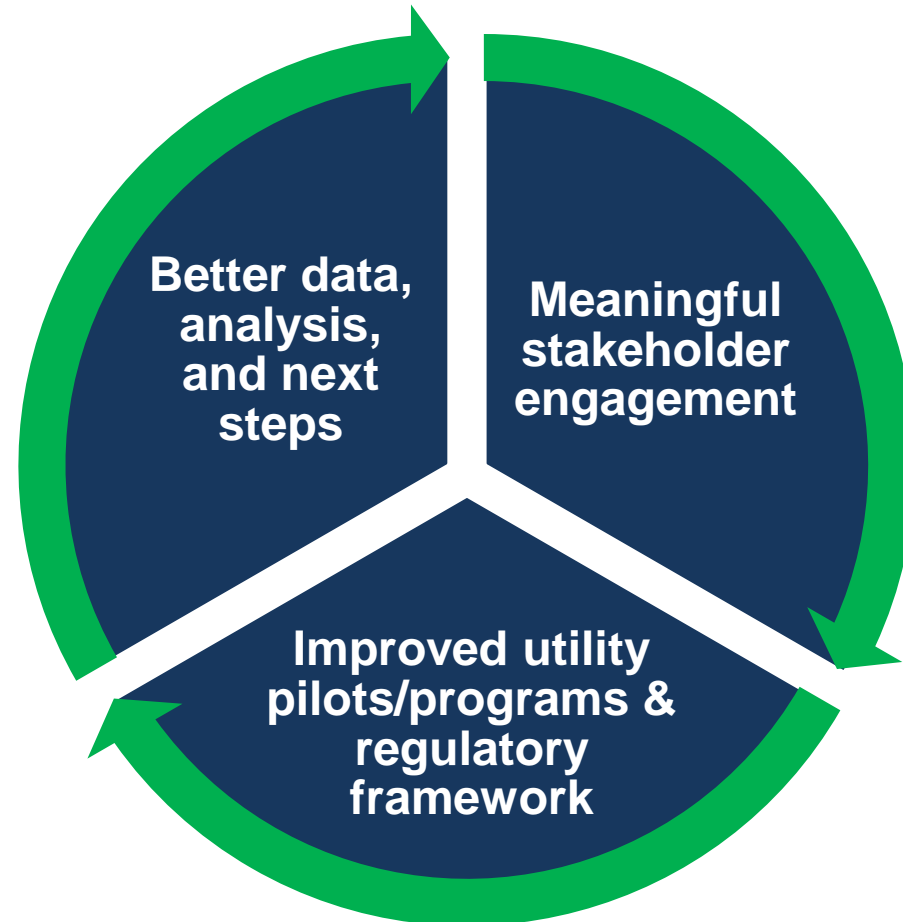


- [MI Power Grid](#)
  - Customer Engagement
    - [Energy Programs and Technology Pilots \(U-20645\)](#)
    - [Customer Education and Participation workgroup \(U-20959\)](#) - ongoing
  - Integrating Emerging Technologies
    - [New Technologies and Business Models \(U-20898\)](#) – ongoing



# Next Steps at the MPSC

- Likely greater emphasis on energy equity issues due to MPSC and stakeholder interest
- Address regulatory barriers and business model needs
  - Regulatory framework supporting new technology deployment in an equitable fashion





# Energy Equity at the NJ BPU

- Purpose and Goals of the Office of Clean Energy Equity:
  - Ensure access for all residents, including New Jersey's low- and moderate-income (LMI) communities
  - Oversee the development and implementation of clean energy policies, technologies, and programs, including energy efficiency programs
  - Collaborate with partner agencies in the implementation of relevant policies, programs, training, and education, liaise with community-based organizations, work within the communities to provide effective outreach on workforce training and program education initiatives
- Stakeholder working groups:
  - Equity WG (Comfort Partners subcommittee and Multifamily subcommittee)
  - Workforce Development WG
- Equity Programming
  - Comfort Partners Program: free, energy-saving and education program geared to low-income homeowners who have an income at or below 250% of the federal poverty guidelines

# Challenge and Opportunity in Energy Equity

- Measuring Equity
  - Define equity and program goals
  - Capturing quantitative and qualitative program metrics
- Building Equity
  - Fostering meaningful and open participation to ensure equitable program outcomes
  - Building trusting and reciprocal relationships with communities
  - Securing adequate funding and resources for long term success
- Workforce Development
  - Identifying and sustaining well-paying jobs that have long term career growth opportunities
  - Training the workforce with the necessary skills to thrive in the new energy economy
- Community Energy Resilience
  - Building resiliency through programs such as Microgrids, Community Solar, Community Energy Plans



Image source: [University of Michigan](#)