Examples of Tools to Help Facilitate Community-Oriented Renewable Energy

Community Choice Tools

- Community Choice Aggregation
- Neighborhood/point of use organization
- Public-private partnerships
- Co-Ops (Community based cooperative groups)
- Microgrids

Funding/Economic Tools

- Grant programs (public agencies and non-profit organizations)
- Tax incentives and tax breaks (federal, state, and local)
- Fee reductions
- Clean energy development impact fees
- Bond measures
- Studies to determine economic feasibility

Regulatory Tools

- Plans and policies (e.g., solar-ready roofs)
- Zoning Controls (e.g., siting, overlay zones)
- Community-based ordinances
- Permit requirements (mitigation measures and decommissioning/reclamation requirements)
- Permit streamlining (e.g., on disturbed lands)
- Code enforcement/long-term monitoring

Other Tools

- County Renewable Energy planning position
- Renewable Energy Community liaison (public or non-profit)
- Condition projects to fund 3rd-Party monitoring
- Education and outreach programs
- Pilot programs (lessons learned)