

Affordable Clean Renewable Energy Program

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Director of Planning

Department of Public Service

before House Energy & Technology

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Affordable Clean Renewable Energy

(ACRE) – What is it?

- Goal: improve access to clean distributed energy for *all* Vermonters.
- Lower cost solar achieved through community scale projects - 1-5MW
- Incentives via ARPA will allow Membership to access solar for households at or below 120% Area Median Income

How?

- ARPA funding “Buys Down” Contract for Solar, stands up accounting infrastructure
- Participating Distribution Utilities (DUs) form “DU Group” to receive grant funding and distribute credits
- Participating households are provided ownership of *membership* to a community scale solar project
 - Membership provides monthly bill credits
- DU Group payment to support infrastructure and future projects

Example Flows

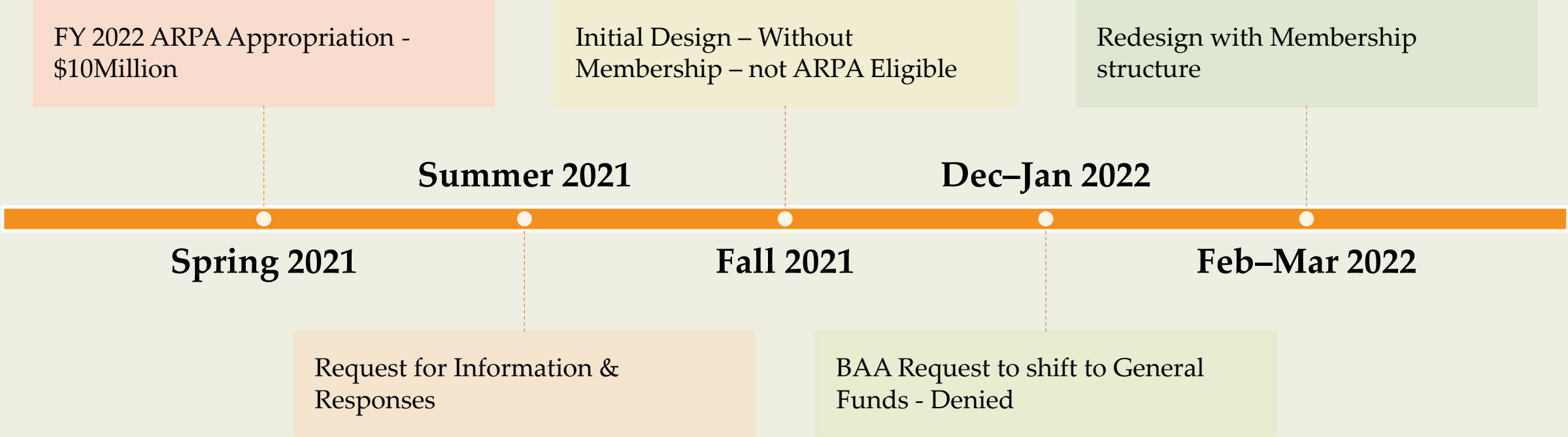
\$10M FY22
ARPA
Allocation



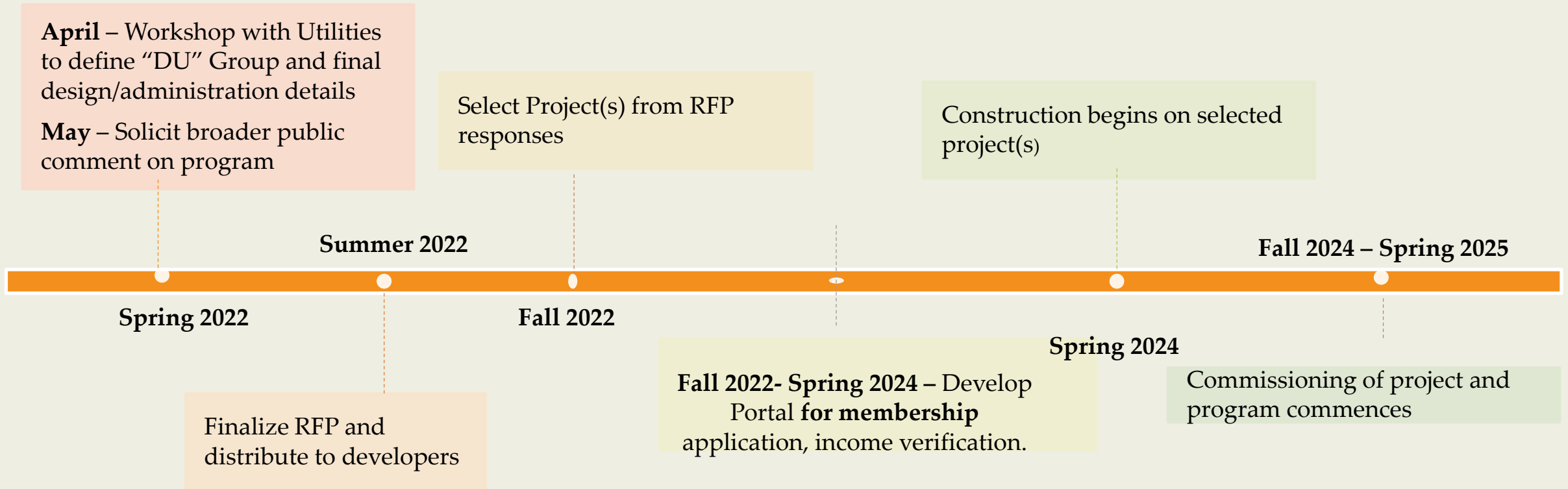
Avoided Cost -
~\$0.08/kWh



Timeline



Going Forward



ACRE Benefits

- Owned Memberships provide Long-Term Value to participating Customers
 - \$18-36/month credit
 - \$200-400 annual credit
 - 1,200-3,000 customers
- Participating Customers can be included in energy transition
- Establishes framework for repeated programs
- Potential for some funding to offer future programs

Thank you!