

To: Interested Parties  
From: The Parkside Group  
Date: November 24th, 2025  
Re: November 2025 Permit Power Survey - New York State

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At the request of Permit Power, The Parkside Group conducted a survey of 600 active New York voters and homeowners about views on how to improve energy affordability in the state; about the permitting process for homeowners; and about a proposal to make the rooftop solar permitting process easier and faster. Important findings of this survey include:

### *PERMIT PROCESS*

#### **Respondents believe permits need to be easier to obtain by a margin of more than 2:1**

2 in 5 interviewed homeowners had tried to obtain a renovation or construction permit for projects, and 59% of those say New York should take action to make the process easier, with just 23% opposed.

- The belief that the process should be made easier is held across party lines: Democrats (53%), Republicans (64%), Independents (64%), and by homeowners across regions: NYC (57%), Suburbs (62%), and Upstate (57%)

#### **Support for specific reforms is even stronger: 70% of respondents back online rapid permits**

The proposal for New York to provide an online tool that allows families to rapidly obtain permits to install rooftop solar had wide support amongst homeowners (70% Support / 19% Oppose).

- Over two-thirds of homeowners across NYC, the Suburbs, and Upstate support the proposal.
- This proposal commanded majority support across all demographics including age, gender, race, party identification and region.

Voters would be more likely to support an elected official who backs rapid online permitting by 52%-15% (+37).

- Across all parties, respondents would be more likely to back an elected official who supports this proposal: Democrats by 58 points, Independents by 23 points, and Republicans by 11 points.
- Voters were more likely to support an elected official who backs this proposal 38 points in the suburbs, and by 36 points upstate.

#### **Respondents say neighbors or neighborhood boards should not have to approve solar installations**

83% of homeowners think they should not have to get approval from their neighbors or a neighborhood board before installing solar panels on their homes.

- Opposition to requiring approval is consistently strong across party lines: Democrats (89%), Republicans (75%), Independents (79%); and across regions: NYC (77%), Suburbs (87%), and Upstate (83%)

### *ENERGY AFFORDABILITY*

#### **Respondents believe Governor Hochul should prioritize lowering electricity bills for New Yorkers**

Lowering electricity bills is a clear priority for voters: 59% ranked it a 9 or 10 out of 10 in importance for the Governor to prioritize.

- Lowering energy cost is a top priority across all regions: NYC (61%), the Suburbs (59%), Upstate (56%)
- 92% of voters ranked this priority at least a 6 out of 10, including 93% of Republicans and 95% of Independents

### *ENERGY AFFORDABILITY SOLUTIONS*

#### **Respondents believe the Governor should support rooftop solar for homes and businesses to lower energy costs**

66% of surveyed homeowners believe the Governor should support rooftop solar for homes and businesses to lower energy costs, a nearly +50 point margin and the strongest result of any approach tested.

- Support is strongest with Democrats (77%) and Independents (63%)
- Over 60% across regions, gender, age, and race

#### **A Note About Methodology**

The poll was conducted in English via landline, cellphone, and SMS text message in November 2025 with active voters and representative samples for region, party, age, race, and gender. At the 95% confidence level, the overall margin of error in the survey is 5%. The margin of error is higher among sub-groups.

#### **About The Parkside Group**

The Parkside Group has been providing electoral, corporate, and advocacy clients with public relations, public affairs, government relations, campaign management, quantitative research and advertising services for more than 20 years. The Parkside Group has played a key role in the election of more than 100 public officials and provides survey research services to corporations, trade associations, advocacy groups, party committees, and candidates.