

For Immediate Release  
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**Kentucky Street: Most Energy Independent Street in Long Beach**

*Contest winners take home \$3,500 in prizes*

**LONG BEACH, N.Y., July 10, 2017** - Over 78 homes participated in the Long Beach State Street “Energy Independence” Contest by completing energy-related activities to earn points for their team. The \$2,000 first place prize was awarded to Kentucky Street, as announced at the Long Beach Fireworks Extravaganza on the evening of July 7.

The purpose of the competition was to raise awareness on home energy habits and elevate the level of community engagement in available energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

The winning team was announced on Friday evening at the Long Beach Fireworks Extravaganza to commemorate our nation’s Independence Day alongside the contest’s energy independence theme.

"Participating in this contest was a great way to collaborate with my neighbors to become more efficient and informed energy users," said Keri Venti, captain of Kentucky Street. The competitive nature of the program got my street activated in a way I wasn't expecting, and we are so excited to have won first place!"

Second and third place prizes were also awarded. Pennsylvania Avenue took home second place with \$1,000 and Georgia Avenue will receive \$500 for third place. Streets can use the prizes towards a block party, a neighbor’s night out, or a street beautification project.

“This City Council has consistently made sustainability a top priority, and we are constantly looking for ways to protect the environment and promote energy efficiencies,” said City Councilman Anthony Eramo. “As west end residents, my family and I enjoyed participating in this contest.”

More than 78 homes participated in the competition. Engagement ranged from voting for their street online and posting on social media, signing up for a free home energy audit, as well as completing an online solar assessment. Other than simply voting online, 48 actions were taken throughout the contest.

“We were surprised at how many homes actually completed activities to help reduce their home’s footprint and contribute to a cleaner, more energy independent Long Beach,” said David Schieren, at SunPower by EmPower Solar. “It got really competitive towards the end – the top three streets really rallied together with neighbors and were very active in

the contest.”

This contest was co-sponsored by All Our Energy, Long Island Green Homes, SunPower by EmPower Solar, The Sustainability Institute at Molloy College, and Wolf & Wing Interior Design.

### **About SunPower by EmPower Solar**

SunPower by EmPower Solar provides customized residential and commercial solar energy solutions using the industry's highest efficiency solar panels and best combination of power and product warranty. With over 1,500 solar and battery systems installed since 2003, EmPower has received several awards for excellent customer service and workmanship.

### **About Long Island Green Homes**

The Long Island Green Homes Initiative is a non-profit collaborative partnership of Long Island Towns, community-based organizations and Molloy College funded primarily with a community outreach grant awarded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) in order to help Long Islanders improve their homes and use energy more wisely in their everyday lives.

### **About All Our Energy**

All Our Energy's mission is to energize, organize, and mobilize the public to act on climate, renewable energy, and local environmental issues.

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