

# Empowering Harrisburg: Vision, Voice and Direction

Building a Sustainable Future Through Local Investments and Community Collaboration

# Harrisburg's Vision: A New Lens

**Core Message: New  
Vision, New Voice,  
New Direction**



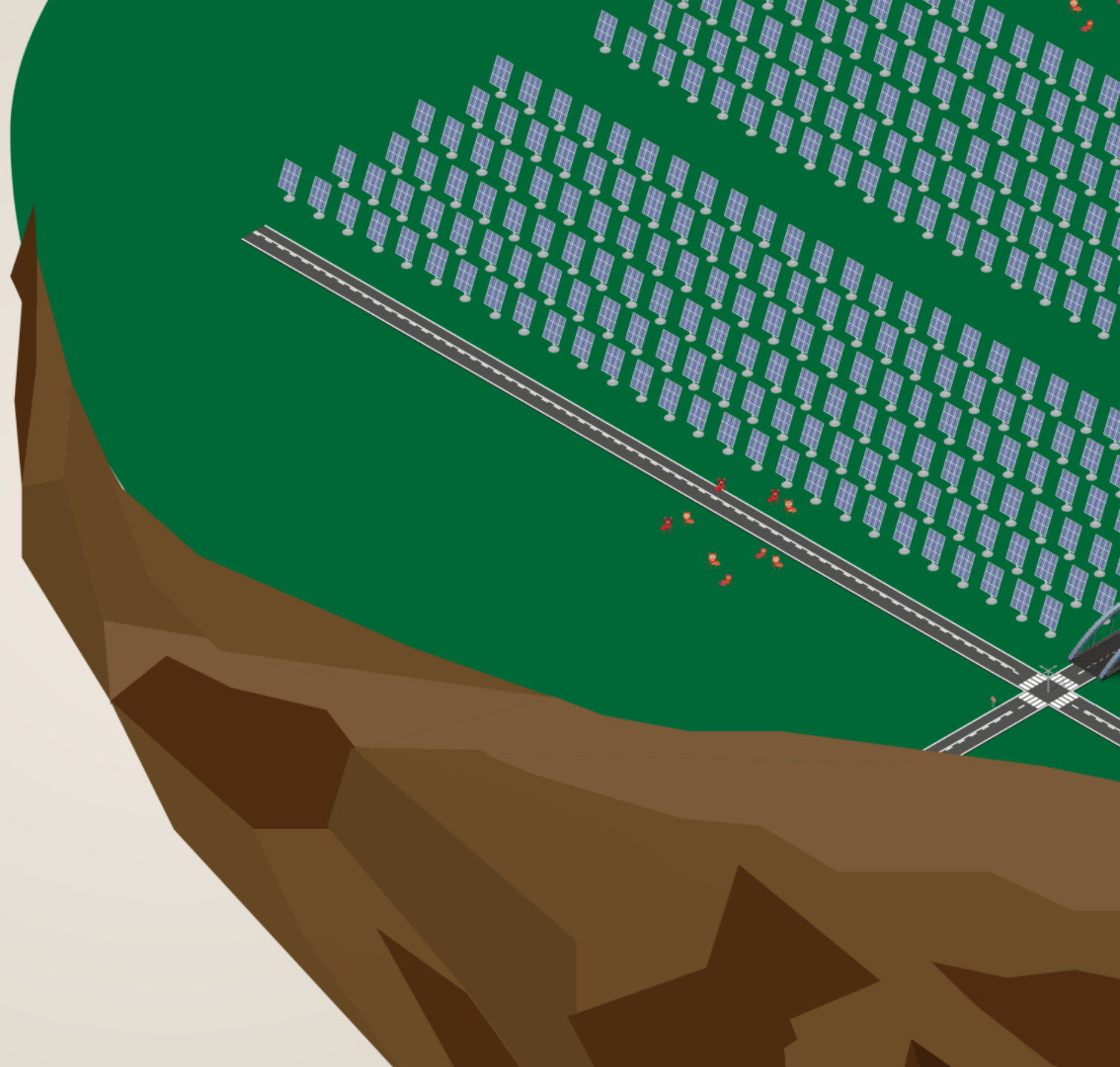
## The Cycle of Stagnation and Debt Recovery

Harrisburg has been in a prolonged and problematic cycle of stagnation, hindered by a few major players retaining control over economic resources. Following the financial crisis, the city has now paid off its debt, positioning itself to rebuild economically and invest in sustainable growth.



## Importance of Local Economy Focus

Maintaining a focus on capturing and retaining money within Harrisburg is essential for long-term growth. The city's strategy centers around investing in local residents and businesses, thus fostering economic self-sufficiency and reducing reliance on external funding.



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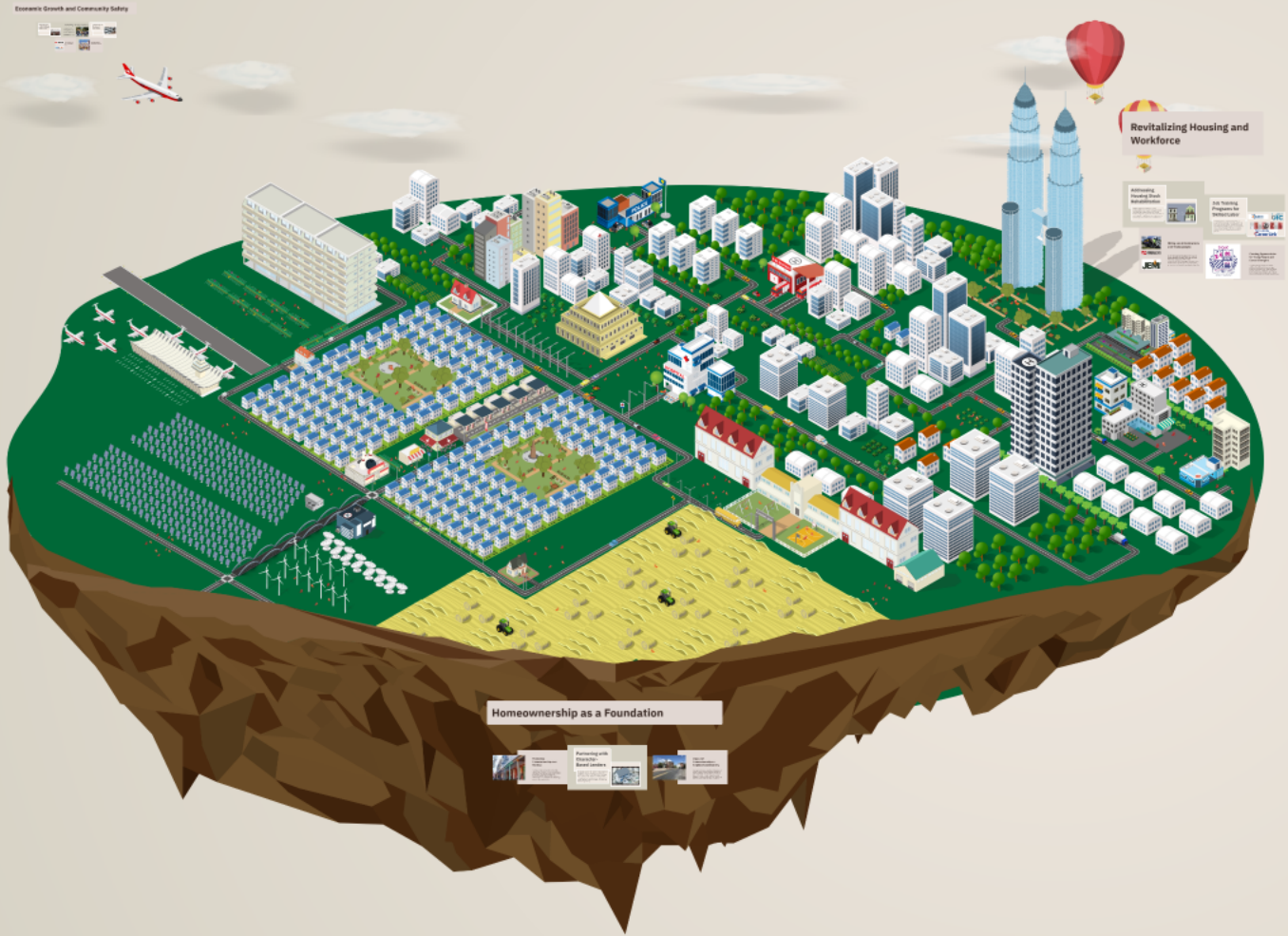
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# Homeownership as a Foundation



## Promoting Homeownership over Renting

Harrisburg faces a challenge with a high percentage of renters. Successful residents who have been paying rent for over a decade are transitioning to homeownership and significantly retain wealth within the city, stimulating local investments and fostering a sense of community pride.

## Partnering with Character-Based Lenders

By collaborating with banks that recognize long-term rental payments as proof of creditworthiness, Harrisburg can facilitate the transition of renters to homeowners. This partnership allows more residents to secure loans, making it easier for them to invest in property.



## Impact of Homeownership on Neighborhood Stability

Increasing homeownership in Harrisburg leads to more stable neighborhoods by reducing flight. Homeowners are more likely to invest in their properties and engage in community activities, fostering safer and more vibrant environments.



## **Promoting Homeownership over Renting**

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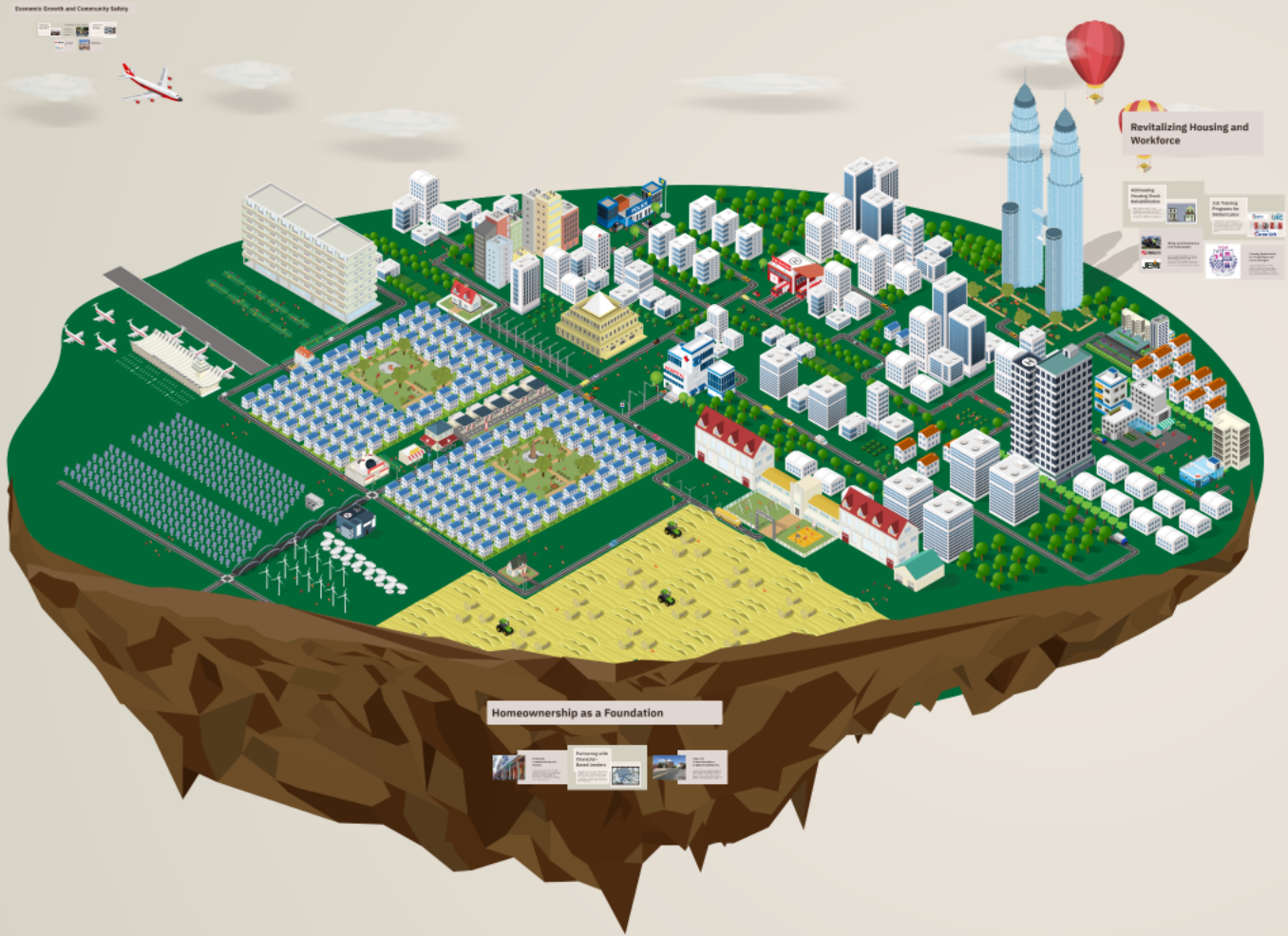
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## **Impact of Homeownership on Neighborhood Stability**

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# Revitalizing Housing and Workforce

## Addressing Housing Stock Rehabilitation

Addressing the need for home rehabilitation is vital for reinvigorating Harrisburg's housing market. Many homes require significant repairs before selling, which presents an opportunity for local job creation and investment.



## Hiring Local Contractors and Tradespeople

By hiring local contractors for housing rehabilitation projects, the city retains financial resources within the community. This strategy promotes local employment and builds a sustainable economy that benefits residents directly.

## Job Training Programs for Skilled Labor

Investing in job training programs is essential to cultivate a skilled workforce for home rehabilitation. These initiatives ensure local residents gain the necessary skills, reducing dependence on outside contractors and fostering community growth.



## Creating Opportunities for Young People and Career Changers

Targeting young people and career changers for job training encourages economic mobility. Providing accessible career paths and new opportunities in home repair trades helps build a robust local economy and stabilizes communities.

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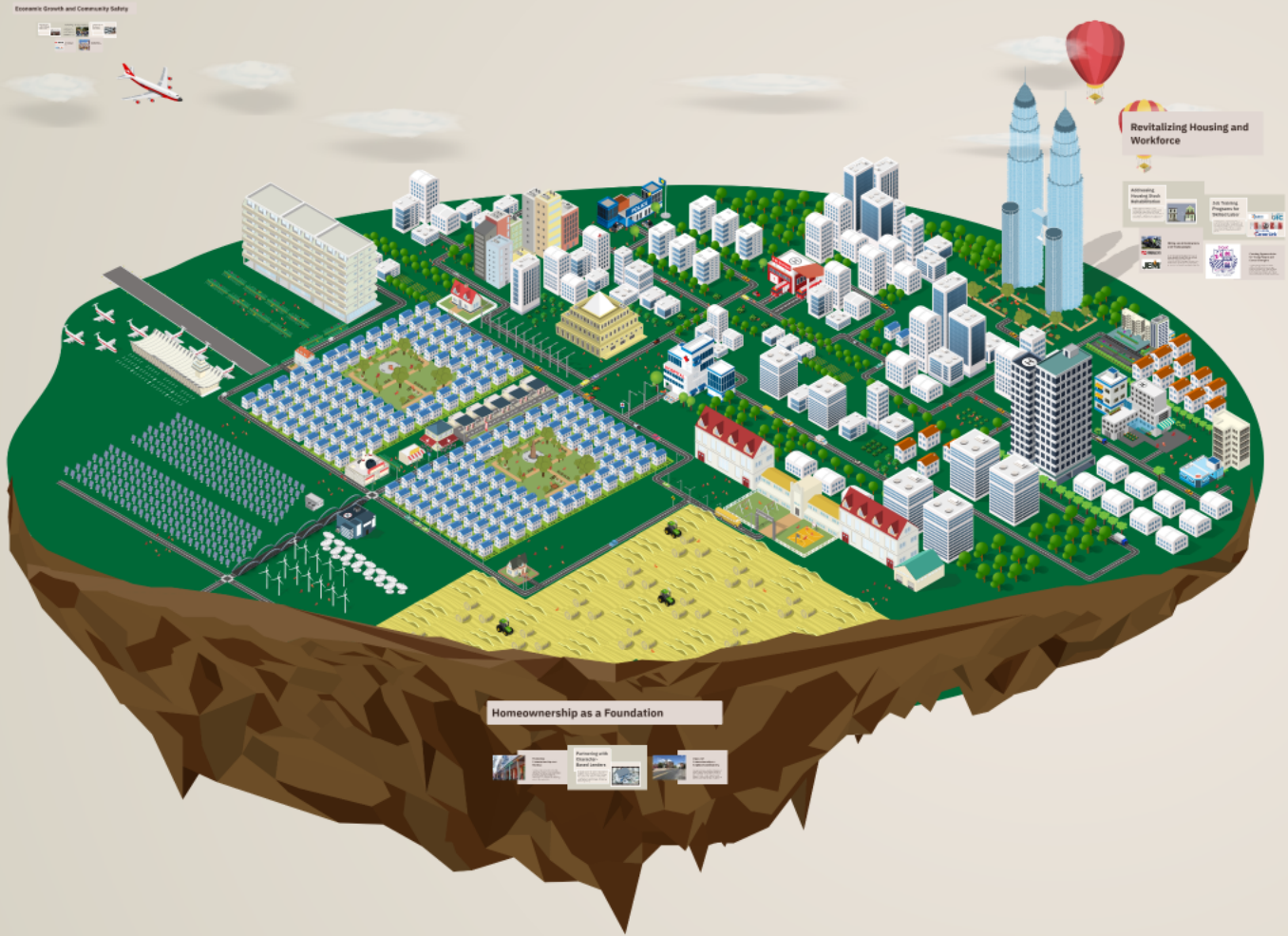


Trades...not the last option  
but the 1st opportunity.

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# Economic Growth and Community Safety

**Reducing Blight and Crime Through Rehabilitation**

Demolition and targeted renovation of blighted structures can reduce crime, improve property values, and create jobs. Community safety is enhanced through proper planning, design, and construction of new structures.



**Revitalizing the Local Economy**

Increased foot traffic in commercial areas is essential for business prosperity. Encouraging residents and non-residents to engage with local businesses through events and attractions can stimulate economic activity and enhance neighborhood vitality.



**Collaboration for Grants and Investments**

Partnerships with state, federal, and private entities can provide additional funding and resources. Collaborative efforts can identify and address community needs and maximize the impact of investments.



**NACA**  
The Self-Reinforcing Cycle for Sustainable Growth

PHFA

**Harrisburg Ranked Best Place to Live in Pennsylvania!**  
U.S. News & World Report

**Final Thoughts on Future Self-Sufficiency**

Investing in infrastructure and workforce development is essential for long-term economic growth and self-sufficiency. Collaborative efforts can ensure that investments are effective and sustainable.



# Reducing Blight and Crime Through Rehabilitation

Abandoned and degraded properties significantly contribute to criminal activity. Rehabilitation of homes not only restores these properties but also reinstates community pride, thereby deterring illegal activities through increased occupancy and involvement.



# Revitalizing the Local Economy

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# Collaboration for Grants and Investments

Harrisburg can attract vital grants and investments by fostering partnerships with banks, unions, and trade schools. This cooperative approach prioritizes local businesses and residents, enhancing the city's overall economic resilience and self-sufficiency.





## The Self-Reinforcing Cycle for Sustainable Growth



The strategy involves residents transitioning to homeownership, creating neighborhood stability, and generating local job opportunities. This self-reinforcing cycle ensures that wealth generated within the community stays local, fostering sustainable economic growth.



## **Final Thoughts on Future Self-Sufficiency**

Harrisburg's pathway to self-sufficiency lies in prioritizing homeownership, workforce training, and a resident-focused economy. By investing in local communities, the city empowers its residents to build a resilient future free from external dependency.



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