FIELD GUIDE · EDITION ONE · FOR COMMUNITIES & BUILDERS

BUILD BRIDGES, NOT MOATS.

How a community gathers its neighbors, organizes online, and meshes with aligned communities anywhere — so the AI infrastructure arriving in your region is **owned by the people who live with it.**

01 · GATHER
TOWNHALL.COMMUNITY

02 · ORGANIZE
YOUR-FEDERATION.DATAMESHER.AI

03 · FEDERATE
THE MESH

STARTUP ACCELERATOR · MULTISITE FEDERATION · ECO-FRIENDLY MINI DATA CENTERS

SECTION ONE — THE SITUATION

The hyperscale deal is arriving in your town under an NDA.

Shell corporations. Officials who can't say the company's name out loud. Water and power draws nobody is required to disclose. Opposition to data centers has become one of the few things uniting Republicans and Democrats — and the anger is well earned. **But "no to everything" hands the build to whichever county asks the fewest questions.**

A moratorium buys a year. Ownership buys a generation. This guide is about the second one — and about the fact that no community has to figure it out alone.

7 in 10

Americans don't want a data center in their own community.

GALLUP, VIA KARA SWISHER'S DATA CENTER PANEL

16,000+

community reports of data center impacts, filed from all fifty states.

ERIN BROCKOVICH CROWDSOURCED MAP

~60%

of a typical 200-amp home's electrical capacity sits unused every day.

SPAN, ON DISTRIBUTED RESIDENTIAL COMPUTE

8,000

networked homes ≈ a 100 MW data center — roughly 6× faster to deploy, about ⅕ the build cost.

SPAN / PULTEGROUP / NVIDIA PILOT CLAIMS

FIGURES ARE THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS, PROVIDED FOR CONTEXT. FULL SOURCING ON PAGE 16. WE'D RATHER YOU VERIFY THEM THAN TAKE OUR WORD.

STATEMENT 01

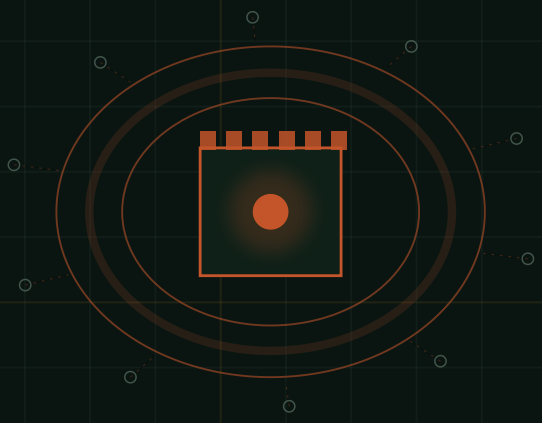
A MOAT KEEPS PEOPLE OUT.

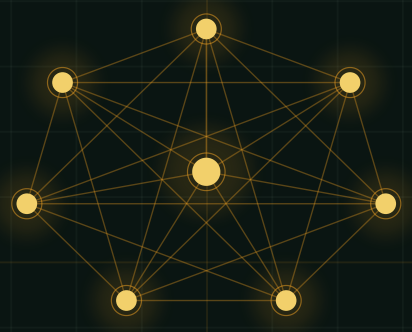
A BRIDGE MAKES THEM NEIGHBORS.

THE DIFFERENCE IS NOT SCALE.
IT IS WHO HOLDS THE KEYS.

SECTION TWO — THE THIRD OPTION

Not "yes to hyperscale." Not "no to everything." Owned, distributed, and small.





THE MOAT MODEL

Techno-feudalism

YOU HOST IT. THEY OWN IT.

- One 500-acre campus, one owner, one set of terms.
- Tax abatements out; land and water in.
- Jobs measured in dozens, load measured in gigawatts.
- When the model changes, the town keeps the substation.
- Decisions made in a room your council can't describe.

THE BRIDGE MODEL

The DataMesher mesh

YOU OWN IT. IT WORKS WITH THEIRS.

- Many small, quiet, liquid-cooled nodes sited where power already exists.
- Revenue and compute capacity stay local — and shareable.
- Load that can flex instead of stressing peak demand.
- Neighboring towns mesh together: resilience, not dependence.
- Governance and siting decided in public, on the record.

Moats are a strategy of scarcity. They assume the only way to hold value is to make it unreachable. A mesh assumes the opposite — that value compounds when the thing you built can be reached, checked, joined, and copied by the town three counties over.

OWNED. DISTRIBUTED. SMALL.

EVERY NODE A NEIGHBOR · EVERY LINK A DECISION MADE IN PUBLIC

SECTION THREE — HOW YOU BEGIN

Three moves, in order.

You do not need a budget, a consultant, or permission to start. You need a room, a date, and a short list of people who will still be living here in ten years. Everything after that is structure — and the structure already exists.

MOVE 01 · IN PERSON

Gather

Convene the people who will live with the decision — in a room, with chairs, before any developer sets the frame.

TOWNHALL.COMMUNITY

MOVE 02 · ONLINE

Organize

Give the effort a permanent home: your community's own site inside the DataMesher multisite network.

YOUR-FEDERATION .DATAMESHER.AI

MOVE 03 · ACROSS DISTANCE

Federate

Mesh with geographically distant communities whose mission and values line up with yours.

VALUE-ALIGNMENT MATCHING

Each move produces something the next one needs. Skipping ahead is the most common way these efforts stall: a website with no room behind it is a newsletter, and a coalition with no local mandate is a mailing list.

MOVE ONE — GATHER

Start in a room. Use Townhall.Community.

Townhall.Community exists to help neighbors convene in person. You complete a short form, their team talks through what you already have planned, and you get working tools for the unglamorous parts: event planning, invitations, email, RSVPs, and a Wikipedia-style crowdfunding model so the gathering doesn't depend on a single donor.

Active organizing communities already include Ann Arbor, Detroit, Grand Rapids and Oceana County in Michigan, plus New York City, the San Francisco Bay Area, and Seattle. If your region isn't on that list, that is the opening, not the obstacle.

WHO BELONGS IN THE ROOM

- ☐ City & town council members; planning commissioners
- ☐ Municipal utility or rural electric co-op staff
- ☐ School districts, libraries, community colleges
- ☐ Watershed, land trust and climate groups
- ☐ Tribal governments; landowners and farm operators
- ☐ Broadband and ISP operators; economic development boards
- ☐ Faith and civic organizations; mutual aid networks
- ☐ Anyone whose water, power bill, or view changes

WHAT THE FIRST GATHERING MUST PRODUCE

- ☐ **A stakeholder map** — who is affected, who decides, who has not been asked yet.
- ☐ **A value statement** — what this community will and will not accept, in plain language.
- ☐ **A facts list** — real local grid headroom, water rights, zoning, existing sites.
- ☐ **A next date** — with a named convener. An undated coalition is a feeling, not a group.

WHY IN PERSON FIRST

Value alignment is discovered by disagreeing out loud with someone you'll see again at the hardware store. A forum can record that agreement; it cannot manufacture it.

STATEMENT 02

THE FIRST NODE IS A ROOM FULL OF NEIGHBORS.

TOWNHALL.COMMUNITY/COLLABORATE

COMPLETE THE FORM. BRING A NEIGHBOR. PICK A DATE.

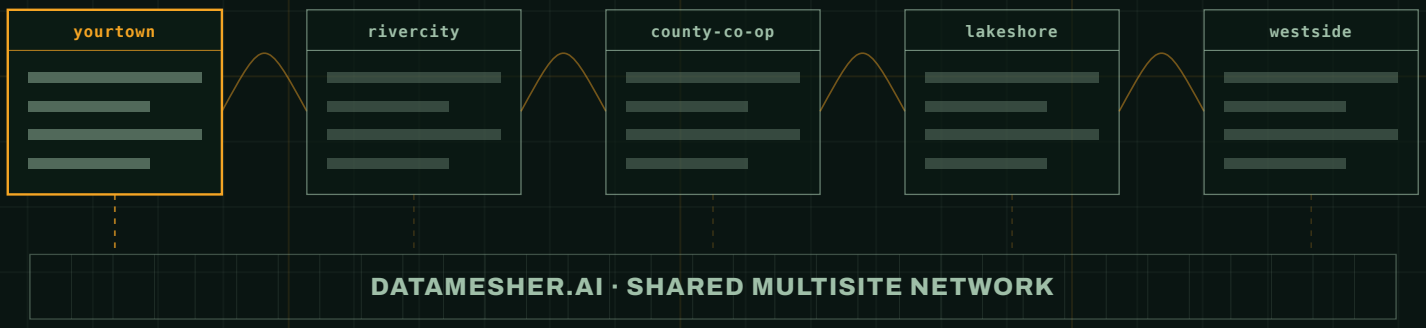
MOVE TWO — ORGANIZE

Your own front door:

your-federation.datamesher.ai

Every community that joins the network gets its own site on our multisite — a real subdomain you control, not a page on someone else's platform. **Your content, your members, your governance** — running on shared infrastructure so you never pay a platform landlord and never lose the archive when a volunteer moves away.

each community keeps its own front door — and a bridge to every other



WHAT YOUR SITE CARRIES

- ☐ The public record: meeting minutes, votes, correspondence with the utility
- ☐ Working groups — power, water, zoning, finance, communications
- ☐ Your value statement and the terms you've agreed to hold
- ☐ Documents a council or co-op board can actually act on
- ☐ A membership roll that belongs to the community, not to a vendor

WHY FEDERATED, NOT WALLED

A private group chat is a moat. It protects the early organizers and quietly excludes everyone who arrives in month six — which is most of the people you'll eventually need.

Sites in the network are legible to each other by design. When the county over posts the ordinance language that survived their planning commission, you can read it, adapt it, and credit it — **the same week, not the next election cycle.**

ONE SUBDOMAIN. ONE COMMONS. NO LANDLORD.

MOVE THREE — FEDERATE

Find the communities whose values match yours — wherever they are.

Every town fighting this is solving the same problems alone, at 11pm, after a day job. **The network exists so that stops being true.** Our value-alignment matching connects you with the people and municipalities whose values, constraints and goals actually line up with yours — so collaboration starts from agreement instead of grinding toward it.

01 · LEVERAGE

Shared terms

Twelve towns holding the same disclosure and metering language is a standard. One town holding it is an obstacle to route around.

02 · WISDOM

A human exchange

What the utility actually said. What the term sheet hid. What the ordinance should have included. Lived knowledge, shared across the mesh.

03 · RESILIENCE

Distance is a feature

Nodes far apart don't fail together. Weather, grid events and outages are local; a federated mesh isn't.

04 · CAPACITY

Load that travels

Communities in different time zones peak at different hours. Meshed nodes let neighbors lend each other headroom instead of overbuilding.

Alignment is not agreement on everything. It is a short, explicit overlap — on ownership structure, on public metering, on who gets the revenue — strong enough to carry a shared agenda. **Two communities that agree on four things and disagree on forty can still build the same bridge.**

AGENDAS THAT TRAVEL WELL

- DISCLOSURE ORDINANCES
- PUBLIC WATER & POWER METERING
- COOPERATIVE OWNERSHIP MODELS
- LOCAL REVENUE SHARE FLOORS
- SCHOOL & LIBRARY COMPUTE ACCESS

ALIGNMENT TRAVELS FARTHER THAN FIBER.

EACH COLOR IS A VALUE FAMILY · EACH LINE IS A WORKING RELATIONSHIP

GEOGRAPHY DECIDES YOUR GRID. IT DOES NOT DECIDE YOUR ALLIES.

SECTION FOUR — THE NODE

What an eco-friendly mini data center actually gives your community.

Small, fanless, liquid-cooled nodes sited on existing capacity — in neighborhoods, schools, libraries, affordable housing, on a co-op's under-used feeder. No 500-acre campus, no new transmission line, no NDA.

ENERGY

Clean and local

Rooftop and community solar with storage. Emissions and costs down; energy revenue circulating inside the community instead of leaving it.

MONEY

Revenue that stays

Operating revenue routed back into local priorities, and less paid out to remote corporate platforms and telecom monopolies.

WORK

Jobs and skills

Installation, operations and management are local roles — and a training pipeline that doesn't require anyone to move away.

LEARNING

Libraries and schools

Libraries become digital learning hubs. Students get reliable access. Community organizations get cloud and compute they don't have to rent.

RESILIENCE

It still works

Local caching, local compute, mesh Wi-Fi and meshed neighbors: when the upstream link or the grid stumbles, the community doesn't go dark.

HONESTY

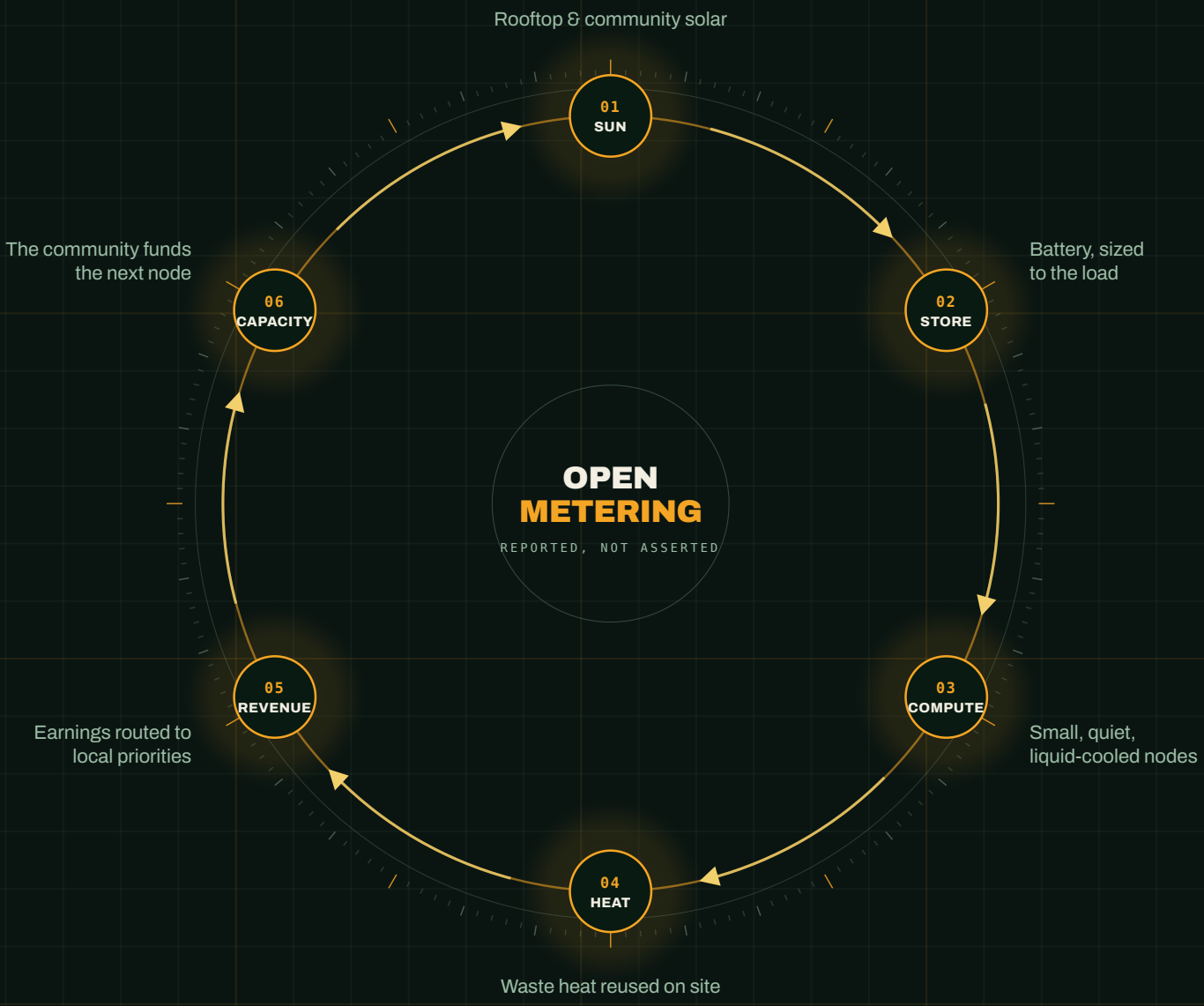
Open metering

Power, water and noise reported on a public dashboard — not asserted in a press release. The number anyone can check is the whole argument.

SITING · NEIGHBORHOODS · SCHOOLS · LIBRARIES · AFFORDABLE HOUSING · CO-OP FEEDERS · EXISTING INDUSTRIAL SERVICE

SECTION FOUR — THE LOOP

Regenerative means the value comes back around.



A hyperscale campus is a straight line: power and water in, value out, substation left behind. **A community node is a circle.** Sun becomes stored power; stored power becomes compute; compute becomes both usable heat and revenue; revenue becomes the next node. Every arc on this diagram is a decision your community gets to make in public — and every one of them is a place where the value can be made to stay.

SECTION FIVE — FOR BUILDERS

The startup accelerator on our multisite.

The mesh needs companies as much as it needs councils. Our accelerator hosts mission-aligned teams on the same multisite the communities use — which means **your earliest users are in the building.** Not a warm intro six months out: a working group that already meets, already has a site, and already needs what you're building.

WHO IT'S FOR

- ☐ Energy — solar, storage, load flexing, heat reuse, metering hardware
- ☐ Edge AI & infrastructure — small-model serving, caching, liquid cooling, mesh networking
- ☐ Civic governance software — deliberation, transparency dashboards, participatory budgeting
- ☐ Cooperative finance — ownership structures, revenue-share modeling, community capital
- ☐ Community media & education — local training, digital literacy, public-record tooling

WHAT YOU GET

- ☐ Your own site in the multisite network, alongside the communities
- ☐ Matched pilot communities through value-alignment matching
- ☐ Direct collaboration with our AI, energy, network and civic-governance specialists
- ☐ The pattern library — siting, ownership and governance work already done once
- ☐ Real infrastructure to test on, and real operators to be corrected by

THE ONE CONDITION

BUILD 01

Interoperate

Ship documented interfaces. If a community can't leave you, you've built a moat.

BUILD 02

Publish your numbers

Power, water, cost and performance, measured and posted. Claims are not evidence.

BUILD 03

Share the pattern

Keep your product. Contribute the method — so the next town starts further along.

Profitable and regenerative are not in tension here. **Lock-in is simply not the moat you get to use.** The moat you get is being the company a hundred meshed communities already trust — which turns out to be the harder one to cross.

STATEMENT 03

SELF-DETERMINATION IS A BUILD, NOT A PROTEST.

If AI infrastructure is coming to your region — and it is — the only question left is who owns it.

BRING THE PROPOSAL, THE RUMOR,
THE UTILITY LETTER, OR JUST THE WORRY.

START WITH A CONVERSATION. BRING A NEIGHBOR.

SCAN TO BOOK

BOOK 30 MINUTES WITH OUR FOUNDER

Dr. Ron Suarez

FOUNDER, DATAMESHER.AI · RESPONSIBLE AI NETWORK

Serial software entrepreneur and cognitive neuroscientist. Ron has spent his career on two questions that turn out to be the same question: how people actually reason together, and how to build systems that let them.

He'd rather hear what's happening in your town than talk.

CALENDLY.COM/BROADBANDIT

FREE · 30 MINUTES · NO PITCH DECK · NO NDA

GATHER

TOWNHALL.COMMUNITY
/COLLABORATE

ORGANIZE & FEDERATE

DATAMESHER.AI
MULTISITE & ACCELERATOR

THE RESEARCH

VERDANTDATA.IO
/VERDANT-DATA-WHITEPAPER

SOURCES FOR PAGE 2 — Figures are third-party reporting and company claims, provided for context, not as DataMesher.ai findings: Gallup polling and the Erin Brockovich crowdsourced data center map as discussed on Kara Swisher's data center panel; residential capacity and the 8,000-home / 100 MW equivalence as claimed by SPAN in connection with its XFRA product and its PulteGroup and NVIDIA collaborations. Deployment speed and cost comparisons are the vendor's, and pilot programs are still early. We'd rather you verify them than take our word.