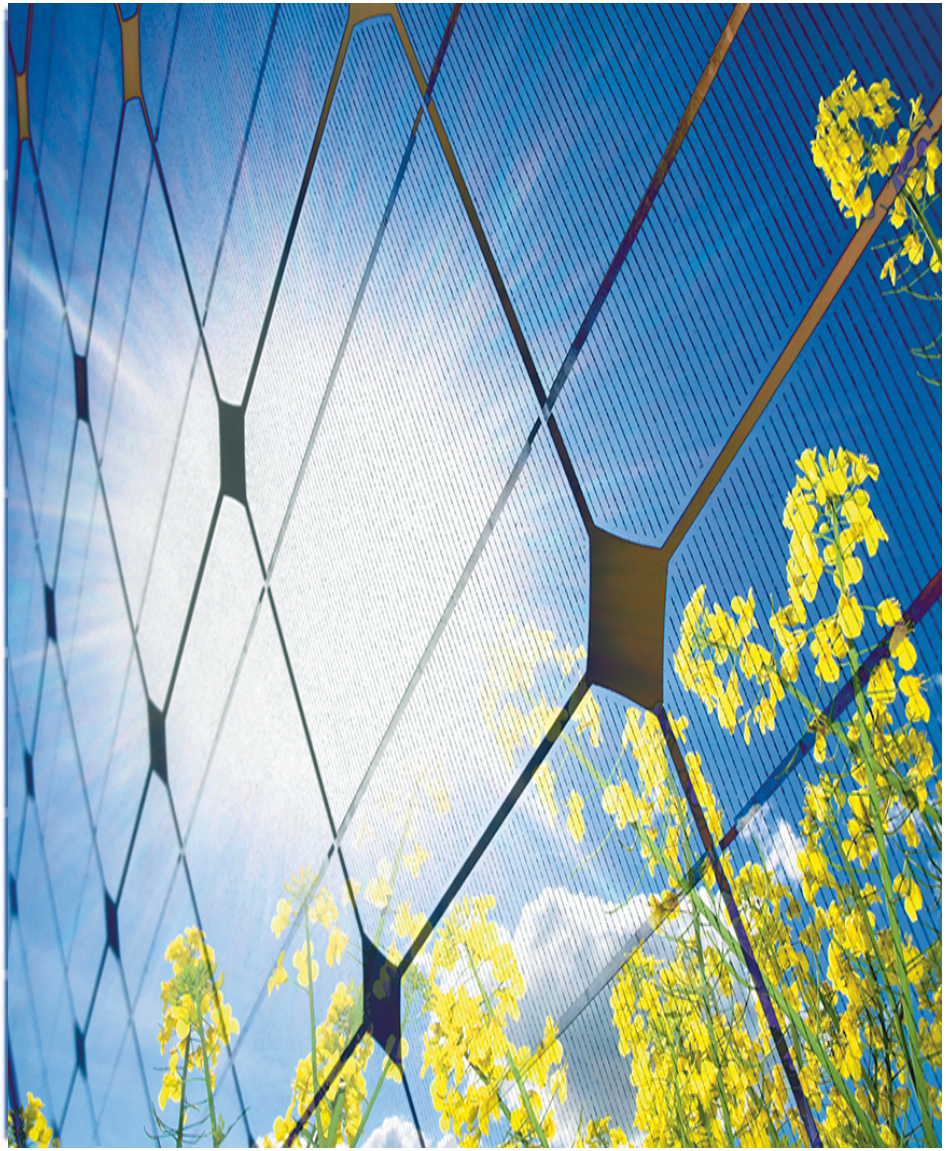


Expanding Access to Solar

Update to EUC

Feb 26, 2018

Solar Program History

From 2004 to 2017, Austin Energy's Solar Program has helped over 6,900 customers install 48 MW of solar.

	Residential	Commercial	Total
# of Participants	6,460	440	**6,900**
Capacity installed	30 MW	18 MW	**48 MW**
Incentives Paid	$58.4M	$10.5M	**$68.9M**







Expanding Access to Solar

Austin City Council Resolution 20171005-033:

"The City Manager is directed to set a goal of $500,000 in the fiscal year 2018 budget towards incentives and solar programming to increase solar energy adoption and access for underserved markets including ***multifamily affordable housing, low-income residents, renters, and non-profits****."*

Barriers to Solar for Renters and Low-Income Customers

- Cost & Financing
  - Significant upfront cost
  - Unable to access credit or take on debt
  - Unable to use federal tax credits
- Roof Age and Condition
- Rent Their Home
  - Split incentive between landlord and tenants
  - Varied metering and billing set ups
  - Move more frequently







Current Solar Programs Supporting Underserved Markets

- **Residential & Renters**
  - Community Solar
  - La Loma Community Solar Customer Assistance Program (CAP) Discount
  - Residential Rebate Program
- **Multifamily Affordable Housing & Non-Profits**
  - Commercial Solar Performance Based Incentive non-profit bonus
  - Multifamily Affordable Housing Shared Solar Pilot Program

Community Solar Program



- Allows renters and others to access local solar without installing on their own roof
- Community Solar Projects:
  - 185 kW Palmer Events Center rooftop solar (2016)
  - 2.6 MW La Loma solar farm (2018)
- Residential opt-in program, premium price
  - 1.3¢/kWh more than regular power supply
  - Rate is locked in for 15 years

- La Loma Community Solar Customer Assistance Program (CAP) Discount
  - Approved by Council in December 2017
  - Half the capacity of La Loma is earmarked for CAP customers (~200)
  - 1.5¢/kWh discount from Community Solar rate makes the program less expensive than regular power from day one

La Loma Community Solar CAP Outreach

- Outreach to date and planned:
  - Program information on AE website
  - Media coverage of announcement
  - Council member newsletters
  - News blurb and poster to CAP Plus 1 Partners, Austin Housing Council members, present at CAP Quarterly Meeting
  - Posters at COA Payment Centers
  - Email to CAP customers
  - Community meetings
  - Paid advertisements Feb-March
    - CapMetro bus interiors
    - KAZI 88.7 and Univision KLQB 104.3
    - El Mundo
    - The Villager

Discount program 13% subscribed to date



Residential Solar Rebate Program

- The residential rebate program provides incentives to multifamily properties that install solar to serve individual residential units.
  - E.g. Foundation Communities' Homestead Oaks project
- The program is shifting to a flat rebate in April
  - All residential solar customers receive the same incentive amount, regardless of home size, improving equity.
  - Increased focus on upfront customer education.







Solar Incentives for Non-Profits

- Commercial solar customers can apply for Performance Based Incentives (PBIs) from Austin Energy
- Incentive level depends on size of system, and incentive level at time of application
- Non-profits are eligible for **higher incentives** for larger systems, and **exempted from customer cap**
  - Non-profit solar projects ≤ 400 kW qualify for highest incentive tier, with no cap on customer capacity.
- 26 non-profits, schools, government, and multifamily affordable housing providers currently receiving PBIs



Austin Non-Profits with Solar

- Austin Children's Shelter
- Blackland CDC
- Family Eldercare
- Foundation Communities
- Goodwill of Central Texas
- Guadalupe Neighborhood Development Corporation
- Habitat for Humanity
- Housing Authority of City of Austin
- Lifeworks
- Mary Lee Foundation
- Mobile Loaves & Fishes
- PF Affordable Housing
- Settlement Homes for Children
- SS Affordable Housing
- St. George's Court Senior Housing
- Youth and Family Alliance



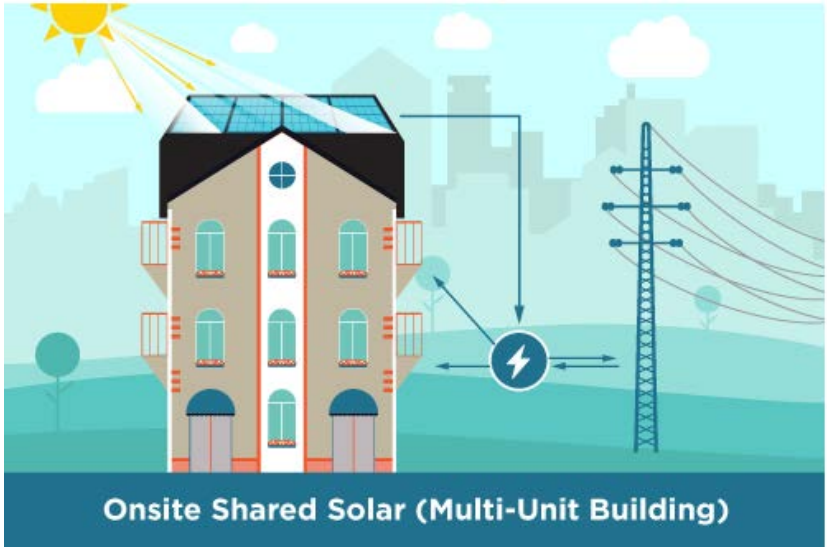




…and more

Shared Solar

- What is Shared Solar?
  - Generation from single solar installation on a multifamily building is virtually allocated across individually metered tenants' bills.



- Benefits
  - Enables multifamily tenants to access solar and reduce electric bills
  - Reduces installed cost and complexity
  - Enables a variety of ownership and financing models

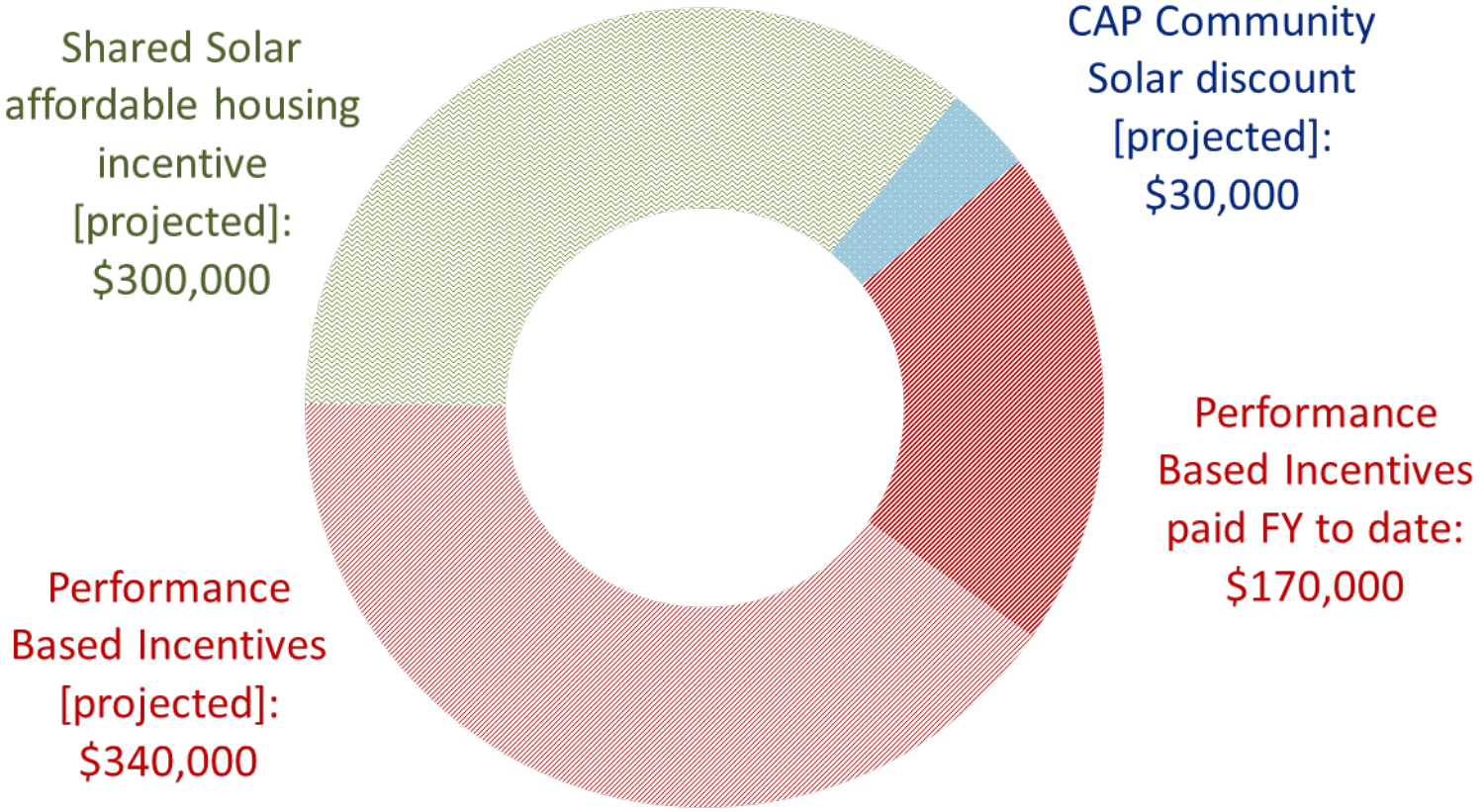
- Shared Solar & Pilot Incentive for Multifamily Affordable Housing
  - Call for Participants issued Jan 25, closed Feb 26; reviewing applications
  - Incentive: $1/Watt with $0.8/Watt adder for net-zero energy capable
  - Maximum $200,000 per project, for up to 3 projects

Progress FY18 to date

- Stakeholder Meetings held
  - Affordable Housing stakeholder meeting [Oct 17]
  - Low-Income and Multifamily Affordable Housing stakeholder meeting [Jan 12]
  - Austin Housing Council meeting [Jan 24]
- CAP Community Solar Discount rate approved by Council
- Shared Solar pilot call for participants issued
- 11 projects at non-profits totaling 740kW completed
- >$170,000 in Performance Based Incentives credited Oct-Jan to non-profits, schools, government entities and multifamily affordable housing projects

Current and Projected Spending

FY18 Expected Spending on Hard to Reach Solar Markets



Expect to meet ordinance goal of $500,000 in FY18.

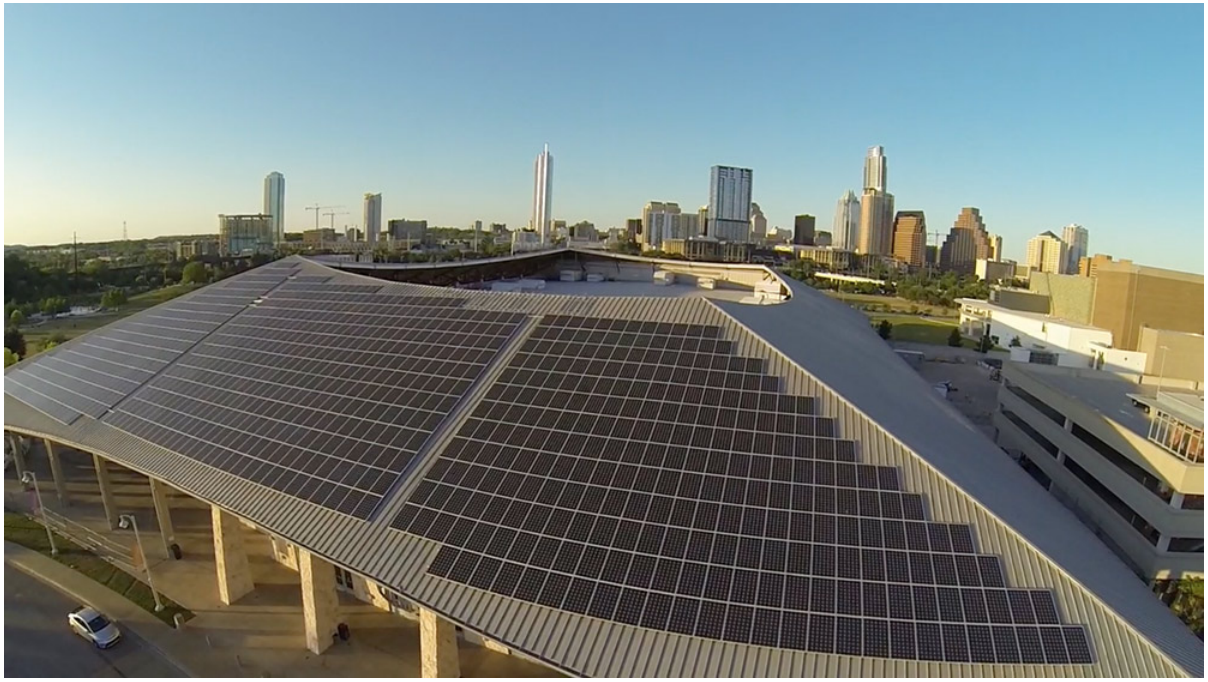
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Questions?