

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: November 1, 2018

Item Number: **002**

Austin Energy

Approve issuance of incentives to Townbridge Homes for installation of solar electric systems to serve 30 residential condominium units located at 7601 Cooper Lane, for a total amount not to exceed \$69,300.

District(s) Affected: District 3

Lead Department	Austin Energy
Fiscal Note	Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.
For More Information	Jeff Vice, Director, Local Government Issues (512) 322-6087; Tim Harvey, Solar Program Manager (512) 482-5386.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	October 15, 2018 - Recommended unanimously by the Electric Utility Commission on a 7-0 vote, with Commissioners Hopkins, Weldon and Wray absent, and one vacancy. October 16, 2018 - Recommended unanimously by the Resource Management Commission on a 7-0 vote, with Commissioner White absent and three vacancies.

Additional Backup Information:

Austin Energy requests approval to issue incentives to Townbridge Homes, in an amount not to exceed

\$69,300, for the installation of solar electric systems at 30 residential condominium units located at 7601 Cooper Lane, in Council District 3.

The total installation cost is \$475,867.80 and the incentive will cover up to 15% of the cost. The rebate level for this project is \$0.40 per watt-dc. The solar equipment, which meets Austin Energy program requirements, includes a total of 450 solar modules rated at 385 watts. The combined solar installations will have a total capacity of 173.25 kW-ac.

Austin Energy's solar program helps meet the community's solar goal of 950 megawatts (MW) by 2025, including 200 MW of local solar capacity, established in the updated Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan approved by City Council in August 2017. The solar program is designed to reduce the amount of electricity Austin Energy must purchase from the market and reduce associated greenhouse gas emissions.

These new energy improvements will together generate an estimated 236,750 kWh per year- enough to power 21 average Austin homes for a year. This project is estimated to prevent the production of the following emissions each year: 157 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂); 198 pounds of Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂); 218 pounds of Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x); and 152 pounds of Carbon Monoxide (CO). These emissions reductions are equivalent to planting 3,652 trees or 183 acres of forest in Austin's parks or the removal of 319,182 vehicle miles or 27 cars from Austin roadways.

The Austin City Council launched Austin Energy's original solar photovoltaic (PV) rebate incentive program in 2004 (Resolution No. 040527-06) to benefit Austin residents and utility customers by: promoting the use of an environmentally-friendly and energy efficient renewable energy resource; promoting economic development for the development, recruitment and retention of renewable energy enterprises; and ensuring that Austin remains a local, national and international leader in the development and use of renewable energy.