




Memorandum

TO: MAYOR REED

FROM: Councilmember Kansen Chu

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: May 21, 2014

Approved 

Date 5/21/14

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted which will promote Green Vision Goal #3, "Receive 100% of Our Electrical Power from Clean, Renewable Sources".

Proposal

Program/Project Title: Pilot Program to Reduce Permit Fees for Residential and Commercial Roof-Mounted Solar

Amount of City Funding Required: \$106,000

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.): Essential Services

Proposal Description, including anticipated outcomes (describe how change would affect services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc.):

The City of San José is internationally recognized as a leader in green technology innovation and implementation. A pilot program to reduce fees for residential and commercial roof-mounted solar would maintain our community's leadership position in this field. Additionally this pilot program would work toward the 3rd Green Vision goal to receive 100% of our electrical power from renewable resources. Currently, 21% of electrical power in San José comes from renewable resources.

\$106,000 from the Essential Services Reserve would subsidize a 10% reduction in permit fees based on the fee revenues collected over the past year. Between May 15, 2013 and May 14, 2014, 2,337 solar energy permits were issued in San Jose and \$1,063,502 in permit fee revenues. This proposed pilot program could be included in our city's outreach materials to promote the installation of roof-mounted solar energy systems and meet the City's Green Visison goals.

Funding Source

Essential Services Reserve (\$2 million)

Other (Program/Project/Fund):

Department or Organization: Department of Planning Building and Code Enforcement

Department or Organization Contact (list contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation):

Name: Harry Freitas, Director

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This change is:

One-time Ongoing

The City Service Area to which the change best relates:

- Community and Economic Development Services
- Environmental and Utility Services
- Neighborhood Services
- Public Safety
- Strategic Support
- Transportation and Aviation Services