



Councilmember Ben Bartlett  
District 3

CONSENT CALENDAR  
February 28, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Councilmember Ben Bartlett  
Subject: Direction to Energy Commission: Develop Comprehensive Plan for Incentivizing the Installation of Solar Panels on Commercial and Retail Rooftops in Berkeley

### RECOMMENDATION

Prepare a comprehensive plan for incentivizing the installation of solar panels on commercial and retail rooftops in Berkeley where sufficient solar access exists. The plan should include the following components:

1. **Finance:** Outline the various financing options for commercial property owners.
2. **Data Collection:** Develop a plan for identifying all commercial/retail properties in Berkeley that have sufficient solar access.
3. **Permitting:** Outline process for permitting related to solar panel installation. If necessary, identify legislation or policies that should be amended in order to facilitate rapid installation of solar panels.
4. **Program:** Develop programs for
  - a. outreach and education to commercial/retail property owners
  - b. assisting owners with executing solar panel installation
5. **Integration:** Integrate these plans with existing environmental and solar initiatives that the Commission is working on.

Provide a status report to the Council at the July 14 Council meeting.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Staff time.

### BACKGROUND

The purpose of this direction is to advance Berkeley's renewable energy goals as outlined in the Climate Action Plan. The Climate Action Plan sets the goal of reducing building energy use emissions by 33% below 2000 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050. To achieve this goal, Berkeley must move towards renewable energy use.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

This item will result in a positive environmental impact on the community by reducing our dependence on nonrenewable energy resources.

CONTACT PERSON

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