

RESOLUTION NO. 46-07

RESOLUTION DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO COME BACK WITH RECOMMENDATIONS ON LOWERING SOLAR PERMIT FEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH BEST PRACTICES AND PROMOTING SOLAR INSTALLATION IN RICHMOND

WHEREAS, Solar power is a clean, pollution free, low maintenance energy source which is part of Richmond's future legacy of clean air and clean water for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The amount of solar energy intercepted by the Earth every minute is greater than the amount of energy the world uses in fossil fuels each year; and^[50]

WHEREAS, each kilowatt hour of electricity produced by solar power saves ratepayers between 5.6 cents and 7.5 cents per kilowatt hour by avoiding the purchase of natural gas. Another 0.5 cents per kilowatt hour is saved by avoiding other power plant consumables such as water and ammonia; and

WHEREAS, Richmond has miles of underutilized warehouse and industrial rooftops that could be used for solar array; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 the Richmond City Council unanimously passed a resolution to support the efforts, goals and aspirations of increasing solar installation in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, in 2007 the Richmond City Council passed a resolution furthering Richmond as a Green Economic Development Area; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Richmond organized SOLAR RICHMOND and are undertaking the goal of installing 5 megawatts of solar energy by the year 2010 on the rooftops of private residences, business and public buildings, as well as to create 100 new jobs for Richmond residents; and

WHEREAS, An obstacle to meeting these goals, reported by Sierra Club, shows that Richmond currently ranks in the top 5 most expensive cities for solar permitting out of 48 Bay Area cities; therefore be it

RESOLVED, THAT CITY STAFF DEVELOP FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BEST PRACTICES AND OPTIONS USED SUCCESSFULLY IN OTHER CITIES FOR LOWERING SOLAR PERMIT FEES AND RETURN TO COUNCIL WITHIN 45 DAYS

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the city of Richmond at a meeting held on May 1, 2007, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember Bates, Butt, Lopez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, and Mayor McLaughlin

NOES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Marquez

DIANE HOLMES
Clerk of the City of Richmond

[SEAL]

APPROVED:

GAYLE McLAUGHLIN
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LOUISE RENNE
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution No. 46-07, finally passed and adopted by the Council of the Cit of Richmond at a meeting held on May 1, 2007.