



AGENDA
CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH
ELECTRIC UTILITY CITY COMMISSION MEETING -
ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/REORDERING
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBER
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2021 - 6:05 PM

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. [Resolution No. 75-2021 -- establishing an In Community Solar Program \(tabled from October 26, 2021\)](#)

The City Commission has adopted Rules of Decorum for Citizen Participation (See Resolution No. 25-2021). The Rules of Decorum are posted within the City Hall Chambers, City Hall Conference Room, posted online at: <https://lakeworthbeachfl.gov/government/virtual-meetings/>, and available through the City Clerk's office. Compliance with the Rules of Decorum is expected and appreciated.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. (F.S. 286.0105)

EXECUTIVE BRIEF ELECTRIC UTILITY MEETING

AGENDA DATE: November 30, 2021

TITLE:

Resolution No. 75-2021 -- establishing an In Community Solar Program (tabled from October 26, 2021)

SUMMARY:

By establishing this program, the resolution will (1) create a highly visible presence of renewable energy production and storage within the Lake Worth Beach community and (2) offer Lake Worth Beach Electric Utility customers the option of sourcing their electricity from 100% renewable energy through a special rate class or program subscription.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

The competitive procurement program proposed in this resolution builds upon recent Lake Worth Beach Electric Utility advances toward clean energy. The proposed procurement program builds upon these advances through increasing visible clean energy generation within the city, through education, and by offering ratepayers of all incomes a fee-supported 100% solar option.

The resolution was tabled at the October 26, 2021 Electric Utility Meeting. Commissioner McVoy was asked to bring a presentation about Community Solar Programs to the November 30 meeting and the resolution was tabled to that date.

MOTION:

Move to approve/disapprove Resolution No. 75-2021 establishing an In Community Solar Program.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Fiscal Impact Analysis – N/A
Overview
Resolution 75-2021

Additional BackUp Information for Resolution on “In Community Solar”

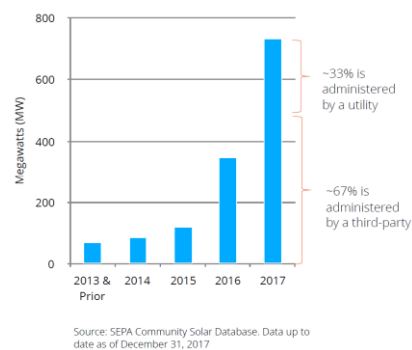
October 26, 2021

Commissioner McVoy

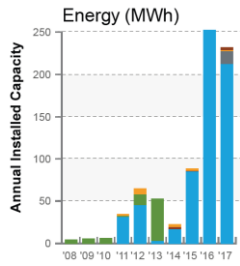
Overview

The **In Community Solar** program proposed here grew out of City Commission discussions at the September 28, 2021 Electric Utility meeting. It includes four components based on increasingly adopted, industry best practices, namely, solar installations visible to the community, a community solar option for residents and businesses, “Battery Energy Storage Systems” (BESS), and web/app-based real-time digital outreach. Implementation of an **In Community Solar** program, combined with an Energy Efficiency program and with our purchase power agreements with the Florida Municipal Solar Project can help give our utility--and our city--national recognition. For example, since 2019 the American Public Power Association (APPA) has awarded 94 public utilities the designation “Smart Energy Provider.” The SEP program recognizes utilities that “show commitment to and proficiency in energy efficiency, distributed generation, renewable energy, and environmental initiatives.” The APPA created SEP “to provide national recognition of utility efforts to incorporate energy efficiencies and sustainability while providing affordable electric service.” (<https://www.publicpower.org/smart-energy-provider>)

Another national industry organization, the Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA; <https://sepapower.org/>) has an extensive library of technical information available to member utilities. SEPA defines community solar (also called “shared solar”) as “voluntary business models where multiple subscribers pay for a share of a specified offsite solar project and receive credit on their electricity bill for their portion of power produced.” SEPA notes that beyond its environmental benefits, community solar “provides local economic development, job training opportunities, and access to solar for low-to-moderate income customers.” Adoption of community solar is growing exponentially:



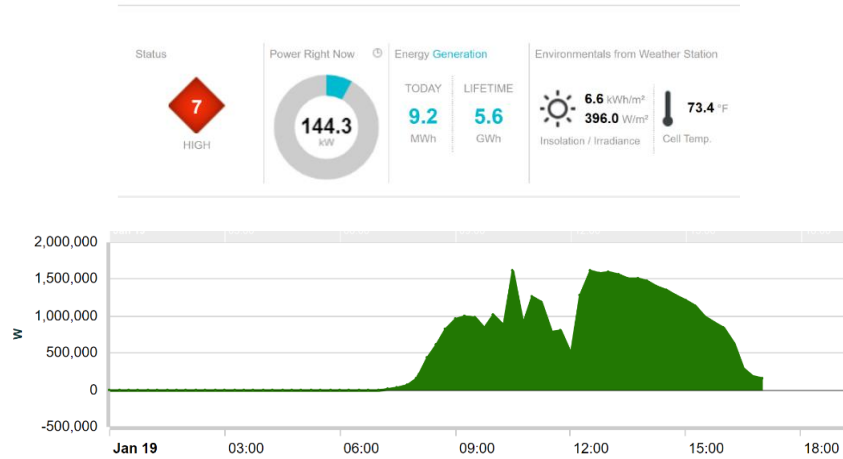
Regarding battery storage, the third component of the proposed **In Community Solar** program, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (<https://www.nrel.gov/>) notes that “as prices for BESS continue to decline (70% from 2010-2016, and projected to decline further) and the need for system flexibility increases with wind and solar deployment, more policymakers, regulators, and utilities are seeking to develop policies to jump-start BESS deployment.” Of particular relevance to Lake Worth Beach, NREL also notes that “distribution-level BESS systems can also provide local power quality services and support improved resilience during extreme weather events.” Similarly to community solar, adoption of battery storage around the country has been growing exponentially:



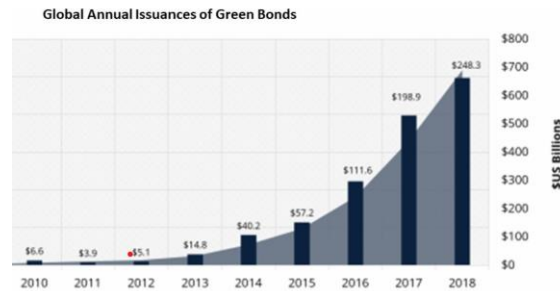
Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-860, Annual Electric Generator Report

The digital outreach component of the **In Community Solar** program can be a low-cost, high-return way to involve Lake Worth Beach residents, translating the visible solar panels on community properties into actual energy in their homes. If explanatory information and real-time graphs are presented for the battery systems and for all solar locations (the existing field at landfill, the large ones in the center of the state and the visible ones on community buildings and properties), the digital outreach can help again recreate the community feeling mentioned by resident Wes Blackman when, “having its own electricity was a source of pride.” **In Community Solar** can build on the digital presentations we already have:

City of Lake Worth



Finally, efforts such as the **In Community Solar** program, along with an Energy Efficiency/Conservation program, and combined with our substantial solar energy purchase power agreements will very likely, in addition to bringing national recognition to our utility and city, increase our attractiveness for the green bond market, an economic sector that is growing dramatically:



“Hundreds of billions of dollars in untapped new money can finance the U.S. power system's transition away from legacy fossil assets to renewables and distributed generation.”

<https://www.utilitydive.com/news/new-money-green-banks-and-green-bonds-are-bringing-billions-to-utilities-f/567483/>

1

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 75-2021 OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH,**
3 **FLORIDA, DIRECTING ITS MUNICIPALLY OWNED UTILITY TO IMPLEMENT**
4 **AN “IN COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM”;** AND PROVIDING FOR AN
5 **EFFECTIVE DATE**

6 **WHEREAS,** City of Lake Worth Beach residents are the owners of a municipal
7 Electric Utility that has been a source of community pride, and;

8 **WHEREAS,** the Electric Utility has initiated major steps toward increasing energy
9 production from renewable sources, including construction of a 1.7-megawatt solar field
10 on our former landfill and purchase power agreements for 37 megawatts of solar power
11 from fields outside of the city, and;

12 **WHEREAS,** these installations are important sources of clean energy, but ones that
13 are not visible to most city residents or businesses;

14 **WHEREAS,** the City of Lake Worth Beach seeks to visibly support and encourage
15 further energy production from renewable sources, and;

16 **WHEREAS,** rooftop solar on City-owned properties and solar shade structures over
17 parking lots offer highly visible ways to demonstrate clean energy production, as well as
18 new opportunities for pairing with battery storage, and;

19 **WHEREAS,** community solar programs are industry-recognized avenues for
20 providing utility customers of all incomes with a 100% solar option, and;

21 **WHEREAS,** the City Commission wishes to support the Electric Utility’s continued
22 adoption of industry-recognized “smart energy” best practices relating to energy
23 efficiency, distributed generation and renewable energy while still providing affordable
24 electric service, and;

25 **WHEREAS,** the City Commission believes that adoption of such best practices can
26 increase the utility’s eligibility for green bond market and philanthropic funding, and;

27 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY**
28 **OF LAKE WORTH BEACH, FLORIDA, that:**

29 **SECTION 1:** The City Commission hereby directs its municipally owned Electric Utility
30 to issue the necessary procurement documentation for a competitive procurement
31 process to implement an In Community Solar program that will install visibly-sited, grid-
32 tied solar systems on City owned properties in prominent locations throughout the City.

33 **SECTION 2:** The City Commission further directs that said In Community Solar
34 competitive procurement process shall solicit, but not be limited to, rooftop, ground-

1 mounted, and parking lot shade structure solar installations; that the installations shall
2 include battery storage; and that integrated educational website interfaces shall be
3 included to showcase both existing and new in-city solar as well as battery storage.

4 **SECTION 3:** The City Commission also directs that said In Community Solar
5 competitive procurement process shall identify vendor(s) and program policies able to
6 offer utility ratepayers the option of sourcing one-hundred percent renewable energy from
7 locally sited renewable energy assets on City owned properties through a dedicated rate-
8 class or program subscription agreement.

9 **SECTION 4:** The City Commission emphasizes that the competitive process shall
10 prioritize vendors and program policies offering a neutral or positive financial impact to
11 the utility and program participants.

12 The passage of this resolution was moved by Commissioner 75 seconded by 75,
13 and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

- 14
- 15 Mayor Betty Resch
- 16 Vice Mayor Herman Robinson
- 17 Commissioner Sarah Malega
- 18 Commissioner Christopher McVoy
- 19 Commissioner Kim Stokes

20 The Mayor thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted on this
21 ____ day of _____, 2021.

22 LAKE WORTH BEACH CITY COMMISSION

23
24
25
26 By: _____
27 Betty Resch, Mayor

28
29 ATTEST:

30
31
32 _____
33 Melissa Ann Coyne, City Clerk
34