



RESOLUTION NO. 39699

1 BY REQUEST OF DEPUTY MAYOR THOMS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS CAMPBELL
2 AND IBSEN

3 A RESOLUTION relating to solar power; requesting the Tacoma Public Utility
4 Board to develop a plan to increase the use of residential solar power in
5 the City of Tacoma, which plan shall address economic inequality and
6 ensure an equitable increase in the number of residential solar users from
7 all income levels; and to present its plan to the City Council no later than
8 October 1, 2017.

9 WHEREAS burning fossil fuels releases carbon, while solar energy
10 production does not, and fuel-burning power plants frequently release toxic
11 pollutants, including mercury, acid gases, and particulate matter that directly
12 impacts public health, and

13 WHEREAS the market price of fossil fuels does not factor in the external
14 environmental and health costs caused by burning fossil fuels, and

15 WHEREAS solar power is a cost-competitive energy source, decreasing
16 dependence on fossil fuels while improving public health, and

17 WHEREAS solar power is one of the cleanest sources of energy, and can
18 power homes, businesses, and cars to achieve better air quality and reduce
19 carbon pollution, and

20 WHEREAS the City Council recognizes the benefits provided through solar
21 energy for improving environmental health, public health, and growing the
22 economy, and desires to encourage a community-wide effort to reduce fossil
23 fuel-based energy consumption and to facilitate public involvement in energy
24 conservation, particularly in the use of residential solar power, and

25 WHEREAS RCW 35.92.360 grants municipally owned electric utilities the
26 authority "to assist the owners of structures or equipment in financing the



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acquisition and installation of materials and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of energy in such structures or equipment..." and, for the purposes of this section, "conservation purposes in existing structures" may include projects to allow a municipal electric utility's customers to generate all or a portion of their own electricity through the on-site installation of a distributed electricity generation system that uses as its fuel solar..." and

WHEREAS the City Council desires that the Tacoma Public Utility Board ("Board") develop a plan to increase the use of residential solar in the City of Tacoma, which plan shall address economic inequality and ensure an equitable increase in the number of residential solar users from all income levels, and to present its plan to the City Council no later than October 1, 2017; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby requests the Tacoma Public Utility Board ("Board") to develop a plan to increase the use of residential solar in the City of Tacoma, which plan will address economic inequality and ensure an equitable increase in the number of residential solar users from all income levels.



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Section 2. That the Board shall present its plan to the City Council no later than October 1, 2017.

Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Acting City Attorney