



# COMMITTEE REPORT

<b>PRESENTED FOR COMMISSION MEETING DATE: 06/19/18</b>	<b>SUBMITTED BY: David Freedman</b>
<b>COMMITTEE NAME: Standing Committee on Green Building &amp; Solar</b>	<b>SUBMITTED DATE: 06/11/18</b>
<b>COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 06/05/18</b>	<b>NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: TBD</b>

### Committee Meeting Goals:

- Discuss fall training session on 2019 Energy Code
- Discuss revival of local chapter of US Green Building Council
- Discuss preparation for roll-out of Desert Community Energy in Palm Springs
- Provide update on SolSmart designation

### Summary:

Committee members were joined by CVAG Director of Environmental Resources Katie Barrows and DVBA CEO Gretchen Gutierrez. They began by discussing a fall training session on the 2019 Energy Code, which enters into effect on January 1, 2020. The objective of the training session is to provide practical advice to the local building community on what they need to do prepare for the new Building Code and resources to answer their questions. The session is planned for late October at the UCR Palm Desert campus. A preliminary outline is attached.

Committee members then discussed a possible revival of local chapter of US Green Building Council. It was noted that the person who previously led the local chapter had moved out of the area and that it would take a substantial amount of time and energy for someone to reestablish the chapter. It was agreed that the best approach is to see what programs green building organizations from the LA area are doing that may be locally appropriate and whether they could bring these programs to the Desert. Commissioner Goins will follow up with the LA chapter of the USGBC and other green building organizations.

Ms. Barrows then provided an update on the roll-out of Desert Community Energy, the Community Choice Aggregation program that will go into effect in Palm Springs, Cathedral City and Palm Desert on August 1. SCE customers will automatically become enrolled in DCE. They may opt out and remain with SCE, and they will be receiving a series of notices beginning the week of June 11 on how to do so. DCE's website also goes live the week of June 11, and a call center will be open for questions. There will also be targeted outreach in Palm Springs, including the ONE-PS Brown Bag lunch on July 19. A separate notice will be sent to solar customers, and DCE is considering incentives to encourage further solar installation. Commissioner Freedman noted that City Council will be considering at its June 6 meeting the Commission's recommendation that the City choose DCE's 100% carbon-free option for its electricity consumption (Council in fact adopted this recommendation). Commissioner Freedman also noted that he would wait until DCE determined its solar incentives before bringing to Council for further discussion the Commission's previous recommendation that solar installations be required for major renovations of and additions to existing residences.

Finally, Commissioner Freedman reported that the City has finished its application to the National League of Cities to be designated a SolSmart City and he expected to hear back shortly on the results of the application.

**Recommendation/Request:**

Continuing working with stakeholders on Energy Code issues as it moves towards effectiveness.

<b>ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO COMMISSION</b>	Approve budget request mentioned below.
<b>ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY</b>	Work with CVAG / DCE on promoting roll-out of Desert Community Energy in Palm Springs.
<b>POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT/REQUEST IF ANY:</b>	A budget allocation of \$15,000 to promote the Energy Code training session and other outreach measures is requested for the FY 2018-19 budget. This amount would cover developing materials for the Energy Code training session.

## 2019 Energy Code Fall Training Session Preliminary Outline

When: Week of Oct. 22 or 29, 7:30 to 9:30 am

Where: UCR Palm Desert campus classroom

Target Audience: City desk staff, contractors, tradespeople and students studying the trades

Keynote speaker: Robert E. Raymer, Technical Director, California Building Industry Association (TBC)

MC: CVAG Executive Director Tom Kirk if available, otherwise Commissioners Freedman and/or Goins

Welcome and introduction by MC (5 minutes)

- I. Overview of 2019 Energy Code – Bob Raymer (45 minutes)
  - A. Process of adopting new Code
  - B. Key changes from 2016 Code
  - C. What resources are available (training sessions, written materials, prescriptive building assembly plans appropriate for our Climate Zone, whom to call)
- II. Utilities – SCE / Gas Company (25 minutes)
  - A. Required processes and deadlines
  - B. What resources are available from the utilities (training sessions, written materials, prescriptive building assembly plans appropriate for our Climate Zone, whom to call)
- III. Building and Planning Departments: Joel Cesare, Santa Monica Office of Sustainability and the Environment (TBC) (20 minutes)
  - A. How to present plans to desk staff and get them approved
  - B. What desk staff will look at and how they will check
  - C. What resources are available for Building and Planning Departments
- IV. Post construction verification – HERS Rater (TBC) (20 minutes)
  - A. What field performance checks should look like
  - B. Indoor envelope (high performance attics and walls, HVAC, lighting, etc.)
  - C. Qualification requirements for photovoltaic and battery storage systems

Wrap-up and thank you by MC (5 minutes)