



COMMITTEE REPORT

PRESENTED FOR COMMISSION MEETING DATE: 12/18/18	SUBMITTED BY: David Freedman
COMMITTEE NAME: Standing Committee on Green Building & Solar	SUBMITTED DATE: 12/12/18
COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 12/11/18	NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: TBD

Committee Meeting Goals:

- Follow-up with Center for Sustainable Energy on Energy Code Coach Program
- Update on Desert Community Energy
- Preparation for Modernism Week

Summary:

With CVAG Director of Environmental Resources Katie Barrows participating by phone, the meeting began with a debriefing on the call that Commissioner Freedman and Ms. Barrows had on December 3 with the Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE). Following discussions during the call, CSE will submit a proposal for a pilot project for Palm Springs and Cathedral City to participate in the Energy Code Coach Program, under which a CSE consultant would provide support and training to building and planning department staffs and could also answer questions from the building community. CVAG would be able to provide up to \$20,000 for 2019 from the Coachella Valley Energy Partnership, funded by SCE and SoCalGas. This budget would cover CSE’s presence one day a week in the Coachella Valley, alternating between Palm Springs and Cathedral City. The Commission may be able to provide support for any additional costs for Palm Springs out of its budget. Following receipt of the CSE proposal, Commissioner Freedman will forward it to staff for review, and Ms. Barrows will discuss it with Cathedral City.

Ms. Barrows then provided an update on Desert Community Energy (DCE), the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program. The DCE Board will decide by March 2019 whether to launch in 2020, most likely in the spring. Because of a recent decision by the California Public Utility Commission on the exit fee to be paid by CCA customers, it is unlikely that DCE can offer a cost savings compared with SCE. Ms. Barrows stated that there will be outreach in the six months before the launch date. Commissioner Freedman offered to assist on the outreach in Palm Springs, including organizing a presentation to Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs (“ONE-PS”).

Finally, Commissioner Goins discussed plans for the Sustainability & Modernism workshop as part of Modernism Week on February 23, 2019. He has already contacted two landscape designers and is also reaching out to other potential panel members. In order to promote the event, Commissioner Goins will speak at the upcoming ONE-PS meeting, and Office of Neighborhoods manager Denise Goolsby will include an event announcement in her weekly Office of Neighborhoods reports. In addition, the City will mention the workshop in its news releases on Modernism Week events.

Recommendation/Request:

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

ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO COMMISSION	Approve draft Solar Zoning Ordinance and solar policy when presented.
ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY	Discuss Energy Code Coach program with staff.
POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT/REQUEST IF ANY:	The Modernism Week workshop is expected to cost \$500 - \$1,000, including brochure printing. There may be a request to support the Energy Code Coach program, but no cost estimate is available yet. These funds have been approved in the Committee's FY 2018-19 outreach budget.