



# COMMITTEE REPORT

PRESENTED FOR COMMISSION MEETING DATE: 05/21/19

SUBMITTED BY: David Freedman

COMMITTEE NAME: Standing Committee on Solar and Green Building

SUBMITTED DATE: 05/14/19

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 05/07/19

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 06/04/19, 10 am

### Committee Meeting Goals:

- Reach Code opportunities
- EV charger policy
- Solar policy for accessory dwelling units
- Desert Community Energy update
- Energy Code training programs

### Summary:

Commissioner Freedman noted that at the Committee's April meeting, Committee members agreed that measures worth further consideration beyond the requirements of the 2019 Energy Code are electric readiness, energy audits at time of sale and energy and water efficiency for cannabis industry facilities. Following discussion among Committee members and Sustainability Manager Tallarico, Committee members agreed to focus their efforts on the cannabis industry. Manager Tallarico informed Committee members that the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership was holding a workshop the following morning on sustainability considerations for cannabis. Committee members and staff were not able to attend the workshop, but Manager Tallarico has asked CVEP for the materials. Jocelyn Kane, Vice President of the Coachella Valley Cannabis Alliance Network (CVCAN), will attend the next Committee meeting on June 4 for a discussion of these issues.

Manager Tallarico updated the Committee on the City's electric vehicle charger program, which is funded by grants. He and Commissioner Flanagan are working on an RFP to be sent this summer for third parties to install and manage the stations. with the objective of having them installed by the fall season. The RFP will provide direction on specific locations for the chargers, such as Palm Canyon Drive, but also ask the bidders locations where the chargers would have the most impact.

Manager Tallarico reported out on the discussion at City Council's May 1 meeting about his staff report on solar requirements for accessory dwelling units, which included the memo drafted by Commissioner Freedman and reviewed by the Committee at the last Committee meeting. Manager Tallarico will report to the Commission on his discussion with Council as part of his remarks at the May 21 Commission meeting.

Manager Tallarico informed the Committee that he is working on the staff report for the discussion of Desert Community Energy (DCE) at the May 22 City Council meeting, although this topic may be moved to June 5. Council will provide direction at that time whether to proceed with a launch in 2020 and have the default option be the 100% carbon-free product. Based on his discussions with CVAG, Manager Tallarico stated that DCE would not initially offer current solar customers a net energy metering program.

Commissioner Flanagan noted that as an alternative to DCE, SCE offers its customers a green rate with 100% renewable energy. He also noted that there may be some liability issues with DCE that the City Attorney would need to consider.

Commissioner Freedman reported that he would begin work in June on an Energy Code training session in the fall for valley-wide building professionals and city staffs.

**Recommendation/Request:**

Continuing working with stakeholders on 2019 Energy Code issues as it moves towards effectiveness.

<b>ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO COMMISSION</b>	Approve funds for an Energy Code training program to be held in the fall of 2019 to be requested as part of Committee's FY 2019-20 outreach budget.
<b>ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY</b>	Work with Planning Services Department staff on draft solar zoning ordinance. Work with CVAG on possible launch of DCE in 2020.
<b>POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT/REQUEST IF ANY:</b>	Funds for an Energy Code training program to be held in the fall of 2019 will be requested as part of Committee's FY 2019-20 outreach budget.