



Legislation Text

File #: 160464., **Version:** 3

Solar Charging Stations (B)

This item addresses the status of a pilot project with Pure Energy Solar to locate solar charging stations in the City.

On November 10, 2016, the General Policy Committee discussed a proposal by Pure Energy Solar for a pilot project to locate 10 solar charging stations in the City. The solar charging stations provide seating, shade and an opportunity to recharge electronic devices. The Committee endorsed moving forward with the pilot project for 10 solar charging stations (9 solar charging stations and 1 bench) at no cost to the City. Since that time, Pure Energy Solar has worked with City staff to identify and refine exact locations for the solar charging stations so maps of the locations may be added as an exhibit to the agreement for the pilot project. It took a bit of time to identify and agree upon all of the general locations where the solar charging stations would be located (parks, RTS transfer stations, etc.) and then identify specific locations in each that meet Pure Energy Solar's requirements (such as sun exposure, visible and well traveled locations, etc.) as well as City concerns/interests.

The attached "Exhibit B" as prepared by Pure Energy Solar shows the proposed locations of the solar charging stations. There is agreement on 8 of the 10 specific locations. Final locations have not yet been confirmed for the City Hall Plaza (in front of City Hall) and Depot Park.

The only other remaining issue from the City staff perspective is a manner of gauging use/success of the pilot project. Pure Energy Solar has not had a method of determining usage of the solar charging stations but has been working on this.

Based on previous City Commission direction, the pilot project should be at no cost to the City. Pure Energy Solar has offered to provide the solar charging stations/benches for the pilot project at their cost including installation. If the City is interested in purchasing the solar charging stations/benches at the end of the pilot project, Pure Energy Solar indicated that the cost of the solar charging station is \$3,895 and a solar bench \$10,000 and that the pricing may be negotiable. The City has no funding budgeted for this purpose and would need to determine a fair and appropriate approach consistent with the City's purchasing policies which would likely require a competitive process should the City be interested in purchasing solar charging stations in the future.

The General Policy Committee receive an update on the status of the Solar Charging Station Pilot Project.

