

**Topic:** Solar Energy; Local Boards  
**Resource Type:** Planning Documents & Policy Statements  
**State:** Texas  
**Jurisdiction Type:** Municipal  
**Municipality:** City of Austin  
**Year:** 2012  
**Community Type – applicable to:** Urban; Suburban  
**Title:** City of Austin Resolution No. 20120426-081: Creation of Austin Local Solar Advisory Committee  
**Document Last Updated in Database:** June 6, 2018

***Abstract***

Austin adopted Resolution No. 20120426-081, creating the Austin Local Solar Advisory Committee, which included representatives from the solar industry, Chamber of Commerce, the environmental non-profit community, consumer advocate community, the Electric Utility Commission, and the Resource Management Commission. The Advisory Committee produced the Strategic Plan for Local Solar, providing recommendations for new policies, as well as amendments to the city’s zoning regulations, that will optimize Austin’s solar energy resource base.

***Resource***

Visit the Austin Local Solar Advisory Committee’s website at <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/austin-local-solar-advisory-committee>.

See separate attached PDF for Resolution No. 20120426-081.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20120426-081**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council approved Resolution 20110217-002, implementing the Austin Energy Resource, Generation, and Climate Protection Plan to 2020, including an affordability goal; and

**WHEREAS**, Austin has great potential for developing and providing solar energy resources to residential and commercial customers in a manner that protects Austin's environment, maintains energy self-sufficiency, and enhances the local economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the development of a self-sustaining local solar energy community will place Austin in the forefront of energy innovation nationwide and will provide a lasting legacy for Austin residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council believes that it would be beneficial to establish an advisory committee, composed of a diverse group of solar industry, customer, and community members to provide additional input and recommendations regarding local solar energy development; and

**WHEREAS**, recommendations from an advisory committee would be beneficial to inform future Resource Generation and Climate Protection Plan updates; **NOW THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

That the Austin Local Solar Advisory Committee is created, consisting of up to 20 members, whose members shall include representatives from the solar industry, Chamber of Commerce, the environmental non-profit community, consumer advocate community, and one representative each from

both the Electric Utility Commission and the Resource Management Commission.

That the initial members of the Advisory Committee are appointed as provided in the list attached hereto as Exhibit A. The remaining five member positions may be appointed by the Council Committee for Emerging Technologies and Telecommunications. The Advisory Committee shall fill any future vacancy by appointing a new member who represents the same interests as the outgoing member. A quorum for the conduct of Advisory Committee business is a majority of its members.

That the Advisory Committee will develop a strategic plan with specific recommendations to ensure the optimum utilization of Austin's local solar energy resource base, including the following:

- Review and update studies of Austin's local solar resource base.
- Assess all methods of local solar development and analyze their costs, including customer-owned systems, leased systems, financing mechanisms, community solar, incentives, multi-family facility systems, and others.
- Consider how these resources interact with each other and with existing energy infrastructure.
- Integrate these models, assessments, and analyses into a strategic plan establishing realistic goals and a timetable for maximizing Austin's local solar energy resource and related economic development.

- Provide solar energy development scenarios suitable for serving as a foundation for a service-area-wide goal through the year 2020, with an interim goal for 2015.
- Make recommendations relating to current and future Austin Energy solar programs, products, rates, tariffs, marketing, incentives, financing, economic development, and regulatory initiatives.

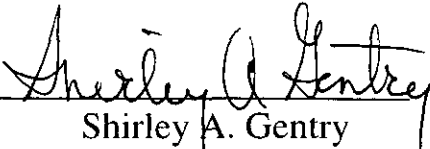
That the City Manager is directed to negotiate and execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Pecan Street Inc., under which Pecan Street Inc. will provide support for the Advisory Committee and the City shall provide resources and technical assistance to the Advisory Committee.

That the Advisory Committee shall present to the June 2012 meeting of the City Council Emerging Technology and Telecommunications Committee a work schedule for completing the tasks outlined above.

That the Advisory Committee shall make a final recommendation to the City Council prior to the start of the 2012 Resource Generation and Climate Protection Plan Update. The Advisory Committee shall dissolve upon making its final recommendations to Council.

**ADOPTED:** April 26, 2012

**ATTEST:**

  
Shirley A. Gentry  
City Clerk

## **Exhibit A**

### **Austin Local Solar Advisory Committee**

#### **Solar Industry Association**

- Steve Wiese (Texas Renewable Energy Industry Assoc - TREIA)

#### **Solar Manufacturer**

- BJ Stanbery (HelioVolt)

#### **Solar Component Manufacturer**

- Ron Van Dell (SolarBridge)

#### **Solar Commercial Industry**

- Mark Begert (Meridian Solar)

#### **Solar Residential Industry / Community Solar**

- Stan Pipkin (Lighthouse Solar)

#### **Solar Advocacy**

- Michael Kuhn (Solar Austin)

#### **Economic Development**

- Jose Beceiro (Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce)

#### **Consumer Industrial / Commercial**

- Roger Wood (CCARE)

#### **Consumer Advocacy and Residential**

- Tom "Smitty" Smith (Public Citizen)

#### **Environmental Non-profit**

- Colin Meehan (Environmental Defense Fund)

#### **Academia**

- Varun Rai (University of Texas)

#### **Resource Management Commission**

- Christine Herbert

#### **Electric Utility Commission**

- Michael Webber

#### **Commercial Rooftops**

- John Sutton (Building Owners and Managers Association of Austin – BOMA)

#### **Multi-Family Residential Rooftops**

- Sunshine Mathon (Foundation Communities)