

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Virginia Shannon, Environment Michigan

DATE: April 2, 2013

SUBJECT: Resolution for Ypsilanti 1,000 Solar Roofs Initiative

To make Ypsilanti a “solar destination”-- and hasten the day when solar powers our buildings and our economy -- Ypsilanti must set a bold solar goal of 1,000 solar roofs by 2020 and encourage solar on thousands more homes, businesses and public buildings.

In order to achieve a goal of 1,000 solar roofs by 2020, the key policies areas identified below should be put in place to increase municipal solar installations, establish successful partnerships that support solar and give Ypsilanti residents and businesses the tools they need to go solar.

- Lead-by example by continuing to identify sites and seek grants for projects on city buildings along with welcoming solar projects on historic buildings;
- Streamline information on financing options and promote financing programs such as PACE to help residents, businesses and industries go solar;
- Partner with nonprofits, solar companies, and Eastern Michigan University to build public awareness of solar potential in Ypsilanti and a literacy of technology and financing options; and
- Support local, state and federal policies that promote the use of solar energy.

With a bold goal of 1,000 by 2020 in place, Ypsilanti can become a solar destination, attracting attention as a national leader and building a solar economy to repower its city and homes.

Approval of this resolution to set a bold solar goal will demonstrate the City’s commitment to becoming a destination to study, live and work in and moving to more sustainable energy future.



Resolution No. 2013-175
September 3, 2013

RESOLUTION FOR 1,000 SOLAR ROOFS INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan emits more 81 tons of carbon pollution annually to produce electricity; and

WHEREAS, solar power is a clean source of energy with which Michigan can power its homes, businesses and cars to achieve better air quality and reduce carbon pollution; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has vast solar potential with more sunlight than Germany, the world's leader solar power; and

WHEREAS, the solar industry provides more than 6,000 jobs to Michiganders, and that Michigan is ranked in the top five states for solar manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, if Michigan were to generate 1 GW of electricity from distributed generation solar, an additional 100,000 solar rooftops would be installed; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti has demonstrated its national leadership in pursuit of solar power and is well positioned to benefit from a growing clean energy economy to bring jobs and investments to the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti recognizes the above assets of solar power and desires to further its commitment to this important clean energy solution; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Ypsilanti officially sets its own goal of the City of Ypsilanti and its residents generate 5 MW of electricity from distributed solar, to reach 1,000 solar roofs by 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Ypsilanti hereby acknowledges the policy recommendations from the Environment Michigan Research & Policy Center report as to how the City of Ypsilanti and its residents can meet a goal of 1,000 solar roofs by 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Ypsilanti calls on the State of Michigan to follow Ypsilanti's lead in making Michigan a leader in solar power and to set the goal of having 100,000 solar roofs by 2020.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Murdock

YES: 5 NO: 0 ABSENT: 2 (Jefferson, Moeller) VOTE: Carried

I do hereby certify that the above resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2013-175 as passed by the Ypsilanti City Council, and their meeting held on September 3, 2013.

Frances McMullan, City Clerk