City of Plano’s
$SMART Energy Loan:
Residential
Energy Improvement Program

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Resident Eligibility

- Own a home in Plano
- Hold title to the property with no involuntary liens
- Be current on mortgage and property taxes
- Be a U.S. Citizen or Legal Resident Alien
- Have no bankruptcy or foreclosure in the past 3 years
- Complete all required program documents and/or surveys
Program Specifics

Homeowner (H\O) applies online to City of Plano

If initial program criteria is met, H\O receives an eligibility letter and applies for financing though C.U. of Texas

Once loan approval is received, H\O will schedule a home energy audit, decide on project scope of work and obtain an estimate

Improvements must be approved by the City w/a PEL issued for work to begin

H\O coordinates work & a post home energy audit and final, signed invoice is sent to the City at project completion.

City issues QAC to H\O & C.U. of Texas to close and fund joint check to H\O & contractor

- Projects over $10,000 can receive “construction funding” to assist through the project
Whole-House Weatherization Package – Prerequisite

- Sealing ducts, windows, doors and wall penetrations
- HVAC tune-up
- Attic insulation of at least R-38
- Insulating/sealing recessed lights in ceilings
- Installation of at least 50% CFL or LED bulbs
- Insulating water heater tanks
Acceptable Renewable Systems

- Solar Photovoltaic Arrays
- Small wind turbines

Funding Requirement:

All funded $MART applications must achieve at least a 20% energy efficiency improvement (or at least a HERS rating of 85 or better) prior to funding the installation of any on-site renewable or energy generation systems.
Solar Projects through SEL

- The SEL program has funded 5 solar projects since April 2014.
- Our contractor guidelines are becoming more flexible to allow more contractors, including solar companies, to participate.
Plano Solar Advocates (PSA)

www.planosolar.org

About PSA

- A grass-roots volunteer group of Plano residents
- Many are also "Live Green in Plano" volunteers
- To learn more, see www.planosolar.org

PSA mission

- To increase awareness and expand the use of Solar Energy for electricity generation in Plano and beyond

PSA works closely with

- City of Plano Sustainability & Environmental Education (LiveGreeninPlano.com)
- North Texas Renewable Energy Group (www.ntreg.org)
- North Central Texas Council of Governments (www.nctcog.org/solar)
- Texas Solar Energy Society (www.txses.org)
PSA Projects

www.planosolar.org/p/projects.html

- Outreach Events – such as Learn2LiveGreen Expo, Earth Day Texas, Collin County Farmers Market, local Eco Fairs

- Plano’s Comprehensive Plan Update – Think “Solar Friendly” and “Solar Ready”

- Working Groups - Buildings and Fire Codes, Net Metering, Real Estate Valuation

- Solar for Schools

- Solar Education for Schools
PSA Solarize Plano Projects

www.solarizeplano.org

- Organized “Solarize Plano Projects” to educate consumers, simplify the process, obtain discounted pricing, and make a “limited time” offer
  - 2013 Solarize Plano Project
    - 200+ enrolled, 52 site assessments, **20 installations**
  - 2014 Solarize Plano Project
    - 193 enrolled, 56 site assessments, **22 installations**

- Positive impacts!
  - Residents made **long term investments in their homes**
  - Producing **LOCAL CLEAN energy** to help them **hedge and stabilize** a portion of their long term electricity costs
  - **Reduce the peak electricity demand** on the state’s electric grid by **locally producing 300,000 kWh annually**, and with **no air, water, or noise pollution**!
  - **Reduced water consumption** in North Texas, because unlike traditional electricity generation, creating electricity from solar PV panels requires no water.
  - **Helped the local economy** through increased local business sales and jobs.

- Launched “Go Solar at Home” project in 2015, **available to all of North Texas**, to educate consumers and connect those interested to obtain quotes from 3 companies.
Ideas For Your Community

- Enlist your citizens and volunteers to start a grassroots solar advocacy group in your community
  - Encourage them to connect and learn from Plano Solar Advocates and the North Texas Renewable Energy Group

- Help them to collaborate with local governments and other community organizations for ideas and projects

- Consider launching a “solarize” project in your area - like Plano, Garland, and others across the state (see www.solarizetexas.org)
Green is Growing in Plano!
Green Business Certified

CITY OF PLANO

Plano.gov/greenbusiness
Green Business Certification

GBC Program
Green Business Certification Checklist

Multi-Family/Apartment
Office/Retail
Restaurant
Grocery
Green Business Certification

Assessment Categories

- General Education
- Waste Reduction
- Energy Efficiency
- Water Efficiency
Green Business Certification

Assessment Categories

- Pollution Prevention
- Sustainable Purchasing
- Innovation
Green Business Certification

Solar Innovation Credits

Whiskey Cake Kitchen & Bar

Eltek Always On

Plano City of Excellence
REVITALIZATION & REINVESTMENT
Neighborhood Services Department

March 30, 2015
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

REQUIREMENTS

- HOME IS 35 YRS OLD OR OLDER
- MAXIMUM APPRAISED VALUE IS $234,255
- MANDATORY 10% INVESTMENT OF APPRAISED VALUE
HOMEOWNER INVESTMENT

TOTAL PROJECTS TO DATE: 183

- 163 properties are owner-occupied (89%)
- 20 properties are investor-owned (11%)

PLANO HOMEOWNERS HAVE INVESTED OVER $4.9 MILLION DOLLARS INTO THEIR PROPERTIES

PROGRAM HAS BEEN IN PLACE SINCE APRIL 30, 2014 (23 MONTHS)
### IMPROVEMENT TYPES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Investment</th>
<th>Average Cost</th>
<th>% of $4.9M Investment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exterior</td>
<td>$3.0 M</td>
<td>$16,273</td>
<td>59.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior</td>
<td>$1.9 M</td>
<td>$10,891</td>
<td>40.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AVERAGE PROJECT COST**

$27,164
REBATES

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCUMBERED
OVER $800K

53.1% OF THE $1,515,512
ALLOCATED

AVERAGE REBATE CHECK
$4,355
PROCESS TIMEFRAME

Average Days from Application Meeting to Notice to Proceed: 7 days

Average Days from Notice to Proceed to Final Inspection: 85 days

Average Days from Final Inspection to Rebate Processed: 13 days
These solar investments were part of a bigger project.

SOLAR SCREENS
These solar investments were part of a bigger project.

SOLAR PANELS
WHAT HOMEOWNERS ARE SAYING

“THIS IS A GREAT PROGRAM”

“STAFF MADE THE PROCESS EASY TO UNDERSTAND, SEAMLESS AND BEYOND MY EXPECTATIONS.”

“REBATE MONEY CAN BE USED FOR FUTURE PROJECTS”

“WE REALLY APPRECIATE HOW QUICKLY EVERYTHING WAS PROCESSED.”

“I AM ALREADY THINKING OF NEXT YEAR’S PROJECTS.”
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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