

# Montgomery County Solar Projects – Status

Michael Yambrach

Department of General Services, Office of Energy and Sustainability

# Montgomery County Department of General Services

- Analogous to the federal General Services Administration,
- Custodian of the County's building portfolio, fleet, and purchasing,
- 400+ buildings, owned leased, and leased out. Totaling over 9,687,923 square feet.
- Manages \$28 million of annual energy purchases
- Fleet of over 3,000 vehicles

# Office of Energy and Sustainability

Created within the Department of General Services to reduce the environmental footprint of government operations:

- Reduce resource consumption across DGS. Including energy, water, waste, transportation, biodiversity. Includes enhancing “resiliency” to a changing climate.
- Develop County Sustainable Operations Plan and Report
- Monitor and communicate headline metrics for energy and sustainability. Communicate results to County Executive, Council and external stakeholders
- Engage and empower internal staff working on green initiatives
- Manage utilities, conventional and clean energy purchasing
- Accelerate clean energy and energy efficiency projects
- Seek and secure resources to expand green efforts. Including grants, utility incentives, public private partnerships, joint projects and more.
- Innovate as DGS Green “skunkworks”



# Solar Deployment

- Launched a broad reaching Solar Photovoltaic Project in 2014
- Identified a partner to design, building, finance, own and maintain the photovoltaic system using a solar power purchase agreement
- Created capital projects position to oversee the deployment of renewable and other advanced energy projects across the County portfolio
- Plans underway to deploy solar across 17+ facilities (pending structural and condition review)
- Includes roof mounts, parking canopy mounted solar and ground mounts
- Goal of 6 megawatts installed capacity before the end of 2016. Additional capacity being identified/evaluated

# Phase I

- Site assessments and design fall 2014 through spring 2015
- Building and install spring 2015 through 2016
- Build as many sites as feasible given land/building resources and project management capacity
- Current vendor selected
- An additional request for energy proposals will be issued for a subset of buildings as a local small business reserve project.

# The Challenge – Finding the Sites

- Montgomery County government facilities are diverse,
- Majority are under 50,000 square feet,
- Mix of uses including warehouses, recreation, libraries, etc.
- Buildings are older, need comprehensive energy and other improvements,
- Portfolio is constantly shifting as facilities are divested and acquired,
- Often located in “tight sites” in urban areas, few available open fields or ground mount opportunities.



# Competing Uses





# Innovations

- Bid structure combined large sites with small sites to meet economic targets.
- Projects were arrayed to achieve community coverage to educate and encourage community adoption of solar
- Project includes potential for “premium items” that are integral to the system and expand value. Includes:
  - EV stations co-located with PV canopies at selected sites, rough outs with all PV canopies to allow easy expansion of EV charging,
  - High efficiency lighting with canopies,
  - Energy storage (where applicable) for demand response and frequency harmonization,
  - Habitat enhancements (pollinator friendly vegetation where applicable) to encourage balanced, sustainable placement of ground mounted systems.
  - Ability to purchase project SREC’s after first couple years.

# Phase II and III - Partnerships

- Seek partnerships in community to lease systems and purchase power as County project sites are exhausted.
- Expect this to be a challenge given the land cost/use in Montgomery County and potential zoning limitations,
- Timing to get an RFEP out, awarded, negotiated concurrent with a ground lease or other agreement will be a challenge.
- Phase III will look for supply in the region to the East and South where transmission congestion is less.

# For the Vendors

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**Meet the Green Team**



Team will develop a comprehensive green operation plan, focusing on green actions related to energy, air, water, fleet, environmentally preferable products, innovation and more across County operations. Team members will also serve as ambassadors to Green day-to-day work activities amongst their peers.

[Find out more...](#)

Latest News

- County Clean Energy Buyers Group Increases Volume - Gains Rank Among National Clean Energy Purchasers
- County Hosts Alternative Fuel Vehicle Roadshow
- Aggressive Commitment to Solar Energy Systems on Public Facilities Recognized by The White House

MORE...

Community Resources

-  Take Action at Home
-  Certify Your Business

Energy purchasing and other opportunities are posted on the business opps page at the OES website.

# Contact Us:

Department of General Services – Office of Energy and Sustainability

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dgs-oes/>



Eric R. Coffman  
Chief  
240-777-5595



Michael Yambrach  
Capital Energy Projects  
240-777-6091