



RESOLUTION 2023-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BRENTWOOD, TO COMMIT TO MAKING CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT IN OUR SOLAR MARKET WHILE ENSURING SOLAR DEVELOPMENT IS INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE SO ALL RESIDENTS MAY ADOPT SOLAR ENERGY PRACTICES.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Brentwood established the Sustainability Committee with the charge to develop plans, implement programs, assist with educational opportunities, seek out opportunities to create a more sustainable environment through grants and educational opportunities, offer suggestions to improve municipal operations with sustainability initiatives that are environmentally and economically sound, and to pursue certification by Sustainable Maryland; and

WHEREAS in Resolution 2016-08, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Brentwood declared the intent to take a leadership role in reducing conventional centralized electricity generation and investing in renewable energy generation by developing and initiating a Renewable Energy Action Plan and maintaining an annual electricity consumption inventory; and

WHEREAS in Resolution 2016-10, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Brentwood declared the intent to take a leadership role in reducing transportation petroleum consumption by establishing and updating a Petroleum Consumption Reduction Plan, maintaining an annual petroleum consumption inventory, and smartly investing in alternative transportation uses; and

WHEREAS in Resolution 2016-11, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Brentwood declared the intent to take a leadership role in reducing electricity consumption by establishing an Energy Reduction Plan and maintaining an annual electricity consumption inventory for all municipal-owned buildings; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution 2022-05, the Town of Brentwood affirmed its commitment to actively combating all forms of bigotry, prejudice, and racial injustice by dedicating resources, platforms, political will, and authority to identify and address the ways that gaps within institutions have exacerbated existing racial inequities in our communities; and its commitment to local actions that promote racial equity and improve outcomes for all people; and

WHEREAS renewable energy has scientifically substantiated health benefits due to reducing air pollution and greenhouse gases from fossil fuels, can help diversify energy supply and reduce the demand for fossil fuels, and can keep the power on during man-made or natural disruptions helping residents and the Town of Brentwood to remain resilient in the face of climate emergencies.

NOW, THEREFORE BE THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Brentwood hereby commit to (i) taking steps that make it faster, easier, and more

affordable for residents and businesses to go solar; (ii) making efforts to increase the efficiency of local processes related to solar development, which may save the Town of Brentwood time and money; (iii) working toward ensuring renewable energy efforts are inclusive and equitable; and (iv) developing, initiating, and maintaining an Solar Action Plan including tracking key metrics related to solar energy deployment, such as approved permits and growth in residential installations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Brentwood will join 500 communities in 43 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands that participate in SolSmart, a national program led by the Interstate Renewable Energy Council and the International City/County Management Association and funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by joining the SolSmart program, a team of national experts will provide no-cost technical assistance to help the Town of Brentwood reduce barriers to solar energy development and follow national best practices to expand solar energy use in our jurisdiction.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

READ, PASSED, AND ADOPTED THIS 15TH DAY OF AUGUST 2023

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Attest: Larry Moran, Town Clerk

Rocio Treminio-Lopez, Mayor

Stefan Leggin, Vice Mayor

Marcus Monroe, Councilmember

Quianna Taylor, Councilmember

Lauren Rauk, Councilmember