

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY FLORIDA

RE: Support of Solar Photovoltaic Energy Generation

WHEREAS, solar photovoltaic energy offers many potential benefits, including lower electricity costs for homeowners, businesses, and governments; local jobs and economic development; reduced dependence on imported fuels; and pollution-free electricity generation

WHEREAS, Florida has the third-highest potential for rooftop solar energy generation in the United States, but currently ranks 13th in the nation for installed solar capacity; and

WHEREAS, Sarasota County has identified clean technology and green business as one of its targeted sectors for economic development, with solar and energy efficiency presenting valuable opportunities for local job growth; and

WHEREAS, Sarasota County Government has demonstrated sustainable energy leadership with energy-efficient green buildings, solar energy projects, plug-in electric vehicles and infrastructure, cost saving facility energy efficiency retrofits and Energy Upgrade community workshops to help residents save money; and

WHEREAS, in late 2013, the Go SOLAR Florida team, consisting of Broward, Alachua, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Orange, and St. Lucie counties, the City of Venice, the Florida Solar Energy Center, and Florida Atlantic University, received a \$2.3 million Rooftop Solar Challenge II grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to expand the streamlined online solar permitting system developed by Broward County under an earlier grant award; and

WHEREAS, one of the Rooftop Solar Challenge II grant deliverables is a Florida Solar Financing Action Plan, exploring the benefits of solar energy and outlining a strategy to improve access to solar financing in the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the *Florida Solar Financing Action Plan: A Menu of Options* contains a variety of financing options for homeowners, businesses, and local governments to consider, while recognizing there is no one-size-fits-all solution for the diverse types of communities, families, and businesses in the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, to build support for solar photovoltaic energy generation and awareness of solar financing options within the state of Florida, the Go SOLAR Florida team is seeking to secure resolutions of support from all sixty-seven (67) counties in Florida,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Board supports the expansion of solar photovoltaic energy generation in the state of Florida.

KAREN R. REED, CLERK OF COUNTY COURT SARASOTA COUNTY FL
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BOARD RECORDS FILED FOR RECORD

Section 2. The Board acknowledges that the *Florida Solar Financing Action Plan: A Menu of Options* is an important resource for local governments seeking to expand the use of solar photovoltaic energy in their communities.

Section 3. The Board encourages all other counties in Florida to adopt this or similar resolutions supporting solar photovoltaic energy generation and awareness of solar financing options within the state of Florida.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect upon adoption.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota County, Florida this 7th day July, 2015.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Carolyn G. Mason

Chair

ATTEST:

KAREN E. RUSHING, Clerk of Circuit Court
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of County
Commissioners of Sarasota County, Florida

By: Charles Maloney

Deputy Clerk