



Expansion of the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program to Allow for Seismic Strengthening and Wildfire Safety Improvements



City Council Meeting
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CURRENT

Sonoma County Energy Independence Program



Voluntary property financing program for local property owners operating since 2009



Program focus on Energy Efficiency, Water Conservation, and Renewable Generation



10 or 20 Year Term at 5.99% fixed interest rate; Paid back through the County Tax Bill system



Eligibility criteria is not based on your income and credit; Low program fees for applicants

Info: www.sonomacountyenergy.org/financing

SCEIP Program Totals: 2009-2019

Jurisdiction Program Totals			
# Projects	<i>Residential</i>	762	97.3%
	<i>Commercial</i>	21	2.7%
	Total	783	
\$ Projects	<i>Residential</i>	\$ 16,582,940	75.0%
	<i>Commercial</i>	\$ 5,528,881	25.0%
	Total	\$ 22,111,821	

Sonoma County *Energy Independence Program*

Summary Totals for **City of Santa Rosa**

From March 2009 to December 2019

Countywide Program Totals			
# Projects	<i>Residential</i>	2,495	97.0%
	<i>Commercial</i>	77	3.0%
	Total	2,572	
\$ Projects	<i>Residential</i>	\$ 70,029,906	84.4%
	<i>Commercial</i>	\$ 12,969,722	15.6%
	Total	\$ 82,999,628	

Local Share of Program Totals			
# Projects	<i>Residential</i>		30.5%
	<i>Commercial</i>		27.3%
	Total		30.4%
\$ Projects	<i>Residential</i>		23.7%
	<i>Commercial</i>		42.6%
	Total		26.6%

SCEIP Program Overview: Financing Customer Workflow



- ① Property owner identifies building upgrades
- ② Local contractors provide bids for energy efficiency, water conservation, renewable generation, and (starting in 2020) wildfire safety, and seismic strengthening improvements
- ③ Sonoma County Energy and Sustainability Division staff provide in-office building consultations, contractor bid review, and financing options
- ④ Contractor installs improvements, SCEIP provides financing, and property owner pays back assessment through annual property tax

PROPOSED



SCEIP Program Expansion: Wildfire and Seismic Improvements

- ▶ State legislation authorizing incorporation of Wildfire Safety (SB 465) and Seismic Strengthening (AB 184) into PACE programs
- ▶ Program expansion approved by County of Sonoma Board of Supervisors in July 2019
- ▶ Judicial validation granted December 2019; Active outreach to local jurisdictions begins
- ▶ Expansion active in unincorporated areas as of 1/14/2020; Local jurisdictional approval needed for residents to access new improvements

PROPOSED



SCEIP Program Expansion: Wildfire and Seismic Improvements

➤ Necessary Steps to Expand Program

- Amend the Cooperative Agreement between the City and County to Implement Energy Independence Program with the addition of expanded improvements
- Adopt a Resolution authorizing the expansion of the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program to finance Wildfire Safety Improvements and Seismic Strengthening Improvements through the use of contractual assessments with the jurisdictional boundaries of the City of Santa Rosa

BENEFIT

- Property owners in the City of Santa Rosa can participate in the expanded program and finance Wildfire and Seismic Improvements on their properties

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department and the Water Department that Council, by resolution, 1) approve the Eighth Amendment to the Cooperative Agreement with the County of Sonoma to allow property owners within the incorporated area of the City to finance seismic strengthening improvements and wildfire safety improvements through the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program (SCEIP); and 2) delegate authority to the City Manager to extend the term of the Agreement in substantially the same form, provided that any such extension does not go beyond March 31, 2030.