

MOTION

Solar panels make use of renewable energy and offer an environmentally friendly means of generating electrical power. As the use of solar energy has expanded, solar carports, also known as solar shade structures, have gained popularity. Solar carports provide numerous benefits including the efficient utilization of space by using parking lots for both parking and energy producing purposes, providing shade and protection for people and vehicles, and providing locations and energy for electric vehicle charging.


Currently, California is the largest market for solar carport installation. Across California, municipalities have begun utilizing solar carports on city owned properties. In late 2012, the City of Santa Cruz installed solar carports at their City Hall and Police Department parking lots. In December 2015, the City of Murrieta completed installation of solar carports at the Murrieta Police Station. Similarly, school districts have begun utilizing solar shade structures at their parking lots. Most recently, Paso Robles Joint Unified School District announced a program to install solar carports and other solar shade structures in school parking lots.

In Los Angeles, solar carports have been installed in the parking lot of the Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) headquarters, providing shade for staff and municipal fleet vehicles, while also generating power. LADWP also plans on installing solar carports at its Van Nuys location.

It would be beneficial for the City to explore the installation of solar carports at other City facilities, including Police Department (LAPD) facilities. Installation of solar carports in parking lots at LAPD facilities would generate numerous benefits including providing power for police stations, shade and protection for the police fleet, and a reduction in the heat island effect.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Police Department (LAPD) and the Department of Water and Power be instructed to report on the feasibility of installing solar shade structures over parking lots at LAPD facilities.

PRESENTED BY:


MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY:



MAR - 7 2017


imq

ORIGINAL