



Office of the City Manager

August 31, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: *Dee* Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Re: Fall 2022 Sustainability Programs: Ride Electric and Rooftop Solar + Storage

The Planning Department's Office of Energy and Sustainable Development (OESD) is promoting various sustainability programs and asks City Council to help spread the word.

On October 15, OESD will host the [5th Annual Ride Electric](#), at a new location this year, in conjunction with the City Harvest Festival at Cedar Rose Park. This year's Ride Electric event will include an electric vehicle (EV) showcase, as well as electric bike and scooter test rides through our local ride share programs. Residents can also talk with local EV and eBike owners. Councilmembers who own EVs or eBikes are welcome to attend and showcase their vehicles to the community. There will be information on incentives and rebates, including the many thousands of dollars in grants and loans available to income-qualified drivers. The Ecology Center will co-host the event.

Homeowners can take advantage of two, limited-time group purchase programs – East Bay Community Energy's (EBCE) [Resilient Home](#) and [Bay Area SunShares](#) – to install discounted solar and storage. Both programs offer rooftop solar, with options for battery backup, pre-negotiated pricing, and free quotes. The Resilient Home program is only open to EBCE customers in Alameda County, while Bay Area SunShares, administered by the non-profit Business Council on Climate Change since 2016, is open to any Bay Area resident through November 15. This year, SunShares offers [monthly webinars](#) on September 22, October 11, and November 9. Both the Resilient Home and SunShares programs offer different discounts and work with different solar companies. SunShares providers also offer battery storage installations on pre-existing solar systems.

OESD is promoting both solar + storage programs so residents can select from multiple providers to choose the best option for their home. The federal tax credit has been renewed through the recent passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, so participants can get an additional 30% back. Battery storage has become more critical as we experience more power disruptions during longer wildfire seasons and more frequent extreme heat events. Both rooftop solar and battery storage support the City's climate and resilience goals.

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Please share information about Ride Electric and discounted solar + storage programs with the community. Attached are images and text to facilitate communication with your constituents.

Attachments

cc: Paul Buddenhagen, Deputy City Manager
LaTanya Bellow, Deputy City Manager
Jenny Wong, City Auditor
Mark Numainville, City Clerk
Matthai Chakko, Assistant to the City Manager
Jordan Klein, Director, Planning and Development Department