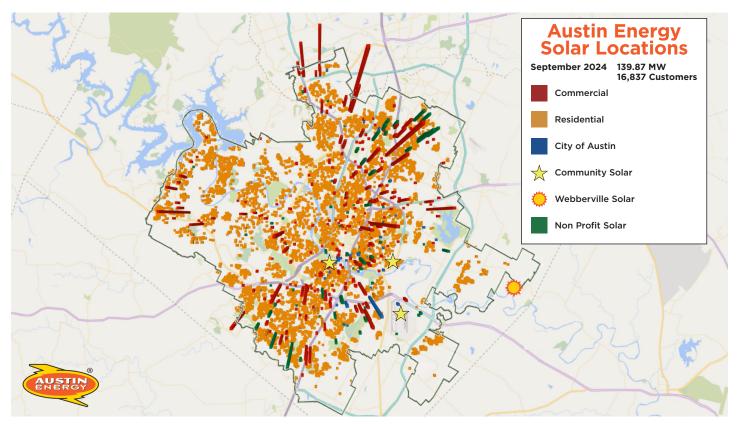


With the help of our customers, Austin Energy has been an industry leader in solar energy for decades with programs and incentives that play an important role in today's energy landscape.

## Local Solar in Austin Energy's Service Area

There are significant benefits to focusing solar efforts within Austin Energy's service area. Local solar generates power at the point of energy demand. That is, solar energy from someone's rooftop can meet the energy need of that home or business right where it's produced. When power is made locally, it doesn't need to be transmitted long distances across the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) grid. Additional benefits include:

- Customers reduce their energy bills and increase their energy resilience, especially if they have a battery.
- The Austin community receives cleaner air due to emission-free solar energy that displaces electricity from other generation sources and develops a thriving modern local solar industry that stimulates the economy.
- Austin Energy receives local generation that reduces its exposure to volatile energy pricing on the ERCOT market, while also helping meet its environmental goals.



The graphic above depicts the location and type of solar installed within Austin Energy's service area.

### **Austin Energy Solar Goals Over the Years**

Year	Document	Solar Goals
2007	Resolution No. 20070215-023	100 MW of solar power by 2020
2010	Austin Energy Resource, Generation, and Climate Protection Plan to 2020	200 MW of solar power by 2020
2013	Resolution No. 20131024-053	200 MW of solar power by 2020, of which 100 MW must be local solar, and 50 MW must be customer-owned solar
2014	Resolution No. 20140828-157	200 MW of local solar by 2020, with at least 100 MW being behind-the-meter customer-controlled solar
2017	Resolution No. 20170817-061	950 MW of solar capacity by 2025, 200 MW of local solar by 2025. 110 MW local solar by 2020, including 70 MW of customer-sited solar
2020	Austin Energy Resource, Generation, and Climate Protection Plan to 2030	375 MW local solar by 2030, of which 200 MW must be customer-sited (in-front-of-meter or behind-the-meter)

Historically, "Local Solar" was defined as Travis County and its bordering counties. Austin Energy and stakeholders have recently gained a common understanding of the benefits of solar in the Austin Energy load zone, and as such, we have realigned our solar goals and definitions to maximize these local solar benefits. Therefore, local solar is now defined by Austin Energy and its stakeholders as solar within the Austin Energy load zone.

Austin Energy's long history of supporting local solar is something the whole community can be proud of, and we will continue to develop and invest in this technology as we provide customers with power and programs.

# Austin Energy Solar Programs — Evolving to Unlock Solar Access

Austin Energy started its solar support with the Austin Energy Solar Incentive Program. This program has helped increase local solar adoption since it began in 2004. Originally, the Solar Incentive Program was created to increase solar demand by reducing the cost to install a system, which helped create solar jobs as the industry was developing. The Solar Incentive Program also provided an opportunity to establish local industry best practices, educate customers and contractors and develop Austin Energy's experience with this kind of technology. Over the years, the Solar Incentive Program has grown to include innovative solutions such as Value of Solar, Community Solar, Shared Solar and more. The table below describes what each program provides to the community. The Solar Incentive Program has resulted in more than 16,500 solar installations in the Austin Energy service area since its inception.

As part of the next Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan, Austin Energy is proactively planning its strategies to expand local solar access and support local solar moving forward. Austin Energy knows barriers still exist for many customers, making it difficult or impossible for them to take part in the clean energy transition.

#### **Barriers to solar include:**

- · Lack of ownership of the home or building
- · Reduced access to capital
- Low credit ratings
- · Lack of education about solar and offerings

#### **Customers with challenges to solar access include:**

- Renters
- · Low-to-moderate income (LMI) customers
- Commercial customers
- Medically and financially vulnerable customers

To expand solar access to all customers, Austin Energy has the following initiatives available now or under development:

Program	Customers Addressed	Brief Description
Community Solar	LMI and Market Rate Residential with barriers to going solar	Subscription to local solar, 50% of capacity is reserved for LMI customers
Solar for All	LMI single family and multifamily residential	Courtesy of an EPA grant award, qualifying customers participate at no cost to host solar and batteries for Community Solar. Host customers increase resiliency and gain ownership of the solar and battery at program's conclusion, while LMI participants receive 20% bill savings. Targeting about 3,000 households for participation.
Standard Offer	Commercial properties with barriers to going solar	Commercial customers host 3rd-party-owned Community Solar arrays and receive compensation — adding residential after sufficient program experience exists
Resilience Hubs	City-owned buildings, communities during emergencies	These buildings host Community Solar and batteries that enable them to stay energized and improve the community's resiliency during emergencies
Shared Solar	Multifamily customers with barriers to going solar	Allows multifamily residents to receive bill credits from solar using a single interconnection, rather than needing to interconnect at each unit
Non-Profits and Small Businesses	Non-Profit and Small Businesses with barriers to going solar	Qualifying customers receive their incentive upfront rather than over time, helping them overcome lack of access to capital

Austin Energy leads the way in renewable energy technologies by expanding access to local solar to hard-to-reach customers. Together with the community, we are committed to growing local solar capabilities and installations to serve Austin.

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