



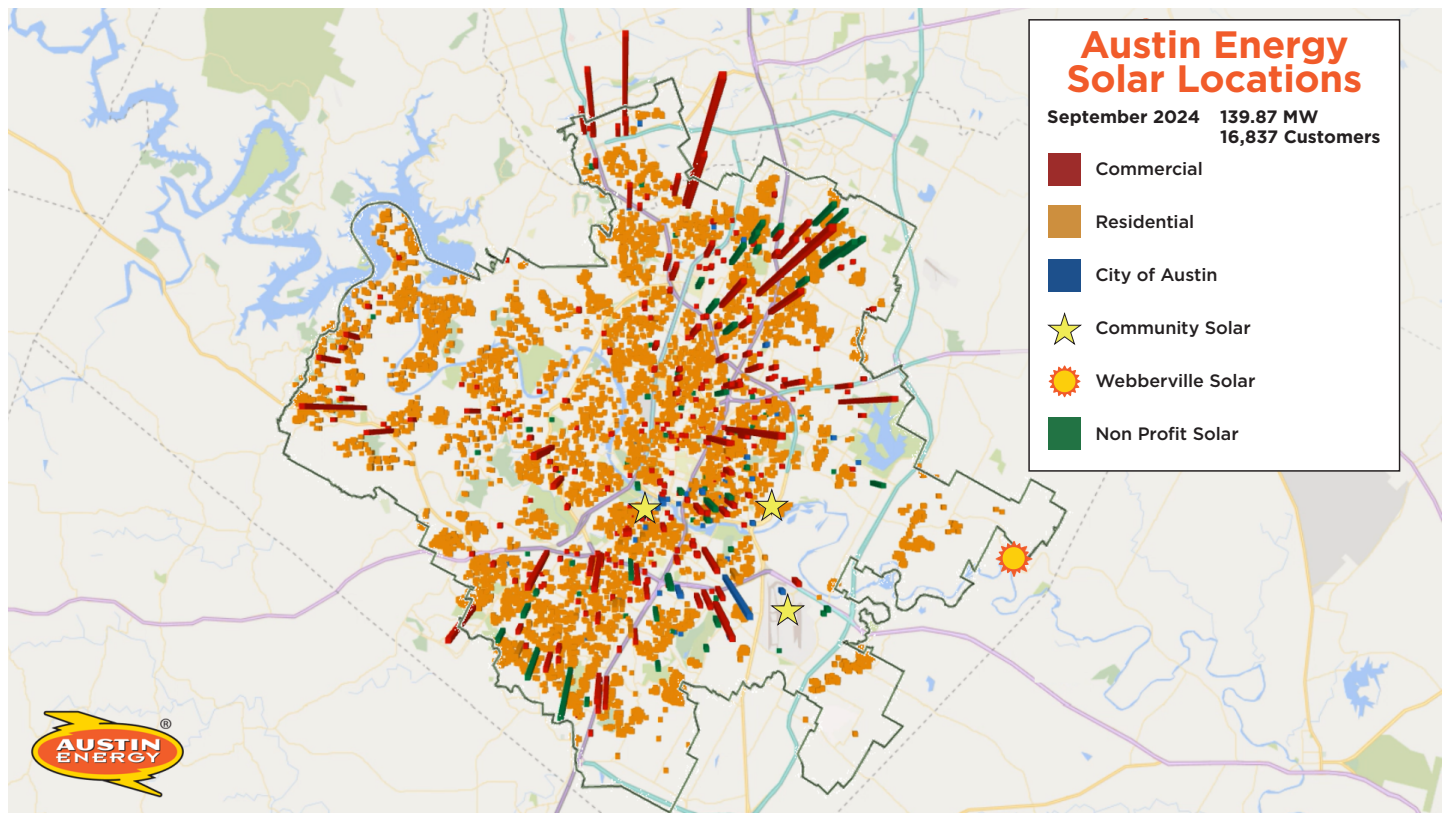
Local Solar

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’s commitment to solar is nothing new:

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

Notes: