

### Solar Switch Dallas-Solar United Neighbors Partnership

Environment & Sustainability Committee June 6, 2023

Rosaerlinda Cisneros, Climate Coordinator, Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability Hanna Mitchell, Solar United Neighbors America Garcia, Solar United Neighbors Fred Wu, iChoosr

### **Presentation Overview**



- Program Purpose
  - CECAP Implementation
- Benefits of Solar Energy
- Solar Switch Dallas
- How it Works for Residents
- Success Metrics
- Next Steps





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# Program Purpose: CECAP Implementation



E3: Continue partnership with public utility companies on an intensive program on renewable energy options.						
E3	OEQS	Implement a Whole Home Weatherization Program resource HUB to connect residents with existing services				
E9: Extend partnership with organizations like PACE and other Public Utility Companies to provide further incentives for renewable energy.						
E9	OEQS	Explore feasibility of implementing City program to incentivize solar installation for commercial and residential buildings				





# **Benefits of Solar Energy**

- Solar energy is sustainable, renewable and plentiful.
- Generating solar power can lead to less reliance on our power grid.
- Solar panels have become more popular and affordable.
  - As more homeowners choose to install solar power systems and more companies join the market, it can be difficult for residents to determine which option and installer best fits their needs.





### Solar Switch Dallas



- Solar Switch is a group buying program for solar installations.
- This program offers a hassle-free way to install rooftop solar panels and battery storage.
- Dallas residents can come together to secure a discounted price on a rooftop solar installation for their homeowners or small business.



# Solar Switch Dallas - Organizers



# SOLAR UNITED

- 501 (c3) non-profit
- 375+ co-ops with 700+ partners in 13 states since 2007
- Advocate for interests of solar owners in local, state, federal policy
- 385K members nationwide
- Opened office in TX in 2018



- Helping residents go solar with 100+ community partners in EU and Japan since 2012
- Started operations in TX in 2017; Austin and Houston offices
- Work with 20+ TX cities on TX Power Switch for electricity aggregation and purchasing



### How it Works for Residents





2. Auction 3. Personal 4. Decision 5. Install Recommendation

#### Campaign: 4 months

Residents can register right up until the decision deadline

Decision Window: 6 weeks

Installation Window: 6 months



# How it Works: Registration

- Register at SolarSwitch.com/Dallas
- Marketing:
  - Social Media
  - Direct Mailer
  - Flyers

Registration Website





# How it Works: Auction

- iChoosr identifies and vets solar installers for:
  - Licensing/insurance
  - Experience
  - Customer ratings
  - Financial Strength
- iChoosr manages installer auction & selection process through:
  - A reverse auction, typically yielding a 15-25% group discount
  - Two auctions per year to allow installers to scale







### How it Works: Personal Recommendation



rexas

#### Your personal offer, test test

Based on the roof size and electricity usage provided, a system size of **5.5 kW (15 panels)** is recommended. **Note:** You can revisit your offer at any time via the link in your personal offer email.

•	15	solar panels	Annual Production <b>O</b> Coverage of your annual usage:	7,391.25 kWh 86%
		is is a personal proceed, the installer	What you pay:	\$13,092 (incl. sales tax)
estimatio will cond	on. If you p	proceed, the installer survey to validate the	What you pay: Possible tax refund: 😡	(incl. sales tax)

# • Personal offer will include:

- Proposed system size and cost
- Winning installer
- Financing options available.
- Customer deposit
- Call to Action





# How it Works: Residents Review and Decide

- No obligation to proceed
- Solar Switch will offer virtual information sessions and a customer service center.
- Residents that accept are connected with the winning installer.





### How it Works: Installation





- Residents will receive a welcome email & call from installer.
- Installer completes and shares remote site assessment results and design.
- Installations completed by January.



### **Success Metrics**





#### Awareness

- Webpage visits
- Time spent on website



#### Engagement

- Onsite events
- Virtual presentations
- Zip code tracking



#### Sharing

- Social media
- Mentions
- Likes



#### Action

- Click through rates
- Email inquiries
- Registrations

#### **Anticipated Outcomes:**

- Share joint promotional and co-branded materials throughout the annual Solar Switch Dallas program.
- Personal offer will yield participants a discounted rate for solar installation.

#### Next Steps Juno 2022



		June 2023					1		
Oct 2022 – May 2023 SUN & Whole Home Dallas partnership through MOU		-Program Launch & Ongoing Community Outreach -Press Release		<b>July 5, 2023</b> Personal offer emails will be sent.		Provide an update on the City's first Solar Switch Dallas program to ENVS			
	May 2023 Soft launch through Whole Home Dallas resource list		June 6, 2023 ENVS Briefing		August 9, 2023 Decision Deadline & Last Day to Register for 2023 Solar Switch Program		SUN and City of Dallas will continue to offer at least one Solar Switch Program each calendar year.		
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