

SCL Authority for Community Solar ORD

Parks and City Light Committee

August 5, 2026



Seattle City Light

WE POWER SEATTLE

Agenda

1. What Is Community Solar
2. Why Community Solar
3. Past Community Solar Program Actions
4. Next steps
5. Purpose of Ordinance



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What Is Community Solar?

Community Solar programs:

- Provide benefits of solar to customers without resources to install PV
- The utility tracks the solar energy generated and allocates the benefits of the energy to the program participants



Why Community Solar?

- Integrated Resources Plan (IRP)
- Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP)
- City Light Strategic Plan
- Washington State University Community Solar Expansion Program
- Customer benefit



Past Community Solar Program Actions

- 2011-2020
 - 5 projects at 4 sites including Seattle Aquarium, Jefferson Park, Capitol Hill affordable housing, and Woodland Park Zoo
 - Over 1,200 customers participated
 - U.S. Dept of Energy funding was used to build projects
 - Ownership transferred to site hosts in 2020



Next Steps for Community Solar Programs

- Apply for Washington State Community Solar Expansion Program (CSEP) Funding
- Leverage CSEP to design and implement a program for income eligible customers
- Build on lessons learned to develop future programs to benefit all customers



Purpose of Ordinance

- Amend Seattle Municipal Code to authorize City Light to:
 - Design new community solar programs
 - Develop and administer community solar projects
 - Clarify that funds from the Voluntary Green Power Programs may fund community solar projects



THANK YOU



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